

Case Study on Hygiene Standards of Mumbai Street Food

Tanuja Tipnis and Dishant Naik

Bunts Sangha's Ramanath Payyade College of Hospitality Management Studies, Mumbai, India

Abstract: *This case study examines the hygiene standards of Mumbai street food. Street food is an integral part of Mumbai's food culture and attracts a large number of locals and tourists. However, concerns regarding the hygiene of street food have also been raised. This study aims to assess the hygiene standards of Mumbai street food and identify areas for improvement.*

Mumbai street food is renowned for its diverse and flavorful options. However, concerns over food safety and hygiene have also been raised due to the lack of proper regulation and monitoring of street food vendors. This case study evaluates the hygiene standards of Mumbai street food and recommends measures to improve food safety and hygiene. The study was conducted through a combination of field observations, interviews with street food vendors and customers, and analysis of food samples. The findings highlight the need for better training and certification of street food vendors in food safety practices, as well as improved access to clean water, sanitation facilities, and waste management.

Keywords: Mumbai street food, food safety, hygiene standards, regulation, training, certification, foodborne illnesses

I. INTRODUCTION

Mumbai, a bustling metropolis, is renowned for its street food. The city's diverse culinary landscape offers an array of flavorful and affordable options to its residents and visitors. However, the consumption of street food in Mumbai has also been linked to concerns over food safety and hygiene. This is mainly due to the lack of proper regulation and monitoring of street food vendors by the local authorities. Foodborne illnesses and outbreaks have been reported in the past, and the incidence of food poisoning and gastroenteritis continues to be a cause for concern. Thus, it is important to evaluate the hygiene standards of Mumbai street food and explore ways to improve them. Street food vending is an important source of livelihood for many vendors in Mumbai. However, it also poses a significant challenge in terms of ensuring food safety. The vendors operate in an unregulated environment, without any formal training or certification in food safety practices. They often lack access to clean water, proper sanitation facilities, and refrigeration, which increases the risk of food contamination. Additionally, the lack of proper waste disposal facilities exacerbates the problem, as food waste and other debris can attract pests and vermin.

To address these challenges, the government of Maharashtra has introduced various initiatives in recent years to improve the hygiene standards of street food. This includes the formation of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), which regulates food safety standards and issues licenses to food vendors, as well as the implementation of the Clean Street Food project, which aims to provide training and certification to street food vendors in Mumbai.

Despite these efforts, there is still a need to assess the current hygiene standards of Mumbai street food and identify areas for improvement. This case study aims to evaluate the hygiene standards of street food vendors in Mumbai and recommend measures to improve food safety and hygiene.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

The literature on street food in Mumbai highlights the challenges of ensuring food safety and hygiene in an unregulated environment. Several studies have documented the prevalence of foodborne illnesses and outbreaks associated with street food consumption. The lack of proper regulation and monitoring of street food vendors is a key factor contributing to these concerns. However, there have been some recent efforts by the government to improve the

hygiene standards of street food through initiatives such as the Clean Street Food project and the formation of the FSSAI.

III. METHODOLOGY:

The study was conducted through a combination of field observations, interviews with street food vendors and customers, and analysis of food samples. The field observations were conducted in different areas of Mumbai known for their street food vendors. Interviews were conducted with a sample of street food vendors and customers to understand their perspectives on food safety and hygiene. Food samples were collected from different vendors and analyzed for microbiological contamination.

IV. FINDINGS

The findings highlight the need for better training and certification of street food vendors in food safety practices, as well as improved access to clean water, sanitation facilities, and waste management. The study found that many street food vendors lacked basic knowledge of food safety practices and did not have access to clean water or sanitation facilities. Food samples collected from different vendors showed varying levels of microbiological contamination, indicating the need for better monitoring and regulation.

V. CONCLUSION

The study underscores the importance of improving the hygiene standards of Mumbai street food to ensure food safety for consumers. This can be achieved through a combination of regulatory measures, training and certification programs, and improved access to basic facilities such as clean water and sanitation. While there have been some recent initiatives to improve street food hygiene in Mumbai, more needs to be done to ensure that street food vendors are operating in a safe and hygienic environment.

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