

Employment Status and Socio-Economic Conditions of Migrated Women Labourer: A Case Study of Dehradun City in Uttarakhand

Abstract

Growing rate of urbanization and lack of proper employment in rural surroundings has led to the problem of rural labourers' migration to the cities. Though it provides opportunities of employment, alongwith other problems, it creates shortage of water, lack of sanitation, pollution, increase in slum area, housing problem etc. On the basis of primary data of 200 migrated house hold (women labourer) from different part of Dehradun, the aim of this study is to find out the employment status and socio- economic conditions of migrated women labours in Dehradun city of Uttarakhand. It has been found that most of the women labourers migrated from different states of India are engaged in monthly wage employment as a maid and their husbands are engaged mainly in construction work, fruit and vegetable seller, auto driver etc. These women worker feel satisfied from their economic conditions and employment status but there is need to improve their working conditions and living surroundings.

Keywords: Urbanisation, Migration, Slum.

Introduction

Urbanization and migration are very common features of development process. Although compared to developed nations, the degree of urbanization is very slow in India. But in recent years growth rate of urbanization has increased rapidly at rate of 3.4per cent between 2001 to 2011 (Census of India, 2011). One of the important aspects of urbanization is migration. Migration is a new emerging problem for Indian economy. Migration means people move from one to another place, town, city, district, region, state and one country to another country. The main causes behind this migration may be social, economic, environmental etc. People migrated from one place to another in search of employment, better education and training facilities, better medical facilities and other availability for comforts of life. With a holy and religious place, favourable climate and as an education hub, Uttarakhand is also a centre of attraction for migrants.

Uttarakhand came into existence as a 27th state of India, separated from Uttar Pradesh on 9th November 2000. There are 13 districts in Uttarakhand which are grouped into two districts of the states, 3 are plain districts and 10 are hill districts. As a State capital rich with other facilities, Dehradun city is centre of attraction for migrants from other states. Although migration from hills to plain areas is a big problem in Uttarakhand, our research focus is mainly on migrated labourer, especially women labourer from other states. This paper is based on employment status, socio economic conditions, nature of work conditions, their contribution to society and problems of migrated women domestic workers of Dehradun city in Uttarakhand.

Review of Literature

Urban population of Uttarakhand is gradually increasing not only state level but at the city level. Migration trend of Uttarakhand shows that plain area of Uttarakhand shows faces a high urban growth in current years, Dehradun, Haridwar, Haldwani, Roorkee and Rudraprayag (Sandeep Mani 2015). According to Chandrashekhar (2014) around 90% of workers in India are in unorganized sector and their share is increasing. Most of the studies deal with the migrants of the state and includes all classes or sections of the society. But this study is related to migrated

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worker and specially women migrants belonging to poorer section of the society and mainly from backward, SC & ST classes.

Objective

1. The object of this paper is to study the employment status of migrated labours (especially women) in Dehradun district of Uttarakhand.
2. To explore the socio economic conditions of migrants women worker
3. To know the main contribution of these women labour for their own share and for society.

Methodology

This study is based mainly on primary data and some extent on secondary data as well. Primary data is collected from 200 migrated household women workers on the basis of oral responses of a questionnaire received between November 15 to December 18, 2018. All in migrated women workers taken by random sampling technique from different part of Dehradun city.

Result and Discussion

Unorganized sector is a main characteristic of Indian Economy. An unorganized worker is a house based worker or a self employed worker or a wage worker in the unorganized sector. Unorganized sector covers most of the rural labour and a substantial part of urban labour. In short they are low paid workers and they don't come under any safety act of the Government. According to Ministry of Labour Department of India, unorganized sector is divided into four categories:

- 1 In reference of business
- 2 In reference of nature of employment
- 3 In reference of special category
- 4 In reference of service category

Migrated laborers, who are engaged as fruit and vegetable seller, women labourer, house maid are in service category.

A domestic women worker is that type of worker who does many types of household works like, house cleaning, dusting, children and old caring, cooking, laundry, watering of plants etc. These kinds of domestic work are a great source of employment and generation of income for women workers. These women workers are mainly backward communities, SC, ST and other poor classes too. There is no need to be educated and special skill for their kind of work. So migrated women workers happily accept these works because they feel economically empowered herself as well as they share their financial economic burden.

Socio-Economic Condition of Women Migrant's Labourers

It has been found that maximum migrant women fall in the age group of 30-35 (24%), 25-30 & 35-40 age groups are 16%. In the age group of 40-45 are 12% and same percentage age in group 15-20, 20-25 and 50-55, all are 8%. Minimum 04% are in 50-60 age groups and no one is in above 60 years age.

Table: 1- Composition of Age Group

Age	Total Sum	Percentage
15-20	16	08
20-25	16	08
25-30	32	16
30-35	48	24
35-40	32	16
40-45	24	12
45-50	08	04
50-55	16	08
55-60	08	04
Above 60	Nil	-
Total	200	100

Table:2- Caste composition of the women workers

Caste	Number	Percentage
SC	160	80
ST	06	03
OBC	32	16
GEN	02	01
TOTAL	200	100

We can see from Table 2 that among maid lady worker majority of ladies are SC 80%, ST only 03% and OBC 16% and Gen Caste ladies are very few in numbers only 01% are employed as maid in houses.

As per Table 3, among migrated women labourer only 6% are literate and 94% are illiterate. Here meaning of literate is that they are able to read but able to write a few common sentences in Hindi only.

Table:3-Literacy of women migrants

Category	No	Percentage
Literate	12	06
Illiterate	188	94
Total	200	100

Table:4- Home State of Migrants Women Workers

State	No.of Migrants	Percentage
Bihar	102	51
UP	72	36
Jharkhand	12	06
Hill area of Uttarakhand	02	01
Others	12	06
Total	200	100

Maximum number of migrants (51%) is from Bihar, followed by UP 36%, Percentage of migrant from Jharkhand is 6% and others states migrants are also only 6%. Only 2% is from hill area of Uttarakhand who are working as housemaids in Dehradun City.

Table:5- Marital Status

Status	No.of Migrants	Percentage
Married	176	88
Unmarried	16	08
Widows	08	04
Total	200	100

According to Table 5, maximum 88% migrated are married women and 12 % are unmarried and widows.

Table:6- Composition of Religion

Religion	No.of Migrants	Percentage
Hindu	184	92
Muslim	16	08
Sikh	Nil	Nil
Ishai	Nil	Nil
Total	200	100

According to religion 92% women house workers are Hindu and 8% are Muslim. Number of Sikh and Christian women labourer is found nil in this study.

Table:7- No of Children

No of Children	Total Family	Percentage
Nil	12	06
1	08	04
2	16	08
3	40	20
4	104	52
5 and more	16	08
Total	200	100

Above data shows that most of the women labourer has four children. 20% women has three children and 8% has either 2 children or 5 or above 5 children. Number of nil children women worker are 6%.

Table: 8- Schooling of Children

School Going	Number	Percentage
Only boys	80	40
Both	88	44
Only girls	NIL	NIL
None of them	32	16

We can see from the above data that 84% migrated women labourer send their children for education. 40% among them send their boys child only and 44% send both boys and girls child. 16% don't send their child for schooling.

Table: 9- Employment of Spouses

Name of Profession	Number	Percentage
Construction	136	68
Vegetable & Fruit selling	20	10
Auto Driver	16	08
Shop	06	03
Others	22	11
Total	200	100

Profession of these women's spouses are in construction (68%). 10% are in vegetable and fruit selling, 8% are auto driver, 3% has own business and 11% are engaged in different type of works.

Table: 10- Monthly Income of in Migrated Household

Income Group	Women Worker	
	Total	Percentage
1000-2000	14	07
2000-3000	32	16
3000-4000	50	25
4000-5000	52	26
5000-6000	38	19
6000-7000	09	04.5
7000-8000	04	02
8000-9000	01	0.5
9000-10000	NIL	NIL
More than 10000	Nil	Nil
15000-20000	Nil	Nil

As above shows that maximum migrated women worker's monthly average income lies between Rs 3000 to 5000.

Financial Inclusion

Despite banking facility and having bank account availability banking habits among migrants remain very limited. In this study it is found that they don't get required fund from bank. For their financial need, they mainly depend on unrecognized private agency / money lender named "Janlakshmi" and "Bari". These private agencies/moneylenders easily provide them debt facility through guarantor, according to their paying capacity. Although these moneylenders rate of interest are high but these financial facility brings significant change in their living of standard and fulfil their basic needs.

Table:11- Other economic indicators

Economic Indicators	Number of family	Percentage
Availability of clean drinking water	160	80
Electricity for lighting	190	95
Proper sanitation facility	(A) Separate	76
	(B) Joint	120
	(C) None	04
Pakka Floor	170	85
Kaccha Floor	30	15
Gas Chula availability	190	95
Household items	Number of family	Percentage
Bicycle	100	50
Motorcycle	160	80
T.V.	150	75
Refrigerator	10	05
Mobile	190	95
Radio	44	22

Above data shows that availability of clean water (80%), Sanitation facility (98%), Gas Chula availability (85%), Mobile (95%), electricity (95%) and Motorcycle (80%) generally available to maximum household but there is lack of Pakka floor, Kaccha is available to (85%), availability of refrigerator (only 05%) is very few in among in migrated women labourer household.

Table:12- Behaviour of Mistress of The House

Abuses and tortures behaviour	10	05
Physically harass	06	03
Normal behaviour	160	80
Very good behaviour	24	12

80% of women worker gets normal behaviour from the house members where they work. 12% get very good behaviour and are very happy with their working condition but 08% get tortures behaviour from their mistress of the house. They have not any employment security because their employment nature is temporary not permanent. Any time they can be out from their jobs. But they are not organized for their any kind of interest.

Table:13- Causes behind Their Migration

Causes	Number	Percentage
In search of employment	120	60
Repayment of debt	12	06
Poverty	42	21
Arrange money for their children marriage	16	08
Betterment of life	10	05
Total	200	100

The main cause of their migration is unemployment problem at their home state. 60% migrant's women have come here because they have not any paying work to do there. 21% women laborers accept their family income at their home state was too low to fulfil the basic needs. 8% women have migrated because their children are able to marriage but they have no money for this. To arrangement of money they migrate. About 6% women of told that they have burden of loan and they could not arrange money for repayment there. Following this 5% migrant is to betterment of life, children education etc.

Conclusion

Contribution of migrants in economic growth and income generation are too much. The above discussion shows that although the migrants women labourer come for her own interest mainly due to in search of employment, elevation of poverty, repayment of their loan and some other causes but their contribution is bigger for society and for her own family also. As far as Dehradun City of Uttarakhand State is concerned, the study shows that maximum construction work (by their spouses) is dependent on these migrated male worker and maximum household work are done by these migrated women labourers

migrated mainly from Bihar and UP and also from some other states.

Although they have some employment related problems. Sometimes they suffer from physical harassment but these are unfortunate but not common. They have also same economic and social problems. Sometimes they have to live without work. Many times their family income is less than that they can't fulfill their necessary requirements. They also feel lack of leave and her safety. But after all they enjoy their job and feel in a better condition rather than their native place. They feel empowered that they are supporting their family and help their husband's in bad situation when they have not any work, especially in rainy season. Because construction work gets slow in rainy season and also other profession like fruit and vegetable selling, private business etc.

Suggestion

The Government and society should also recognize the contribution of these migrated women workers because on the basis of their contribution we enjoy in our beautiful home and caring of family. NGO and government should provide them security and job protection and minimum wages according to their working hours as well. Govt. should also organize skill development programme like tailoring, tags making etc. so that they could improve their economic conditions.

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