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IGNOU MAENOH Project (MEVP-001): Sample Synopsis for Study Reference

What this file is. A sample project proposal (synopsis) for the IGNOU course MEVP-001 Project Work, written by ignouproject.com to show how the parts named in the MEVP-001 Handbook (School of Interdisciplinary and Trans-disciplinary Studies, 2022) fit together on one topic.

What it is not. It is not an approved proposal, not IGNOU material and not for submission. Your project report must carry a Certificate of Originality signed by you and your supervisor (Handbook, Annexure III). Copying this sample breaks that certificate.

Square brackets [] mark facts only you can supply: your town or ward, your sample size, local figures, dates and the studies you read yourself. Nothing inside a bracket is a real finding.

Rules from the MEVP-001 Handbook that this sample follows

- A proposal states: Title, Introduction, Objectives, Problem Statement, Research Methodology (with locale, sampling, instruments and statistical tools to be used), Limitations if any, and References (Handbook p. 21).
- Choose a topic by suitability, relevance, time available, feasibility of data collection, challenges, cost, and communication facilities and local language (Handbook p. 21).
- Send the Proforma for Approval of Project Proposal, one copy of the proposal signed by your supervisor, and your supervisor's bio-data to your Regional Centre. Keep a copy of the synopsis (Handbook p. 22).
- Approval or non-approval is communicated within six weeks of receipt, by e-mail and post (Handbook p. 22).
- If it is not approved, send a revised proposal with a revised proforma, a copy of the rejected proposal and proforma bearing the evaluator's comments, and the P.P. No. allotted (Handbook pp. 22-23).

Before you post your package, check it against the proforma field map on the ignouproject.com MEVP-001 page. If you want a second pair of eyes on a synopsis you have written yourself, see ignouproject.com/ignou-project-synopsis-correction/

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PROJECT PROPOSAL

MEVP-001 Project Work

Master of Arts (Environmental and Occupational Health) (MAENOH)

Heat Stress Symptoms and Protective Practices among Street Food Vendors in [Name of Ward or Market], [Town], [State]: A Survey Study

Item	Fill in
Name of the learner	[Your full name]
Enrolment number	[Your enrolment number]
Regional Centre	[Name and code]
Study Centre	[Name and code]
Proposed supervisor	[Name, designation, institution]
Month and year	[Month, Year]

School of Interdisciplinary and Trans-disciplinary Studies (SOITS), Indira Gandhi National
Open University, New Delhi

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1. Introduction

Street food vendors spend most of the working day outdoors, often beside a stove or griddle. During the hot months they are exposed to two heat loads at the same time: the weather around the stall and the radiant heat of the cooking fire. Because most vendors are self-employed, there is usually no employer who arranges shade, drinking water or rest breaks, so protection depends on what the vendor knows and can afford.

Evidence from Indian workplaces shows how common excess heat exposure is. Venugopal et al. (2016) measured the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) in 18 workplaces in four Indian cities and reported that 82 per cent of workers in the hotter period and 42 per cent in the cooler period were exposed above recommended WBGT levels. The National Action Plan on Heat-Related Illnesses (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 2021) describes a range of conditions from heat rash, heat cramps and heat syncope to heat exhaustion and heatstroke, and names people who work in conditions of additional heat stress among the groups at risk.

Heat has also become a planning subject for Indian cities. The Ahmedabad Heat Action Plan, implemented in 2013, was the first heat-health action plan in South Asia (Knowlton et al., 2014). At the global level, the International Labour Office (2019) treats heat stress at work as a matter of occupational safety and health. Street vending itself is a recognised urban livelihood under the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014, which provides for surveys of vendors and for Town Vending Committees.

Rationale. Studies of occupational heat stress in India have mostly looked at organised or fixed workplaces. Street food vendors combine outdoor exposure with a heat source at the stall, yet their symptoms and self-protection are rarely documented at ward level. [Add one or two lines from your own literature search confirming the gap for your town or state.] The topic draws on MEV-002 Environmental and Occupational Hazards and MEV-005 Occupational Health and Safety, and its findings can inform simple measures such as shade, water points and heat-alert messages for vendors.

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2. Statement of the Problem

The heat-related symptoms experienced by street food vendors in [Ward or Market, Town] during the summer months, their awareness of heat-related illness, and the protective practices they follow at work have not been documented [confirm through your literature search]. The study therefore asks:

- What working conditions at the stall add to heat exposure (hours outdoors, stove type, shade, water access)?
- Which heat-related symptoms do vendors report during [April to June, or your local hot months]?
- How aware are vendors of the warning signs of heat-related illness and of first response?
- Which protective practices do they follow, and are selected work factors associated with reported symptoms?

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3. Objectives

Objectives are written neutrally, without assuming any result.

- To describe the work profile of street food vendors in [locale]: daily working hours, peak hours, type of food, stove or heat source, and access to shade and drinking water.
- To study the heat-related symptoms vendors report during [the reference hot months].
- To assess vendors' awareness of the warning signs of heat-related illness and of basic first response.
- To examine the protective practices followed during work: hydration, head cover and clothing, shade, rest breaks and changes in working hours.

- To explore the association of selected work factors (hours of exposure, stove type, shade) with reported symptoms.
- To suggest practical heat-protection measures for vendors and for the local body or Town Vending Committee.

Hypothesis (for Objective 5). H01: There is no significant association between daily hours of outdoor exposure and the reporting of heat-related symptoms among street food vendors in [locale]. [Your supervisor may advise a different hypothesis or none, depending on design.]

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4. Research Methodology

4.1 Research design

A descriptive cross-sectional survey. The MEVP-001 Handbook (Section 5) describes this kind of study as a specific, primary, limited survey: specific because it collects only information related to the study's purpose, primary because the learner collects fresh facts, and limited because it covers a small area.

4.2 Locale of the study

[Name of ward, market or street], [Town], [State]. Reason for choice: [for example, a busy food market you can visit repeatedly in the hot months; your familiarity with the local language].

4.3 Universe, sample and sampling

- **Universe:** street food vendors operating fixed or mobile stalls in [locale] during [months, year].
- **Sampling frame:** the vendor survey list or vending certificate list of the Town Vending Committee, if the local body shares it [confirm availability]; otherwise a field listing of stalls made by you in [locale].

- **Sampling technique:** systematic random sampling from the list, or purposive sampling with written justification if no list exists [decide with your supervisor].
- **Sample size:** [n] vendors [fix with your supervisor, considering time, cost and the number of stalls listed].
- **Inclusion:** aged 18 years or above, vending in [locale] for at least [] months, willing to take part. **Exclusion:** [state, for example, vendors not available on two visits].

4.4 Tools of data collection

- **Structured interview schedule** with five sections: A. respondent and stall profile; B. work environment (heat source, shade, water); C. heat-related symptoms during the reference months (heat rash, muscle cramps, headache, dizziness or fainting, heavy sweating, nausea, extreme tiredness); D. awareness of warning signs and first response; E. protective practices.
- **Observation checklist** for each stall: type of stove or heat source, type of shade, drinking water at the stall, distance to the nearest public water point.
- **Weather data:** daily maximum temperature and humidity for the survey dates from [name the source, for example the nearest India Meteorological Department station or a calibrated thermo-hygrometer you use]. Record the source exactly; do not estimate.
- **Pilot test:** try the schedule with [5 to 10] vendors outside the sample and revise unclear questions. The Handbook calls this a preliminary survey or pilot study.

4.5 Procedure

Face-to-face interviews (personal survey, Handbook Section 5.6) at a time convenient to the vendor, avoiding peak sale hours, in [language]. Each interview takes about [] minutes. The purpose of the study is explained first, participation is voluntary, and no names are recorded on the schedule.

4.6 Statistical tools

- Frequencies and percentages for profile, symptoms, awareness and practices.
- Mean and standard deviation for hours of exposure and years in vending.

- Chi-square test of association for Objective 5 (H01), at the 0.05 level of significance.
- Tables and bar diagrams; analysis in [MS Excel, SPSS or Jamovi].

4.7 Ethical considerations

Participation is voluntary, consent is taken before each interview, respondents may stop at any time, and results are reported only in group form so that no vendor can be identified. The Handbook asks survey researchers to keep participation voluntary and to make results public in a way that maintains confidentiality.

4.8 Proposed chapters of the project report

1. Introduction (with objectives and rationale); 2. Review of literature; 3. Methodology; 4. Results and discussion; 5. Summary and conclusions, with limitations and suggestions for further work; References; Appendices (interview schedule, observation checklist, approved proforma, approved proposal and supervisor's bio-data).

4.9 Time schedule

Activity	Planned weeks
Review of literature and finalising the tools	[]
Pilot test and revision of the schedule	[]
Field data collection	[]
Coding, tabulation and analysis	[]
Writing the report and supervisor review	[]

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5. Limitations

- Symptoms are self-reported and are not a clinical diagnosis.
- Recall of symptoms over the reference months may be incomplete.
- One locale and one season limit how far the results can be generalised.
- Weather readings describe the area, not the exact heat at each stall, unless measured at the stall.

- [Add any limitation specific to your locale or sample.]

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6. References (APA style)

The MEVP-001 Handbook asks for references in APA format, listed alphabetically.

Government of India. (2014). *The Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014* (Act No. 7 of 2014).

Indira Gandhi National Open University. (2022). *Handbook on project work: MEVP-001, MA in Environmental and Occupational Health / Post Graduate Diploma in Environmental and Occupational Health (MAEOH and PGDEOH)*. School of Interdisciplinary and Trans-disciplinary Studies.

International Labour Office. (2019). *Working on a warmer planet: The impact of heat stress on labour productivity and decent work*. International Labour Organization.

Knowlton, K., Kulkarni, S. P., Azhar, G. S., Mavalankar, D., Jaiswal, A., Connolly, M., Nori-Sarma, A., Rajiva, A., Dutta, P., Deol, B., Sanchez, L., Khosla, R., Webster, P. J., Toma, V. E., Sheffield, P., Hess, J. J., & Ahmedabad Heat and Climate Study Group. (2014). Development and implementation of South Asia's first heat-health action plan in Ahmedabad (Gujarat, India). *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 11(4), 3473-3492.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. (2021). *National action plan on heat-related illnesses*. National Programme on Climate Change and Human Health, Government of India.

Venugopal, V., Chinnadurai, J. S., Lucas, R. A. I., & Kjellstrom, T. (2016). Occupational heat stress profiles in selected workplaces in India. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 13(1), 89.

<https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph13010089>

[Add four to eight studies you have read yourself, including any study on street vendors or outdoor workers in your state. Do not list a source you have not read.]

Signature of the learner: _____ Date: []

Signature of the supervisor: _____ Date: []

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