STUDY OF BRICK-MAKERS AS BONDED LABOURERS USING WEIGHTED MULTI-EXPERT NEURAL NETWORKS

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The study of brick makers who work as bonded laborers in places around Chennai viz. Ponneri, Koyambedu, Chengelpet and Cuddalore has been carried out in this paper. For the purpose of this paper we interviewed 105 bonded labourers. They have been bonded only for a six-month period (January to July) with an entire family working for Rs.7,000 to Rs.10,000. This money is not paid back to their owners, but instead they do an indentured labour for a period of six months.

The interest rate for the above sum is collected as extra bricks, i.e., for every 1000 bricks they have to make an extra of 50 bricks. The main reason for them to have become bonded/indentured labourers is agricultural failure, poverty, illiteracy, family debts and unemployment/under employment. They labour for over 10 to 12 hours, including the night duty from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. with Sundays and Mondays as holidays. They suffer from skin ailments, fever, cold and allergic diseases, which remain untreated. We use six experts’ opinions and use weighted multi-expert neural networks and arrive conclusions based on our study.