Migration of Paharia Tribes from Pakur District (Jharkhand)

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ABSTRACT
The Paharia tribe is listed as primitive tribe of Jharkhand. The tribe once dwelt in deep forest and most isolated location in order to dissociate itself from other tribes. But economic condition of this tribe is very Low. Since few decades the tribe has been migrating for work in other developed regions and towns. The researcher is interested to know the reasons for migration. The paper evaluates the socio and economic conditions of Paharia tribe of Pakur district in Jharkhand.

INTRODUCTION
Seasonal rural migration is a common phenomenon in underdeveloped region\(^1\). Movement of people due to work and employment is known phenomenon. Unaccounted people are migrating permanently or temporarily out of rural areas to urban areas\(^2\). The movement of labours is always from less developed area to developed area either industrially or agriculturally developed area.

Paharia tribe is listed as one of the primitive tribes of Jharkhand who lives in the area during pre Mughal emperor’s reign. Today Paharias are found in four district of Jharkhand namely Dumka, Pakur, Godda and Sahibganj. Paharia tribe is divided into two sub- categories namely Mal Paharia and Sauria Paharia. According to Census 2011 in Pakur district Mal Paharias are more in population as they number 29083 and Sauria Paharias are less in population as they number 8252. Thus the total number of Paharias in Pakur district is 37335 according to the census 2011.

Paharias tribes did not associate with unknown groups of people & tribes. Mr Cleaveland (the British collector of Bhagalpur, (1779-1784) had thought that Paharias would come down the plans to cultivate some day. Now these day Paharias are shifted into cultivation. The major crops cultivated by Paharias are beans, maize, ragi (bajra) and tur (arhar) etc. Cotton trees and tamarind trees provide them with good income for the families. The situation has very much changed due to deforestation. Forest produce and cultivation are not sufficient for Paharias. They look for alternative opportunities for income. The main problem is that the educational qualification of Paharia is very low. The Paharias are unskilled. Physical labour being their only resource. Paharias migrate to unknown destinations either to rural or urban areas of other states for work.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE:
Deogh (2012) studied that migration is taking place among the tribes of Chotanagpur (Ranchi plateau) and Santal Parganas region of Jharkhand. Though agriculture is the main occupation of the tribes it no longer produces enough for sustenance of tribal families in Jharkhand. The land at the possession of tribals is insufficient, arid and un-irrigated. Hence the land is less productive and families are unable to support themselves with cultivation alone. As a result tribals migrate seasonally or circularly to other destinations for extra earning. In the study of 212 households it was found that average migrants family income increased to Rs. 11,160 per year and net saving increased to Rs. 5,984 per family annually as result of migration\(^3\).

Sinha and Mishra (2012) explained that agricultural sector in Jharkhand has not developed due to the absence of irrigation facility. Therefore a major junk of its land produces single crop a year. Thus there is six to seven months of agricultural lean period and small and marginal farmers and landless labourers remain jobless. Thus migration to brick kilns is one of the choices options for poor households of Ranchi district\(^4\).

Causes of migration are always referred as push and pull factors. Push factors which forces one from place of origin and pull factors are which attract one to the place of destination. Migration is a historical phenomenon and migrants move from one place to another in order to have better standard of living than the ancient times\(^5\). The paper aims to research the migration among Paharia tribe of Pakur district who migrates to other states in order to earn extra income for livelihood. The paper aims to understand the factors affecting migration among Paharias and to research both short term and long term impact of migration on Paharia community.

STATEMENT OF PROBLEM:
Migration is an opportunity for labourers. Migration invites many problems for the migrants at the origin. Most of the time migrants are employed in Dangerous, Dirty and Difficult jobs. Migrants are vulnerable to exploitations and harassment. They are paid unjust and un-fair wages. Migrants
face lot of hardship and difficulties. Other fact at the origin is that large numbers of outgoing labourers create shortage in agricultural labourers. And wages are pushed up because of migration though productivity is low. Agricultural activity is hampered due to migration.

**SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY:**

Agricultural labourers are most neglected, who live in rural India. Such groups are unskilled and untrained, whose income is very low and live in utter poverty. They mostly belong to Scheduled Caste and Schedule Tribe. Paharia population in Pakur district is 48995 according to census 2011 which is 13 per cent of the tribal population of the district. Many articles are written about migration but place and context differ from one place to another. Social and economic condition are different. The Research highlights many problems and prospects.

**SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY:**

The research is based on the primary and secondary data. In the first stage information from district and block were collected regarding migration of Paharia tribe. Due to discrepancies in secondary data, primary data were collected from Litipara block namely Satia, Churidhari, Kishhbita, Makbhitia and Patuara. From each village 14 respondents were interviewed with well scheduled questionnaire. The total of 70 respondents was interviewed. Data was collected from Jan to February in the year 2017. Random sampling method was used to select the villages and the respondents. To analyse data SPSS 16.0 was used. Different tools used are average, percentage, correlation, and Chi- square test.

**RESULT AND DISCUSSION:**

The study on the “Out Migration of Paharia Tribal labourers from Pakur district of Jharkhand” was based on Primary data. Therefore the data collected from the respondents have been analysed and presented below. **Age of the migrants**: Age of the migrants reveals the preference for migration by some age group.

**Educational qualification of migrants:** The table No. 2 reveals the educational level among Paharia migrant Laboulers which is very pathetic.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Interval</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Per cent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1-5</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>22.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>6-10</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>30.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>12 &amp; above</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Illiterate</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>38.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Compiled from primary survey

The table No.2 indicates that most of Paharia migrant workers are illiterate who number 27 (38.6%). Paharia migrants whose educational between 1-5 classes such respondents are 16 out of 70 respondents which forms 22.9 per cent.

**Income level of the Paharia Migrant workers:** Income levels of the Paharia migrant labourers are presented in table No. 3 which reveals the changes in the income levels after migration.

**Table No. 3 indicates Annual income levels**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interval</th>
<th>Annual income Before migration</th>
<th>Annual income after migration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>Percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10000-20000</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>57.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20001-30000</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>35.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30001-40000</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40001-50000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50000&lt;</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Compiled from primary source.

The Table No. 3 indicates annual income before and after migration. With adaptation of migration strategy annual income levels of Paharias has increased tremendously. Before migration 40 respondents which are 57.1 per cent had their annual income level below 20000. After migration to outside their region the respondent’s income level have increased.

**CONCLUSION:**

Migration is an opportunity for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes. Migration is also an individual’s decision. The policy makers should be to create adequate social and institutional safeguard to protect the rights of the migrants. At the same time economic conditions to be improved in the rural and remote areas of India.
REFERENCES