



A MICRO STUDY ON PROBLEMS OF MIGRANT WOMEN – WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO SCHEDULED TRIBES WOMEN IN ANANTAPURAMU DISTRICT

Dr.Kummara Nettikallappa* Dr.K.Krishna Naik**

Post-Doctoral Fellow (ICSSR, New Delhi), Dept. of History, Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Anantapuramu,, A.P.

Professor, Dept. of History, Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Anantapuramu,A.P.

Abstract

Migration is a physical shifting of an employee or work force from one place to other. It may be permanent in nature or temporary also. The transition of people from rural areas to urban areas having various internal dynamic, most of the times it is due to compulsion and inadequate infrastructure facility, medical care, education etc. In India migration related data is mostly captured by two organisations, viz. Census and National Sample Survey Organisation. Both these two organisation defined migration “ migration as a person residing in a place other than his/her place of birth (place of birth definition) or one who has changed his/her usual place of residence to another place (change in usual place of residence). NSS considered the change in Usual Place of Residence (UPR Approach) to define a migrant. Migration may be due to different factor like economic development, social cultural, environmental, political factors duet to violence, political instability , drought, flood, landslide and low fertility of land. The present study was highlighted various problems by the migrated Scheduled Tribes at migrated places in selected study area.

Key words: *Migration, Problem, Detachment and Financial Exploitation.*

Introduction

Migration is a physical shifting of an employee or work force from one place to other. It may be permanent in nature or temporary also. The transition of people from rural areas to urban areas having various internal dynamic, most of the times it is due to compulsion and inadequate infrastructure facility, medical care, education etc. In India migration related data is mostly captured by two organizations, viz. Census and National Sample Survey Organization. Both these two organization defined migration as follows: Census defines migrant as a person residing in a place other than his/her place of birth (Place of Birth definition) or one who has changed his/ her usual place of residence to another place (change in usual place of residence). NSS considered the change in Usual Place of Residence (UPR Approach) to define a migrant. Migration may be due to different factor like economic development, social cultural, environmental, political factors, due to violence, political instability, drought, flood, landslide and low fertility of land.

The word ‘Tribe’ means the “Scheduled Tribes” as declared by the President of India and related as such, by the parliament, under article 342 of the constitution. The dictionary meaning of the word stresses its two connotations (i) groupism or community fellowship, and (ii) distinctiveness which may include primitiveness. The backwardness and aloofness have been most important among the various factors determining a tribe.

Tribal Migration

The tribal population of the country is 104.3 million (2011 census) constituting 8.6% of the total population. There are 705 Scheduled Tribes notified under Article 342 of the Constitution of India,



spread over different States and Union Territories of the country. Many tribes are present in more than one state. The composite State of Andhra Pradesh had the largest tribal concentration in South India with a population of 59,18,073 constituting 7 % of the total population of the country. These Tribes (STs) are indigenous, have their own distinctive culture, geographically isolated and are low in socio-economic conditions. The tribal groups have remained outside the realm of the general development process for centuries due to their habitation in forests and hilly tracts. Most of the tribal areas are placed in hilly, inaccessible undulating plateau lands in the forest areas of the country resulting in the bypassing of general developmental programmes. Due to this reason infrastructure and development facilities in tribal areas for education, roads, healthcare, communication, drinking water, sanitation etc. lagged behind compared to other areas which has resulted in further widening the gaps of development between the tribals and the general population for a long time.

Review of Literature

Sultana Zelina (2010)¹ Impact of Monga on Rural Urban Migration – Its Socio Economic Consequences: The paper pointed out the socio economic consequences of migration during ‘monga’ season in Northern Bangladesh. As during ‘monga’ or ‘famine’ the poorest do not have the access to livelihood and work, people tend to migrate for the fear of hunger. The paper also pointed out that these socio economic consequences can be resolved by developing an agro based industrialization process as well as non agricultural productive activities in the selected study region, so that the socio economic impact arising as a consequence of famine, can be minimized.

Shonchoy S. Abu (2011)² Seasonal Migration & Micro Credit in the Lean Period – Evidence from Northwest Bangladesh: The paper investigates the relationship between access to micro credit and its impact on rural urban seasonal migration. As seasonal migration is not a permanent migration, people love to migrate during lean period when agricultural productivities are low. It is often highlighted on the fact that poor people migrate, because they are suffering from lack of finance during lean period and micro credit can minimize the financial shortfall. But the author concluded that due to strict weekly repayment rule, it reduces the ability of borrowers to react to shocks. Thus, they prefer to migrate instead of depending on micro credit during lean period. Sometimes, even if they are accessing microcredit, the purpose remains as a cost of arranging movement from rural areas to urban areas. Thus, it can be said that although, the purpose of microcredit is to provide some alternative livelihood opportunities, but its real impact is questionable.

Deshingkar Priya & Sandi Matteo (2011)³ Migration & Human Development in India – New Challenges & Opportunities: The paper discusses the linkage between migration and human development through an analysis of outcomes for health and education among different social groups. The paper finds that in case of lower class people international migration is low due to high cost of movement. The analysis also indicates that migrants are able to satisfy immediate consumption needs, but they see spending on education as risky investment. Thus, the paper concluded that health and education policy should be migrant friendly in order to achieve higher economic growth.

Hazra Anupam (2012)⁴ Rural India – Still Floating towards Cities: The paper mainly focuses on the push and pulls factors of migration. Out of the different factors, poverty is considered as the main push factor for rural urban migration, the author also pointed out that migration primarily occurs due to disparities in regional development. So, instead of alleviating the poverty of people, govt. should work on the policies to reduce the poverty in that region.



Jahan Momtaz (2012)⁵ Impact of Rural Urban Migration on Physical & Social Environment – The Case of Dhaka City: The paper mainly focuses on the impact of rural urban migration on physical and social environment in Dhaka city of Bangladesh. The migration process created equal socio economic impact in both urban cities as well as rural areas. The main reason for migration as highlighted in this paper is due to gross socio economic disparities between urban as well as rural areas.

Imran Faisal, Nawaz Yasir, Asim Muhammad & Hashmi H. Arshad (2013)⁶ Socio Economic Determinants of Rural Migrants in Urban Setting – A Study Conducted at City Sargodha, Pakistan: The study is designed to identify the socio economic determinants of rural urban migration. The paper observed that poor educational facilities, health, entertainment and limited income opportunities create the rural urban migration. On the other hand, this migration leads to poor sanitation, environmental pollution, crowded housing and over population in urban areas.

Need of the Study

The large number of educated, uneducated and illiterate tribal women from the state of Andhra Pradesh migrate to different parts of the country and cites like Hyderabad, Bangalore, Chennai and Mumbai etc., for searching some gainful employment/casual labour in the unorganized sector and as household maids for their livelihood. Nature of varied data, regional and seasonal variation, different types and forms of migration like inter-state cross migration, circular migration, occupational migration, short-term migration, long-term migration, migration caused by displacement and gender migration etc. particularly among tribal and women tribal folks indicate that there is a still a dearth of data and detailed analysis and probe is required to understand the tribal migration. The proposed study is planned to find the reasons for their migration and to document how, why and where they migrate, their living conditions prior to migration and at their place of migration, what they feel about their future, whether they know the development programmes which are being implemented by the governments for their benefit, what is their health status, their vertical job mobility, the impact of the migration on their socio-economic and cultural life pattern at individual and community level, agencies involved and all other related aspects particularly the tribal women migrants. The findings of the study have been utilized in putting forward various suggestions which can help the policy makers to undertake various development and welfare interventions among these tribal groups. The study present was carried out in Anantapur district of Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh state. Anantapur district has the highest tribal concentration in Rayalaseema region. The study also examine the women migrants to the three cities of Hyderabad, Bangalore and Chennai.

Objectives

1. To study the conceptual framework of migration
2. To analyse and presented the problems of migrated ST women at migrated places
3. To draw the conclusions from empirical analysis

Methodology

The present study is based on both primary and secondary sources. **Geographically** the state of Andhra Pradesh is divided into two regions, Costal Andhra and Rayalaseema. For the purpose of the present study Rayalaseema region has been selected and with the Rayalaseema districts the most backward Anantapur district with highest tribal concentration has been selected for the intensive study. The Anantapur district is divided into five Revenue divisions, namely Anantapur, Penukonda, Dharmavaram,



Kadiri and Kalyanadurgam. Of which, Kadiri and Kalyanadurgam Revenue divisions were selected as these areas have more number of tribal women migrants. Among these revenue divisions, the researcher has selected two mandals like Kadiri and Tanakal mandal from Kadiri Revenue division, and Kalyanadurg and Beluguppa mandals were selected from Kalyandurg revenue division. Further from each Mandal, a sample of 50 tribal families has chosen purposively. Thus, altogether 200 tribal families have been selected carefully to bring out inferences. The secondary data were also collected from published reports of the state and central governments, Census, Economic Survey, Human Development reports and NGO material etc.

In the process of analysis of the present empirical data, the researcher has used some appropriate statistical tools like percentages, averages and weighted averages and also used and presented bar charts, pie-charts for easy understand of readers. Keeping in view of the composition of the universe, investigation, interviewing and observation techniques have applied. The tribal women and girls migrated to cities were mostly illiterate and are not well conversant with social science investigations. Hence, Interview Schedule has used as the main tool of data collection. The Interview Schedule was drafted on the basis of the objectives of the present study. Along with the Interview Schedule the researcher also have observation sheets to record relevant and useful observations.

Results and Discussions

Table -1, Opinion of respondents on extent of financial exploitation

S.No	Extent of exploitation	No. of Respondents	% to total
1	To a great extent	62	31.00
2	To some extent	54	27.00
3	Not applicable	84	42.00
	Total	200	100

Source: Field Survey

It is observed from the study that, out of 200, 31 per cent of the respondent have reported that they were financially exploited by the employers to a great extent as against about 27 per cent have reporting financially exploitation to some extent. It is further found that 42 per cent of them have stated that they did not applicable. It is clear from the analysis that a large majority of the migrated women in the cities are financially exploited by their employers to a large extent to some extent.

Table-2, Opinion of ST women respondents on nature of financial exploitation

N=200

S.No	Nature	No. of Respondents	% to total
1	Very low wages	148	74.00
2	Illegal deduction from wages	160	80.00
3	Very long ours to work	116	58.00
4	No compensation for overtime work	54	27.00
5	Any other	10	05.00

Source: Field Survey



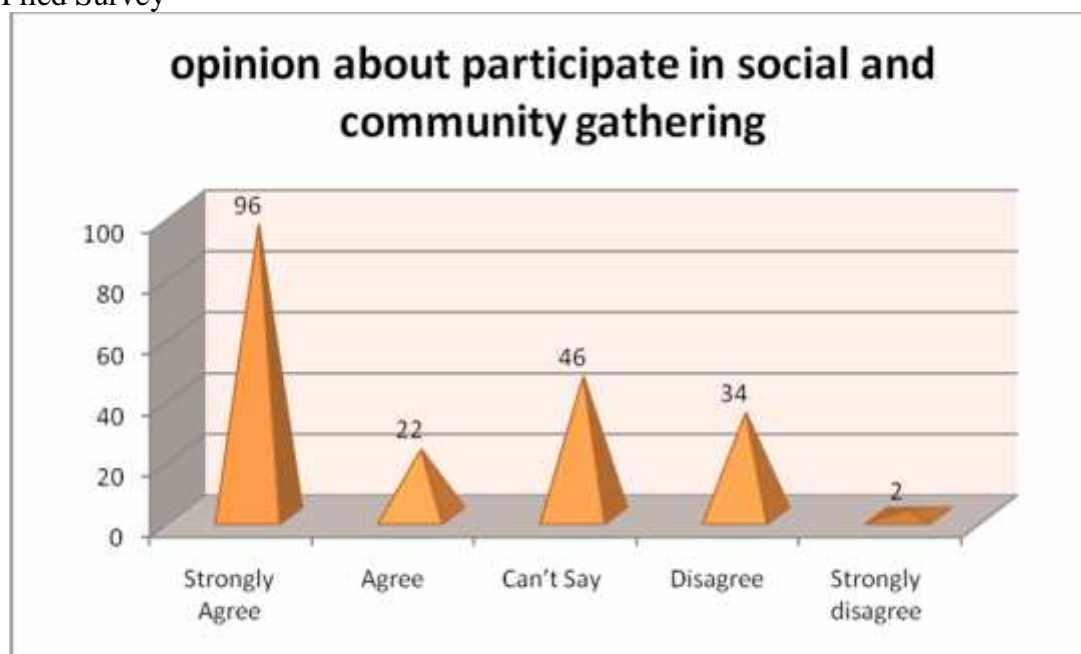
The employers were financially exploited the migrant tribal women in various ways like very low wages, illegal deduction from wages, very long hour to work, no compensation for overtime work and any others in the study area.

The study found that the researcher has collected opinion from the respondents regarding to financial exploitation. It can be found that 74 per cent of the sample respondents have stated that they have been receiving very low wages, 80 per cent of the ST women migrant were stated that, their employers have been illegally deduction from their wages, 58 per cent reported that they have been working very long hours, 27 per cent represents 54 sample women don't receive any compensation for overtime work and rest of them have some other reasons.

Table-3, Difficulty to participate in social and community gathering

S.No.	Opinion	Respondents		Total	Weighted average
		Sugali	Yerukula		
1	Strongly Agree	52	44	96 (48.00)	0.37
2	Agree	09	13	22 (11.00)	
3	Can't Say	19	27	46 (23.00)	
4	Disagree	20	14	34 (17.00)	
5	Strongly disagree	--	02	02 (01.00)	
Total		100	100	200 (100.00)	

Source: Filed Survey



The woman is confine to kitchen after marriage. The well educated family female have get job or entered into business or any other economic activity. Especially, below poverty line women have not



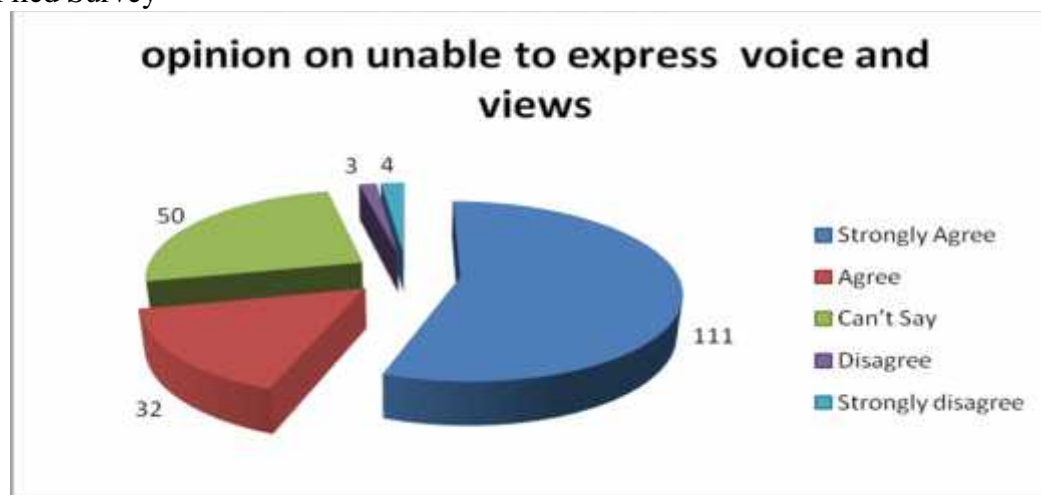
success in the business or well educated in the society. Hence, the researcher has found that how the Scheduled tribe women have been participated in community development program or social groups. Based on this context, researcher has collected opinion of the ST migrant women on satisfaction level of participating in various community development programs. 48 percent of the sample respondents have stated that, they have strongly agreed, 11 percent of them just agreed, 23 percent of them have can't say and rest of them have stated their opinion from disagreed to strongly disagreed (Table 3).

When women have been participating in family decision making process, definitely that family will empowered economically, socially and culturally. Especially in weaker section of people, that to male dominated society, there is no possible to effective participation in decision making process. Here the researcher has collected the opinion from the sample ST women about considered their opinion or views in any matters in her family.

Table -4, Opinion of the respondents on unable to express voice & views

S.No.	Opinion	Respondents		Total	Weighted average
		Sugali	Yerukula		
1	Strongly Agree	61	50	111 (55.00)	0.68
2	Agree	12	20	32 (16.00)	
3	Can't Say	24	26	50 (25.00)	
4	Disagree	01	02	03 (02.00)	
5	Strongly disagree	02	02	04 (02.00)	
Total		100	100	200 (100.00)	

Source: Filed Survey



It can be noted that the researcher has given five opinion levels and get the opinion. It is further noted that half of the sample respondents have strongly agreed an above statement, 16 percent of them have stated that just disagreed, 25 percent of ST migrant women has not provided their opinion- that

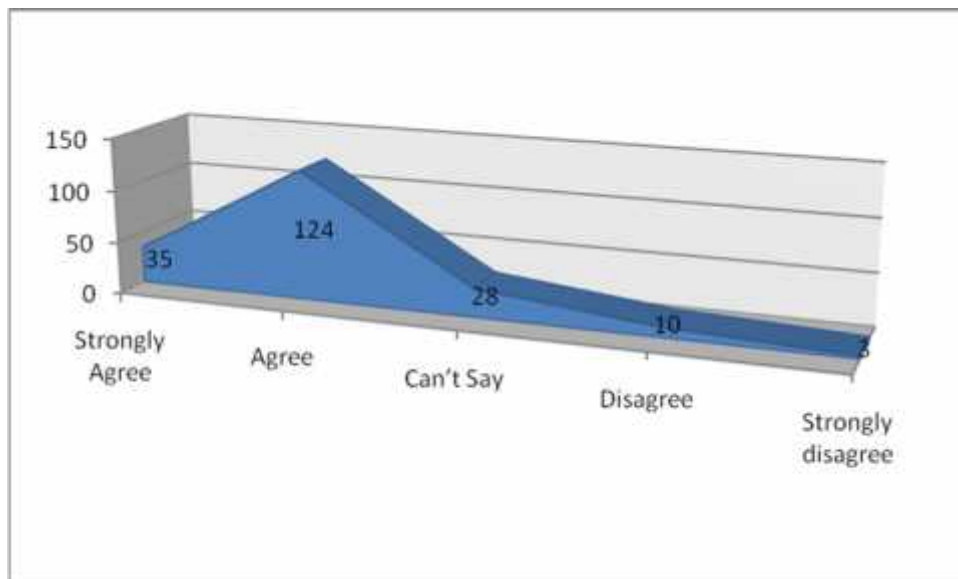


means they only neutral (Table 4). It is quite interestingly noted that only meager percentage of the ST migrant women have been disagreed to strongly disagreed.

Table -5, Detachment of migrant women from family

S.No.	Opinion	Respondents		Total	Weighted average
		Sugali	Yerukula		
1	Strongly Agree	15	20	35 (18.00)	0.73
2	Agree	64	60	124 (62.00)	
3	Can't Say	15	13	28 (14.00)	
4	Disagree	04	06	10 (05.00)	
5	Strongly disagree	02	01	03 (01.00)	
Total		100	100	200 (100.00)	

Source: Filed Survey



Once the women went to outside by doing any economic activity, and come back to her village she abundant some relations in her village or he family or her relatives. In this context, researcher has collected opinion from the respondents about the detachment of migrant women from her family. It is found that 80 percent of the ST migrant women have been strongly agreed to just agreed, on detachment from their family after migrated, and only 6 percent of them have stated their opinion from disagreed to strongly disagreed (Table 5).

Findings and suggestions



- It is clear from the analysis that a large majority of the migrated women in migrated places are financially exploited by their employers to a large extent to some extent. Hence, the government have strictly implementing Minimum Wage Act in India.
- The employers were financially exploited the migrant tribal women in various ways like very low wages, illegal deduction from wages, very long hour to work, no compensation for overtime work and any others in the study area.
- It is quite interestingly noted that only meager percentage of the ST migrant women have been disagreed to strongly disagreed on express their view and voice after migrated. Hence, family member has allowed to their views/ideas/suggestions in all decision making process.

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