

QUESTIONS

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1. Read and discuss the following description of the living conditions of workers who come to the labour chowk. Most workers that we find at the labour chowk cannot afford permanent accommodation, so they sleep on pavements near the chowk, or they pay Rs. 6 a night for a bed at a nearby night shelter run by the Municipal Corporation. To compensate for the lack of security, local tea and cigarette shops function as banks, moneylenders and safety lockers, all rolled into one. Most workers leave their tools at these shops for the night for safekeeping and pass on any extra money to them. The shopkeepers keep the money safe and also offer loans to labourers in need.

Source: Aman Sethi, Hindu On-line

Solution 1:

1. Their living conditions are very poor – without any access to basic facilities like sanitation and drinking water.
2. Due to the lack of basic facilities, they will be prone to many diseases.
3. As they live in poverty, they cannot access medical facilities.
4. They do not have permanent jobs.
5. They don't have access to education and will continue living in poverty.

2. Complete the following table and discuss how their work is different:

Name	Place of Work	Earnings	Security of Work	Benefits Received	Work on Their Own or Employed
Bachchu Manjhi		Rs. 100 a day			
Harpreet, Vandana					Work on their own
Nirmala			No security		
Sudha	Company	Rs. 30,000			

		p.m.		
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Solution 2:

Name	Place of Work	Earnings	Security of Work	Benefits Received	Work on Their Own or Employed
Bachchu Manjhi	Rickshaw puller	Rs. 100 a day	No security	No benefits	Work on their own
Harpreet, Vandana	Garment showroom	Good earnings	Yes, license to do business	Growth in the business	Work on their own
Nirmala	Garment factory	Rs. 80 per day for 8 hours	No security	Rs. 40 for extra	Employed
Sudha	Company	Rs. 30,000 p.m.	Secured	Paid leave, medical facilities, PF etc	Employed

3. In what ways is a permanent and regular job different from a casual job? Discuss.

Solution 3:

A permanent and regular job is different from a casual job in the following ways:

	Permanent Job	Casual Job
Working hours	Fixed	variable

Job security	Secured	Not secured
Payments	Fixed	Not fixed
Paid holidays and leaves	Yes	No
Extra benefits	Yes	No

4. What benefits does Sudha get along with her salary?**Solution 4:**

She gets the following benefits along with her salary:

1. Access to medical facilities for her and her family
2. Access to facilities like Provident Fund
3. Her job is permanent and secured
4. She gets off on Government holidays and Sundays