

A STUDY ON THE SOCIO ECONOMIC STATUS OF THE MIGRANTS OF TIRUPUR DISTRICT

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INTRODUCTION

Human beings are involved in various activities to earn money to satisfy the basic necessities of themselves and their dependents in the family. India being a one of the developing countries in the world has more than 65% of its population living in rural segments and they are mainly depending on agriculture and allied industries of agriculture. In olden days as there was heavy rainfall in all parts of the country, the farmers cultivated various crops with minimum expenses and got more amount of yield from their land. The necessities for the family also were very limited due to lack of awareness among the public. But nowadays due to the change in climate and atmosphere the monsoon does not bring good rainfall every year. The failure in rainfall creates problems to the farmers in various ways. Further problems from insects affect the yielding capacity of the land. So the farmers struggle for growing their cultivation from the beginning itself, if at all the farmers harvest good volume of output from their land, they could not get reasonable price for their products for major crops. These are the major causes which made the farmers to approach the support of the money lenders in the rural areas, which leads to more burden of loan. Further the commitment to their family members also leads to borrow loan from various sources wherever it is possible. Poor rainfall, low income from the farming and the increased necessities of the day to day life motivated the rural public to migrate to urban areas searching any nature of the work or labour to fetch normal income to their family to meet the necessities.

In Tamilnadu, Tirupur district is familiar for its knitted garment industries. Further it offers employment to more than 6 lakhs employees from various parts of the country. Out of them more than 75% of them are from all parts of Tamilnadu. They migrated to Tirupur due to lack of adequate income in their native place to meet the family requirements. Some of them move towards Tirupur due to financial crisis and loan. After coming to Tirupur they suffer lot for getting employment to them and to get a house for stay and to get admission in schools to their wards. Further nowadays due to various factors some of the textile units could not give employment to the workers for full month excluding Sundays. The workers have to take leave or off to the work frequently which leads to financial deficiency to the migrants. Sometimes the workers go to garment industries and come back to the house as there is no work due to the absence of some of the workers in other processes of knitted garment industries. This creates large number of problems to the workers like lack in payment dues in the groceries shop, inability to pay dues for the domestic utilities purchased on installment basis. Frequently the house owners raise the house rent without any reasons. With limited amount of earning by the employees in a family it is very difficult to meet all these expenses. But wherever we go we can notice the notice on the wall or E.B. Line pole and in bus stand displaying the vacancies available for various jobs in knitted garment industries. The migrants' workers though the all members in the family excluding their children who are going to schools engaged in various work for earning, they could not fetch considerable income to settle their dues in their village. In reality many family shifted their house to their native again. Till few of the family in rural parts starts towards Tirupur for getting jobs and employment. The authorities do not consider the problems of the migrants in Tirupur. Some of the migrants live in a hut as they cannot afford the rent as like others. So it is inevitable to have a thorough study about the migrants of Tirupur district. It is the need of the hour to find out solutions to solve the issues related to the migrants in Tirupur. So the researcher selected the topic "**A study on the Socio Economic Status of the Migrants of Tirupur district**"

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Several studies have sought to understand the nature of such accelerated rural-urban migration in India, including those analyzing government statistics, such as the National Sample Survey [Singh 1986; Pal and Kynch 2000; Usami 2002; Mitra and Murayama 2008] and studies based on information obtained through field surveys at the

village level [Paul 1989; Walker and Ryan 1990; Landy 1992]. But due to inherent difficulties in scrutinizing the process of rural-urban migration [Banerjee 1981; De Haan 1997], especially in collecting information on migrants staying in other areas from the study village [Misra 2009], the details of this phenomenon are not yet fully understood.

The meaning of the term “details” here is at least twofold. One is how to capture the diversity of non-agricultural jobs. Even within employed jobs (other than self-employed jobs), we need to at least discriminate among white-collar jobs, blue-collar jobs and daily labor jobs, since labor conditions are totally different among the three. The blue-collar job category is especially important in the case of south India, including Tamil Nadu, where not only opportunities for white-collar jobs and daily labor jobs but also wide varieties of blue-collar jobs have expanded rapidly. Blue-collar jobs include both regular and non-regular working opportunities in factories, hotels, restaurants, workshops, bus service companies and car rental companies, for instance Reddy (1991) has studied the causes of migration of female construction workers of Hyderabad city. Based on a sample of 200 families from different location of the city with the objective of identifying the push and pull factors, it examined both push and pull factor by sub - dividing them in to social factors and economic factors. Economic reasons such as famines, scarcities, indebtedness and the lack of sufficient employment opportunities in their native places were noted as the major push factors. In the case of pull factors, some of the women migrants were fascinated by urban life and some of them wanted to join with their husbands who had already migrated. In spite of the miserable condition of slum life and the frequent social disturbances in the city, the women migrants conditioned to join in, as the condition in their village were even worse when compared to city.

Samal and Mishra (1998) highlighted that pull factors have been mainly responsible for inducing migration. The paper focused on the determinants of migration among informal workers in formal sector (coal mine), informal workers in the informal sector and entrepreneurs in Orissa and distribution of income among them. It was indicated that the potentialities of inducing migrants ought to be strong in the industrial conglomerate of Talcher (coal mine). The workers who migrated from their native places certainly have a notion of gaining some 22 economic advantages in the industrial centre or mining area compared to their place of origin. The pull factors further reinforced by the fact that most of them have their jobs pre- arranged by their friends, relatives and contractors. In case of entrepreneurs, they have moved out of their origin not due to 'push' factors but to earn money for starting a business.

An attempt was made by Chand et al. (1998) to bring out the push and pull factors behind the migration of labour employed in the sugar mills of Punjab from other states. The study used the field survey conducted in four sugar mills and found that most of the migrant labourers hailed from the economically backward and rural areas of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. It was observed that poor economic conditions acted as one of the most important push factor that compel labourers to migrate from their native places. The poverty of the migrants was generally attributed to large size joint families, small land holdings, low productivity of land, occurrence of droughts, floods and famines and the lack of any supplementary sources of income that made it difficult for them to fulfill their basic needs and acted as the main cause of migration. The study further examined the role of pull factors in inducing migration and found that only 19 per cent out of 160 total sample migrants stated that better employment opportunities as the main attraction for migration to Punjab. The study concluded that push factors are stronger as compared to pull factors in causing migration among workers.

Gupta and Prajapati (1998) attempted to study the reasons for migration of seasonal agricultural labourers in Chhattisgarh region of Madhya Pradesh. Based on primary data collected from 140 farmer respondents in two villages of Raipur district, the study revealed that the existence of a larger number of small and marginal farmers, low agricultural productivity, dearth of irrigational facilities and lack of job opportunities during the rabi season in the study area were the main reasons for migration. The second important reason initiated by the study was lower wages in the study area where the announcement of Government with regard to increment in the wage rates was not implemented. As a result, the 23 farmers were either forced to go to work at very low wages or of look for job opportunities outside the region. The larger size of the family with small land holding was also the main reason

for migration. Some of the sample respondents were took a decision to migrate to earn additional money also since they wanted to keep their social customs prevailing in their natives

Kundu (1999) in his study indicated that a rural labourer will be ready to take the risk of migration to the urban area if the distance between the rural and the urban area is small, because, the probability of getting a job in the urban informal sector with higher wages and the travelling cost will also be minimum. But, with an increase in the distance, the worker becomes less interested in migration due to the lower probability of getting a job in the urban informal sector due to lack of information about the jobs and also due to higher travelling expenses.

An attempt was made by Ghaffari and Singh (2000) to identify the important variables which were responsible for out- migration and in- migration in Iran. The Ordinary Least Square model was applied to analyze the factors accountable for out- migration and in- migration. The study found that the amenities and housing facilities in the destination place were the major pull factors for in- migration and the industrialization attracted the migrants to the study area. The important push factors of out- migration were the percentage of irrigated land and the reduction of employment opportunity in the place of origin.

Sundari (2005) in her study discussed the determinants of female migration in Tamilnadu by analysing the 1991 census. The results of regression analysis indicated that rural female migration depends upon some factors like the rate of rural male migration, rural female work participation rate and net area sown to net area irrigated in the native places. Urban female migration has been influenced by urban male migration rate, urban female literacy and urban female work participation rate. The study revealed that there was a significant relationship between the male migration and female migration as per the data analysed which indicated that according to 1991 census 60 per cent of female 24 migrations was on the grounds of marriage. The study also indentified that there was no significant correlation between rural female migration and poverty.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Most of the workers in Textile Industries of Tirupur are migrated from various parts of the country. There are in a condition to work daily for their survival. If there is any lack in job in any day in a week, it will cause the income to the family. Ultimately they have to borrow money from neighbours or the house owner for meeting the day to day requirements of the family. Sometimes they are kept ideal in their house for more than a week without any job due to various factors affecting the production activities. This makes further burden in the family economically. Day by day their conditions become worse particularly in financial aspects. In such situation they are not able to pay the house rent and other dues which are regularly payable. Further they have their blood relations in their natives where they have to compulsorily attend the functions in their relatives' family. Hence, most of the time, the migrants face serious financial crisis due to lack of adequate employment or job in a particular month. Tirupur has been upgraded as district recently. The cost of living in Tirupur is going on increasing due to the heavy hike in price of commodities. The ultimate sufferers are the employees who migrated from various parts of the country.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The migrants come to Tirupur with more burdens of loan and commitment to their family members. They work hard to earn money without considering the time frame of the work. But due to the increase in the rent of the house and lake of continuous work in the garment factories and also the responsibility to attend the functions of relatives in their natives they suffer lot to arrange finance to meet all the requirements. They could not settle their loans. Further to meet all the requirement of the family they have to borrow once again. This problem increases the burden of the migrants. Some of them return to their home town with same amount of loans and financial crisis. This situation should be changed. And they should be cared to lead a peaceful life as like others in Tirupur.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To evaluate the socio economic condition of the migrants in Tirupur
2. To measure the income and standard of living of the migrants in Tirupur



3. To find out the problems faced by the migrants in Tirupur
4. To analyze the causes for the problems
5. To find out remedial measures and suggest to the authorities concerned to bring the life of the migrants to a better condition

METHODOLOGY

Research Design

Descriptive research was undertaken to make the study effective and to find the result in a fruitful manner. A pilot study will be collected to test the objectives of the study.

Data Collection

Both primary data and secondary data were collected for the study

PRIMARY DATA

Primary data was collected by framing questionnaire and making interview schedule with the respondents. The questionnaire was prepared with the help of the experts in the relevant field. Necessary additions and deletions were made to make the questionnaire effective for the successful completion of the research work.

Secondary Data

Secondary data was collected from the magazines and journals published in the related issues to the migrants.

Sampling

The population for the research work is migrants of Tirupur who are engaged in various processes of knitted garment industries. As the total population for the research in the study area is numerous, the respondents were selected from the total population at random by using the convenient sampling method. 100 samples respondents were selected from the total population in the study area (in and around Tirupur).

Study Period

The research work will be undertaken from January 2015 to March 2015 consisting of three month.

Hypothesis

- There is no association between the education of the respondents and the work involved by the respondents.
- There is no significant relationship between the respondents based on age and their income
- There is no relationship between income of the respondents and their satisfaction level with regard to social status.
- There is no relationship between the work involved by the respondents and the age of the respondents
- There is no relationship between occupation of the respondents and the standard of living of the respondents.

LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

At the time of interview schedule the respondents did not co-operate well. The finding of the research is based on the information provided by the respondents; there may be a possibility for bias in the information collected from the respondents. Hence the findings may not be considered for major decision making.

The data was collected from the migrants to Tirupur from various parts of the country. Hence the findings may not be taken into account for migrants to other cities in Tamilnadu.

The population for the study is numerous. Due to time constraints the researchers could not me all the population. Only meager respondents were selected from the total population.

FINDINGS

- 1 Majority (65%) of the respondents are from southern districts of Tamilnadu
Most (78%) of the respondents have studied up to +2 level

- 2 Most of the respondents (59%) are engaged in knitted garment industry works
Major proportion (71%) of the respondents is earning a monthly income of E.8000-12000 per month.
- 3 Considerable proportion of the respondents (55%) stay in rental house particularly roof tiled house.
- 4 Most (72%) of the respondents go to their native twice in a year and for emergency requirements
- 5 Majority of the respondents (68%) are staying in group with their area people
- 6 Most of the respondents (75%) are not satisfied with their income from the work
- 7 Majority (69%) of the respondents are not satisfied with the living condition in Tirupur

FINDINGS FROM CHI-SQUARE TEST

- 1 There is no association between the education of the respondents and their income.
- 2 There is no association between the age of the respondents and their income generated from the work.
- 3 There is no association between the sex of the respondents and their satisfaction regarding the standard of living of the migrants
- 4 There is no relationship between the sex of the respondents and their opinion regarding the quality of the work place in the Tirupur.

CONCLUSION

This study derives that rural to urban migration is a function of push and pull factors that is in rural areas increasing of population did not have job facilities, reasonable income, and basic amenities. The pull factors of better job facilities, good salary, and more income, medical and educational facilities are attracting the rural people to move to the cities like Tirupur city. The push factors of no job facilities, low salary, less income, drought, less medical and educational facilities are the push factors of the rural people from rural to urban migration. Even though, to minimize the rural to urban migration and to prevent to move to cities the following are the some measures has to be taken by government and government organizations.

- To set many more small industries in Taluk levels.
- To set big industries, large scale industries in each districts.
- To provide urban facilities in rural areas (PURA).
- To set employment schemes, self-employment schemes.
- To provide loans to the skilled, unskilled educated persons.
- To provide better higher secondary schools and higher education facilities.

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