



INVESTIGATING THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF INFORMAL WORKERS' ASSOCIATIONS TOWARDS DEVELOPMENT OF PERIODIC MARKETS IN KATSINA CITY

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Abstract

There are few studies that relate to informal economy workers' associations and their contributions to the development of periodic markets in Nigeria. Associations of informal economy workers usually dominate periodic markets establishments. The main objective of this study is to explore the socio-economic contributions of informal Economy Workers Associations to the development of periodic markets around Katsina city. Being an exploratory study and using phenomenological approach of qualitative research, interviews were held with officials of the seven recognized informal economy workers' associations. These interviews were held in Himata, Kofar Marusa and 'Yar Kutungu markets; being the three periodic rural markets available in Katsina. Drawing inferences from their activities in the periodic markets of Katsina city, the study examines how these organised informal economy workers' associations contribute to the socio-economic development of these periodic markets. Findings reveal that the operations of these associations are the main hub of commercial activities of the periodic markets in the city. The associations contribute to the development of the periodic markets in the city markets through generation of employment and income to the members and revenue generation to the authorities. The study recommends that, given the multiplicity of the informal economic activities in the periodic markets, the government should try to expand the scope of the markets in order to attract more members from far and wide.

Key words: *Informal economy, Organised Informal Workers Associations, Periodic Markets, Phenomenology*

1. INTRODUCTION

Mostly the poor and vulnerable are usually the key players in informal economic activities and patronising periodic markets in Nigeria. Informal economic activities and informality of work had been in existence from time immemorial. Every country of the world, no matter its level of social security and economic advancement partakes in informal economic activities (Bonnet, Vanek, & Chen, 2019). Informal sector became more prominent during the Second World War (Gerxhani, 2002) and shortly after, it became a subject of research among anthropology and sociology scholars (Koufopoulou, Williams, Vozikis, & Souliotis, 2019).

Informal economic activities anywhere in the world are characterized by shabby and menial commercial struggles, (Tawodzera, 2022). Many studies (Chen, 2012), confirmed that, the informal economy activities extend to rural and small holder farmers and other menial informal



business activities. The informal economy activities wax strongly in periodic markets and these periodic markets are found in every state in Nigeria and are usually the haven of informal economic activities (Babajo, Yusuf, & Musa, 2018).

Available literature on informal economy workers usually concentrates on appraising the nature of work they carry out (Horodnic, Williams, Windebank, Zaiț, & Ciobanu, 2021), and organizing them into trade associations resulting in the researches that pertain to their contributions to the development of periodic markets to be very few. There are some researches that border on the contributions of informal economy workers' associations to the development of rural areas, (Ratner, 2000), and others such as (Fasanya & Onakoya, 2012, and Ikeje, Akomolafe & Onuma, 2016) delve on job creation. In the same vein, there are also some researches that touched on the contributions of periodic markets to economic development of countries, provinces, villages, cities, and general human endeavours (Langeroudi, Mosoom, Rezvani & Azmin, 2011) but very little is vent on development of periodic markets.

The study will in no small be of benefit to informal economy workers' associations in general and specifically it will help grains sellers' association not only from Katsina state but the whole country.

Despite these research efforts, there are still some depressing issues about the economic basis and socio-religious inspirations of informal economy workers' associations on their contributions to the development of periodic markets. In examining these contributions, the following research questions were raised: what are the economic contributions of informal economy workers to the development of periodic markets in Katsina metropolis? What are the social contributions of informal economy workers to the development of periodic markets in Katsina metropolis?

The central objective of this study, is to explore the contributions of informal economy workers' associations to the development of periodic markets in Katsina. Specifically, it is set to establish the socio-economic, contributions of the organized informal workers' associations to the development of periodic markets in Katsina.

2. LITERITURE REVIEW AND THEORY

2.1. Concept of Informal Economy and Informal Work

Informal sector came to be accepted as an economic concept through the efforts of British anthropologist, Keith Hart in 1971 as a result of a research he undertook on group of migrants who were of low earning category and searching for urban employment in Ghana (Chen, 2012). There after a lot of scholars provided more insights on the concept, (Bonnet, Vanek, & Chen, 2019, OECD/ILO, 2019). Views of these scholars became wider and at times may tend to confuse interested researchers in the field, (Koufopoulou, *et al*, 2019). Since then, a lot of researchers have attempted to offer explanations on the concept. ILO (2018), too agrees that the different definitional problems attached to the concept, such as the difficulty in comparing it amongst countries of the world and the near impracticability of precise records and its unreliability of data are some of the glitches that prevent giving accurate meaning to the concept. In their quest to offer convincing definition of the concept Horodnic, Williams, Windebank, Zaiț, and Ciobanu, (2021) refer to paid trades which are permissible by law in all aspects apart from the actuality that they are concealed or not reported to the government to evade the payment of levy, social security



and/or labor laws. They further maintain that in the event, the good and/or service of the informal economic activity are illegal in whichever way it is, it cannot be referred to informal economy but instead it fits to the broader scope of the criminal economy.

At a workshop in 2001 by CBN/NISER; an operational definition was arrived at. The workshop views informal sector as ‘that which operates without binding official regulations, as well as one who operates under official regulations that do not compel rendition of official returns on its operations or production process’ (Onwe, 2013). This definition and that of Horodonic, (2021) have semblance with what obtains in the Nigerian informal economy as such they formed the contextual explanation of the concept of informal economy in this study.

Similarly, on informal work, this paper views it as a work that encompasses all types of production and sale of goods and services which must be legal in all respect and which are not made available to, or registered with the regulatory authority for tax, benefit for the state and/or labour law purposes. Thus, all economic activities that are perceived to have any semblance of criminal propensity, such as money laundering, dealing in hard drugs etc. must be discounted as informal work, no matter the level informality.

2.2. Concept of Periodic Rural Markets

There is no definite place nor exact time for the origin of periodic markets (Ehinmowo & Ibitoye, 2010). In spite of this fact, studies conducted on periodic markets affirmed they emerged from spontaneous growth based on socio-economic and physico-cultural circumstances over a period of time (Food and Agricultural Organization, 2012). Periodic markets denote the most significant commercial establishment in rural areas in Africa, Asia, and Latin America (Liu, Liu, Zhao, Tang, & Gong, 2022). Jesheelan, Harrihalan and Dishesh (2017) explain that normal periodic markets take place once or at best twice in a week and are not regular in some villages. Conventionally, only one in a collection of villages by chance becomes the hub of commercial activities, and as a result it ends up incorporating the other close by villages. The lucky center laden with that opportunity will be turned into the heart of economic, social and commercial activities.

Hodder (2018) defines a periodic market place as "an approved (by authority of the village or city) a space where buyers and sellers of goods, assemble at a point more or less precisely restricted or delineated for that purpose, at a prearranged time. Aikins (1989) expresses that “periodic market places have the sanction of the settlement locations either by themselves or by the accord of a whole community of settlements”. This means that the time earmarked for commercial activities is the most critical factor to be considered in the market operation. The period of operation of the market is normally endorsed by the community where the market is situated. On agreement the period when the market will hold could possibly be fixed on weekly basis, twice weekly, every 3rd, 4th 5th etc. day after the previous market day.

2.3. Review of Empirical Literature

A prime purpose of periodic market has always been to make available an abode where small holder-farmers and petty business owners can participate in trade and where new inventions, goods and services can be introduced (Siyoung, 1981). Periodic markets are a source of development for the places they are cited as they harbour informal economy workers and according to Uko, Akpanoyoro and Polycap (2020) the activities of informal economy workers are out-and-out



contrivances for poverty reduction, creation of employment and generation of income. They bring economic succour to the people around and beyond. Tawordzera (2022) explained that informal economy workers and their associations play an essential part to the development of periodic markets and to the economy of a local place and the nation economy at large through employment, income generation, food distribution, and general livelihood. of the people.

Informal economy workers' involvement in periodic markets according to Babajo, Yusuf and Musa (2018) augments earnings of the participants in periodic markets. Generally, involvement of the informal workers in periodic markets accordingly brings about attainment of economic objectives; example, rise in employment, personal returns, revenues to the market's productivity, asset values and taxes and revenues to the authourities.

Horodnic, Ciobanu, Zait and Wiliams (2022) in their study, posited that numerous intentions are exploited by buyers for defending what they buy from the informal economy to the detriment of the formal market provision. Presumably, the informal economy permits for financial benefit and/or drop in price that make patronizing periodic markets by many people. This implies throng of people from all over and thus, permeate social gatherings and exchange of ideas and cultures.

Moreover, the presence of informal economy workers develops moral judgment across cultures (Gibbs, Basinger, Grime & Snarey, 2007) which may result players within the periodic markets embracing each other's culture. Williams and Bezeredi, (2019) expound that erstwhile investigation revealed that the letdowns of the formal economy in providing goods and services to people in terms of unavailability of the goods and services, the sluggishness and the worthiness of the formal economy provided opportunity for the informal economy workers to participate fully in the development of periodic markets.

However, in as much as informal economy workers engage in activities that permeate development, creativity and steadfastness in business, there are some instances recorded that suggest some illicit practices among some of them. For instance, Lasco, (2017) lamented that an observation of a group of boys who sell food and drinks in some parts around Philippine ports shows that they participate in many other activities that contravene the law as they take part in an informal economy where there are prospects making money skim over the lines between what is acceptable and what is not as far as informalities of work are involved. This results in lots of them using perilous drugs, specifically *shabu* (methamphetamine).

2.4 Theory Underpinning the Study

The study has 'Growth Pole Model' as the model that explains its basis. Growth pole model was introduced by the French economist in the person of Francois Perroux in 1950. He created the notion as a spotlight of economic development in a non-figurative economic planetary. The basic assumptions of the model are that general activities of humans should be grouped together to produce internal and external economies of scale; groupings craft social difficulty such as overcrowding, diseconomies of scale and longitudinal inequality in social and economic development and procedural interventions by authourities to spawn development efforts (Maity, 2022). Perroux hypothesizes that when growth transpires in a specific location, it becomes focal area of development of economic activities and subsequently it encourages development in the dependent market places (Maity, 2022). Thus, the model explanations give light to the presence and growth of informal economy organizations



in the periodic markets and the commercial activities they pursue propel the development of these period markets.

3. METHODOLOGY

3.1 Area of Study

3.1.1. The periodic markets and their periodicity: Aikin (1980) reported that market periodicity could be fixed on weekly footing, twice weekly, every 3rd, 4th 5th day, or otherwise agreed by the community. The periodic markets in Katsina city are: *Hi-mata*, *Kofar-Marusa* and '*Yar Kutungu* and Tuesdays and Fridays are their operation days the locals.

3.1.2. Locations of the markets: The locations of the three periodic markets *Hi-mata*, *Kofar Marusa* are within Katsina metropolis. Except '*Yar Kutungu* periodic market that has now been relocated to another site of about six kilometers away from its old location in the city.

3.1.3. Ethical permission to conduct the research: permission was sought from a traditional authority who supervises the affairs of the market otherwise known as *Sarkin Kasuwa*. The *Sarkin Kasuwa* wield great powers as far as governing the affairs of any market is concerned. The *Sarkin Kasuwa* superintends the general administrative, security, adjudication and other motley issues that may perhaps stem on the market days.

3.2. Design of the Study

The study seeks to explore from the participants' point of view on how they make out their associations' offerings to the development of periodic markets. Therefore, a qualitative method of phenomenological approach was chosen for the study. This decision was based on the fact that phenomenological approach has inherent ability to clarify meaning and reach an understanding of the study's phenomenon as evidenced from the interview held with the informants (Kafle, 2011). The markets sampled for this study as discussed earlier are the three periodic markets in Katsina metropolis, which are: *Himata*, *Kofar-Marusa* and '*Yar Kutungu* markets.

3.3. Population of the Study

Forty-five files in each of the three periodic markets comprising of all the associations that participate in informal economic activities in the three periodic markets were presented to the researcher as requested by him from the *Sarkin Kasuwa*. By going through the files, only five associations whose leadership met the principles suggested by Chen, et al, (2015) were duly selected purposively. The criteria are: the type of leaders: in terms of their membership authenticity, gender, class, ethnicity of the membership; the leaders' degree of control of the association and the association's internal governance system.

3.4. Sampling Technique and Procedure

From 45 informal workers' associations present in these markets, only seven of them were selected for the study. Purposive sampling technique was used to arrive at the seven unions that were used for the study. The associations sampled for the study are: '*Yan Cefane*, (fresh tomatoes and pepper sellers) '*Yan Turaku*, (livestock sellers) '*Yan Damaga*, (waste pickers) '*Yan Kuli-Kuli*, (ground cake and oil sellers) '*Yan Nama*, (butchers/meat sellers) '*Yan Hatsi* (grains sellers) and '*Yan Dako* (loaders and loaders). All of them met all the criteria. This is ascertained through the files of the associations at the *Sarkin Kasuwa's* office.



All the participants were drawn from the listed associations above. Each participant served as his association's representative and is also a member of the association top executive i.e. either a chairman, secretary or public relations officer of the union. The participants included six males and one female. Each of them had voluntarily consented to the interview and provided the necessary answers to the question they were asked. The average period of their involvement in the association is about seven years which is reasonable enough to acquire experience on the phenomenon. Their ages range from 30 to 55 years.

The paper is restricted on the three periodic markets within Katsina city. The markets are: Hi-mata, Kofar Marusa and 'Yar-Kutungu.

3.5. Method of Data Collection and Analyses

Semi-structured interview was used to obtain data from the participants. All the interviews were tape recorded and each lasted for about 26 minutes on average. The interview began with asking each of the participant to describe the organization and structure of their union. Each of them was individually asked to clarify and elaborate on issues regarding the socio-economic activities of their association as this helps the researcher to understand how the participants' attach meaning and the experience of the phenomenon. Gill, Stewart, Treasure & Chadwick (2008), maintain that the application of semi-structured interview is when the researcher needs a significant 'depth' of the research phenomenon, or in some instances where nothing is known about the subject area.

The recorded interviews with the informants were self-transcribed by the researcher as suggested by Arunasalam, (2019). The researcher sought the assistance of an expert in translation from Department of Hausa Studies of Al Qalam University in Katsina.

4. DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

The interview process began by asking the informants the names of their respective organizations and the names of the offices being held by their executives. This was done with a view to discover whether the informants have the requisite knowledge and experience in the association's activities and if they met the criteria prescribed by Chen (2015). Then subsequent questions pertaining to the study were asked. The data collected from the informants were analyzed using thematic analysis as put forward by Braun and Clarke, (2005). Thematic analysis provides an available and hypothetically supply method of evaluating qualitative data (Clarke & Braun, 2017). This is done with a view to answering the research questions and the attainment of the research objectives.

Theme I: Economic Contribution

Periodic markets are economic hubs of their local places. In periodic markets there are different informal workers' associations. From the file in the office of the *Sarkin Kasuwa*, there were forty different types of informal workers' associations. Each of these associations partake in an economic activity that relates to area of its business.

Sub Theme I: Employment generation:

One central contribution of informal association to the development of periodic markets around Katsina is serving as a source of employment to the teeming youths and to some extent elderly persons in the local environment. According to the chairman of '*Yan Hatsi* at Hi-Mata market "there are 11 stalls and/or *Mashinfidi*, (*Mashinidi* refers to a symbolic stand where the informal



economy traders displace their wares for sale). Each of the stall has at least three persons assisting the main owner of the stall totaling 33 assistants very well utilized and earning some income. Our business is presently at every periodic market, locally and internationally, therefore, we need more spaces, in fact we need a separate market outskirts of the city to enable heavy vehicles to deliver our goods. If that is done, we will be able to employ more assistants, thereby relieving the government of unemployment problems”

At Kofar Marusa periodic market the PRO of *‘Yan Nama* explained that “there are 17 stalls. Each of these stalls has about two assistants on average. If you multiply their number with the number of stalls available, it will amount to 34 persons adequately employed and catering for themselves and their loved ones. We could have increased the employment of youths, if the government can modernize our abattoir and help us with giant refrigerators or cold rooms” At *‘Yar Kutungu* periodic market the chairman of *‘Yan cefane* expressed that “there are 23 stalls, each of these stalls has between two and three people operating, making a total of 63 people gainfully employed on each market day.”

The chairman loaders association at *‘Yar Kutungu* periodic market, said “they have 32 members that operate in the market. They range from head-loaders to cart pushers. They earn their living from helping consumers of goods from the market to the consumers’ desired location on agreed amount.” To buttress the assertion of loaders association chairman of *‘Yar Kutungu* periodic market, the grains sellers’ association chairman said that “one of their major contributions to the development of the market, apart from employing assistants, is on provision for employment for members of *‘Yan Dako* association. According to him their customers usually buy in bulk and the goods are heavy to be carried by the customers. That is where the loaders come in. To take the goods to the location of the customer”.

‘Yan Kuli-Kuli chairperson at Kofar Maursa periodic market, being the only woman explained that their association “which is a form of cooperative society also helps especially young female assistants to be gainfully employed.” Their bona fide members were up to 25, who partake in this informal economic activity. According to her “each member has at least two female assistants attached to her (as all or members are females). In this respect, we have nothing less than fifty of these young female assistants that were duly employed.”

Protection and provision of the welfare of the members of the association is one of the primary motives of their existence. More so, their presence in periodic markets further propel their economic role especially in the provision of employment to many people. As could be deciphered from the informants’ statements, generation of employment is one of the ways by which informal workers’ associations contribute to the development of periodic markets. This is in line with the verdict of Uko, Akpanoyoro, & Polycap, (2020) and Tawordzera, (2022), where they declared that the activities of informal economy workers are obvious means of employment creation and bringing down poverty level of the people.

Sub Theme II: Income generation

On income generation, informal economy workers’ association of the three markets under study generate income for themselves and their families. According the grain sellers association (*‘Yan Hatsi*) chairman of *‘Yar Kutungu* market their informal economic activity “forms bulk of



sustenance for loaders (*'Yan Dako*) in the sense that whenever there is a bulk purchase, the *'Yan Dako* usually carry the purchased goods to the main road for the buyer who in turn pay the loader on agreed amount". The chairman of. *'Yan Dako*, explained that "each member makes reasonable amount on each market day to the extent that the amount generated if calculated and saved by individual loaders at month end usually surpasses national minimum wage."

The informal economy associations also encourage self-generation of income for individual members. For instance, from Hi-Mata periodic market, the chairman of *'Yan Hatsi* says that "from the meagre wages paid to the assistants, many of them save considerably and gather up some capital and become owners of their own business. Almost every member of the association started as a mere apprentice and rose up to the state of being owners of their trading activity thereby earning reasonably." Equally the secretary of *'Yan' Cefane* in this market said his "association assists in giving numerous people source of income through paying them stipend based on their labour on every market day within an agreed wage.

From the interviews held with the informants from the three periodic markets, it could be noticed that income generation to people in the periodic markets and beyond are contributions of informal economy workers. This finding is corroborated by the finding of Babajo, Yusuf, & Musa, (2018) that the activities of the informal economy workers led to the participants in periodic markets to augment their earnings. Similarly, Horodnic, Ciobanu, Zait, & Wiliams, (2022), finding in their study seems to support the finding of this study, in which they report that informal economy workers' associations give room for financial advantage through selling their goods at lower rates than other selling points which ultimately makes consumers to be patronizing the three periodic markets.

Sub Theme II: Generation of Revenue to the Market

Depending on an informal economy activity and no matter how less viable the activity appears to be, every member pays some amount as revenue to the market. The revenue accrued goes to the management of the market after every market day. Since the *Mashinfidi* might not be consistent on every market day, but because of the systematic way they were organized on every market day, the association had introduced identity cards for their members. Usually, one of the associations executives assists in pointing their members to the revenue collector of the market for the payment of revenue. For instance, *Yan Cefane* chairman said he "assists in collecting revenue from their members which he said depends on the strength of one's capital and is paid on every market day." The chairman of Butchers association at Kofar Marusa periodic market market said, "they have a designated a member of their association and saddled him with the responsibility of collecting revenue from members for instance remittance to the person assigned by management to collect the revenue from their members. Each member pays his revenue depending on the viability of his business.

Obviously from the informants' submissions, it could be deduced that revenue generation is one of the key contributions of informal economy workers' associations to the periodic markets. This is supported by the findings of Babajo, Yusuf, & Musa, (2018), that participation of the informal economy workers' association in periodic markets correspondingly creates fulfilment of economic goals; that pertain and not limited to personal returns, revenues to the markets and probably revenues to the authorities.



Theme II: Social Contribution

Socially, the informal economy workers' associations in these markets succour in perspectives as expressed by the members of the different associations. Their expressions are discussed below.

Sub Theme I: Isolating Youths from Drug Abuse and other Social Vices

The chairman of '*Yan*' *Turaku* at 'Yar Kutungu periodic market maintained that "their way of social contribution is through assisting the youths who partake in the association's line of business assisting in removing them away from indulging in drug abuse." He further maintained that "on the two market days each *Dangwale* (a restricted area where group of animals for sale are kept for the seller) utilized assistance of such youths, thereby keeping them busy without allowing them any breezing space to engage in any illegal activity. Drug abuse is highly minimal in the area." Similarly, according to the chairman of '*Yan Damaga* association at Kofar Marusa periodic market, because of the way his association engages the youths in their line of trade, "petty thefts have been reduced to the barest minimum because of the resolute and unwavering commitment of the teeming youths to be useful to themselves and the larger society." However, these two assertions from the two officials of their respective informal workers' associations contravene the verdict of Lasco, (2017), where he discovered in Philippine's port zone some call boys engage in selling food and drinks and at the same time, they take part in the consumption of hard drugs and other illicit activities.

Sub Theme II: Relating and intermingling with different crops of people

The secretary of livestock sellers' association *Yan Turaku* of Hi Mata periodic market, relates that "there are different breed of animals particularly goats, sheep, cows and camels that are usually brought from Niger republic and other neighbouring local governments that are closer to Niger Republic." By the presence of these breeds of animals, they naturally attract buyers from almost everywhere in the state and beyond. This action necessitates social relations of people from different backgrounds and upbringing which results in learning one another's culture and tradition. In this way the local businesses in the periodic markets get boosted as the sellers and buyers will learn to tolerate one another and do business amicably. The '*Yan Damaga* secretary 'Yar Kutungu periodic market attributes the contribution of his association "in respect of different people from different locations that come to buy their goods and as such there has always been exchange of ideas and social inclinations."

Similarly, the chairman of '*Yan Cefane* of Hi Mata periodic market affirms that their social contribution to their periodic market is "through traveling up to Niger republic to source for our merchandise." He further said that "their members are not only residents of the local area but from all over neighbouring local governments, states and even beyond. They interact with each other and transfer each other's social fore bearings." The claims by the various informants of their associations' contribution to breeding intercultural affiliations by people who patronize their markets are substantiated by the outcome of the research of Gibbs, Basinger, Grime and Snarey, (2007) where they reiterate that the presence of informal economy workers (in periodic markets) fosters moral judgment across cultures which ultimately results in players within the periodic markets embracing each other's traditions.

Again, from the chairman of animal sellers' association at Kofar Marusa periodic market, "there are uniformed market security men who are mainly entrusted with ensuring security of lives and



property of people in the markets. Their task is to contain and report any security breach to the *Sarkin Kasuwa*. The provision of security is the handiwork of all the informal economy workers' association from the periodic markets".

5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Informal economy workers' activities and their ways of operation are virtually the pillars upon which these markets depend to function. Payment for transportation of goods and humans to and from the markets, payment of loaders and general trading activities, buying and selling of commercial goods, are significant ways of making money to go round amongst people in these markets by the activities of these informal economy workers' associations. It is evident from the informants that informal economy workers' associations are not only yearning to advance their course but also striving to see to the development of the periodic markets they operate in.

The study recommends the following:

- a. Government should do whatever possible to expand the landscape of the markets to accommodate more stalls as the markets are ever expanding to the extent that many traders had to place their *mashinfidi* on the main road thereby blocking access to motorists and pedestrians. Those that are filled beyond expansion can be relocated to a place that is convenient to the people. The opinion of those who patronize the markets can be sought in this regard.
- b. The state government should as a matter of urgency establish a special and separate market to be reserved for grain sellers alone where large-scale dealers can operate in a way that hundreds of thousands of sacks could come in and out daily. The chairmen of grain sellers Association in all the three markets separately express their desire for the authorities to establish a special separate grains market elsewhere outskirts of the city. They proposed a site for this market around the city ring road. The advantage is that heavy duty vehicles will circumvent the main town. That is to say, small and medium vehicles will carry goods from the proposed new market to the town. The traffic and human congestion around these markets will definitely reduce to the barest minimum.
- c. In order to boost their trade and attract more customers to these markets, Butchers Association requests establishing of cold room and power generating plant to help preserve unsold or leftover meat. This will go a long way in sanitizing the meat and help prevent health problems.

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