



TRENDS AND PATTERN OF MIGRATION IN JHARKHAND

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Migration has created an embedded impact on both the social and economical life of the migrating population in Jharkhand. Presence of adversity in the native places has deprived the poor and socially weak people to migrate other cities of the same state or other state. As the employment situation is not encouraging in the state, so it has compelled the people to migrate to other cities. By using the Census of India and National Sample Survey (NSS) data, the paper has studied the factors causing migration from rural to urban areas. Seasonal unemployment, marriage, shift of household and limited livelihood opportunities are the major factors for migration, where males have mostly migrated due to search for job purpose whereas female have mostly migrated due to marriage. This paper thus tries examine the paradigm of migration been practised in Jharkhand.

INTRODUCTION

The economic survey of India- 2016-17 shows that Jharkhand is a major source of migrant working population for different parts of the country (both in rural as well as urban areas). The survey reveals that Jharkhand has lost about 5 million working age population between 2001 and 2011 averaging about 5 % of the working age population of the state every year as migrant. Jharkhand, in absence of robust irrigation infrastructure, is still being predominantly a mono cropped area. In addition to this, lack of basic industrial base, people are left without work in almost six months in a year. To combat this seasonal unemployment and creating an income safety net, the people of Jharkhand have adapted migration as a strategy to smoothen their source of income in the lean period of the year.

Several studies show that people of Jharkhand migrate to both rural and urban areas of different states of the country. With growing new urban agglomerations and resulting growth in developmental works like housing, roads, bridges etc, migrants from Jharkhand suffices the demand of labour in these types of works. On the other hand due to agriculture wage differentials, migrants are also attracted towards the rural farm sectors of states like Punjab, Haryana, Maharashtra etc. The state has also witnessed migration of people outside the state for works like brick kiln. Jharkhand has also been seen as a dominant source of domestic maids and servant especially to Delhi and adjoining national capital region. The proportion of rural to urban migration within the state is less as there are very few urban centres in the state which can provide valuable employment on a regular basis. Studies have also shown an increase in volume of long term migration from the LWE affected areas. The people opine that, migration gives them an option to get out of the social disturbance and get long-term regular employment in other states.

Although the process of migration from the state has started decades ago, the state has witness a surge in both the type and volume of migration. Earlier, the migrant population showed a heard like behavior i.e. they used to move in groups. Continuing this trend, now the movement have become more organised with the introduction of self-proclaimed agents who facilitates

migration. Some migrants also opine that, with continual intergenerational flow of people to the same destination, the villagers are quite acquainted with the places where they can get work.

Migration has both progressive as well as retrogressive impact on the income of the populous. But in case of Jharkhand, where the basic infrastructure and income generating resources are scarce, the option of migration is proving to be a boon to the population. Many studies have shown that due to availability of work round the year and remittance effect, income of most of the households' increases. With this increased income the migrants' households can pay their debts resulting in increase in disposable income. Thus, the consumption pattern of the households changes after two three years of seasonal migration. With increase in income, the migrant households spends on heads like education, nutrition, health, housing etc. which is very necessary to step up the ladders of overall human development. In some instances migration also have a catalytically effect in increasing income. As the disposable income increases due to migration, people can buy better quality seeds and fertilizers, which in turn increase the productivity and agricultural output of the farm. This way the remittances from the migration activity indirectly have a positive impact on the impact of the migrant household. But, instances have also been witnessed where, people come back with injuries, diseases, physical or mental abuse, cheat etc. which permanently impact the life and livelihood of the people. In case of Jharkhand, a major concern pertaining to migration of girls is that they often turn into cases of trafficking. Thus, from the discussion above we can infer that a safe, well-organised transparent process of migration can lead to progressive impact on the life and livelihood of the people.

Although, the urban centers of Jharkhand don't receive the bulk of migration from rural areas, the situation can change with the progress and development of the state under a stable government. If the people from rural areas will start getting desirable valuable work on a consistent basis, they will refrain from travelling everywhere for the search of employment. In place, they will prefer to stay within the state and work in the urban centres like Ranchi, Jamshedpur, Dhanbad etc. But this situational change will also pose a challenge in front of the cities and towns. If this reversal in pattern of migration occurs, the cities have to be prepared for receiving the huge population in slums. As the history of slum development is lean for the cities of Jharkhand, the slums in Jharkhand are not so well versed in expanding itself rationally. Thus, a sudden surge in the migrant population in these cities will pose threats like drinking water, sanitation, pollution, crimes etc.

It is argued that the reduction in cultivated land and absence of livelihood opportunities at their native places forced people particularly from rural and tribal dominated areas such as Jharkhand to migrate out in urban areas in search of better lives. As a result according to Census of India, 2011 urbanization grew urban population of Jharkhand from 59.9 lakhs to 79.3 lakhs, the annual growth rate of the population between 2001 and 2011 was 2.8 per cent. The urbanization has increased from 22.2 per cent in 2001 to 24 per cent in 2011. This phenomenal is well documented in the literature that the migration from rural to urban may not be essentially attributed to marriages or shift of families but mainly attributed in search of work and better employment opportunities in urban areas. This is also reflected from national level data sources Census of India and National Sample Surveys (NSS).

The employment situation is not encouraging in the state, as the work participation rate has declined with marginal improvement in employment number due to the increase in urban area only. Work participation rate has declined significantly higher for female than male during the same period. On the other hand, the state has poor human capital as three-fourth (74 per cent) of workers education was below middle level and 62 per cent female workers were illiterate in 2011-12.

The unemployment rate in the state was 3.1 per cent in 2011-12, which has increased from 2.6 per cent in 2004-05. Female unemployment rate was 6.9 per cent compared to male 2.5 per cent in 2011-12. In particular, the youth unemployment was significantly higher at 9.1 per cent with 21.3 per cent female and 10 per cent male in 2011-12. In case of higher education, the female education level has gone up to 54 per cent means, which is more than half of the females who are have attained education upto secondary level, but to a contrast the highly qualified women are not getting appropriate jobs in the labour market.

In the state, still around half of the workers (50.4 per cent) were engaged in the primary or agriculture sector, followed by the industrial sector (28.1 per cent) and services sector (21.5 per cent) in 2011-12. They are underemployed as most of them are involved in agriculture sector due to lack of non-farm employment in the state. In addition to this, more than one-third (37 per cent) of the population in the state is poor, which is second highest in the country only after Chhattisgarh (39.9 per cent), despite the decline in poverty (check the insertion) from 45.3 per cent in 2004-05 to 37 per cent in 2011-12. The poverty in rural (40 per cent) area is substantially higher than urban (24.8 per cent) areas of the state in 2011-12.

According to Census of India, the proportion of cultivators among both male and female particularly among tribal people has declined by about 9.5 percentage points and 11.3 percentage points between 2001 and 2011. The decline in the proportion of cultivators among tribal was much sharper than the decline for other social groups. Correspondingly, in the same period, the proportion of agricultural workers increased by 8.3 percentage points among tribal male workers and 9.4 percentage points among tribal women workers. This rate of increase was also much higher among tribal than among other social groups. The households land ownership data further showed that the proportion of rural tribal households that do not own any land - not even homestead land - increased from 16 per cent of in 1987-88 to 24 per cent in 2011-12.

The loss of land, dispossession among tribal's and high dependency on agriculture and non availability of enough non-farm employment compelled the people from rural areas to out-migrate in urban areas from their native places.

Through the understanding of migration as a tool to reduce vulnerability and increase opportunities, Deogharia (2012) noted that Jharkhand has experienced constant in-flow and outflow of population. It was preferred as a place of residence by tribals as it was isolated from rest of Indian. Oraon, the second largest tribe in Jharkhand came to the region in the fourteenth century after the fall of the Rohtasgarh fort. Even out migration of Santhals took place in eighteenth century from Hazaribag to Damin-e-koh. Seasonal and permanent migration started in Jharkhand in nineteenth century notes large population, especially tribals transported to the tea gardens of Assam and to the jute mills of Calcutta in the pre-

independence era. The colonial regime had set up large tea estates for the production and trade of tea in Assam (Bhagat, 2016). Chaudhuri (2015) notes that the local Assamese either opposed such capitalistic activity or demanded high wages, which created increased demand for external source of labour. The Chottanagpur region (consisting of Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, and Odisha) thus provided cheap labor for the operation of the tea estates. He further commented that the mobilization and migration of tribals was preferred based on the colonial stereotypical notions of them being physically laborious and relatively docile. The indentured labor from Chotanagpur also migrated to work in jute mills of Calcutta.

The migration was facilitated by contractors who further depended on a class of labor-catchers, known as *arkattis* who would entice the people to go work in Assam. The migrants were bound by a contract of a working for stipulated time. The failure of the migrants to fulfill the terms of contracts was meted out with coercion. Thus, the initial migration in Jharkhand shows trends of mass movement over a large distance on contractual basis, which had undesirable violent outcomes in cases of failures (Chaudhuri, 2015).

Migration in Jharkhand increased post-independence due to the resource-driven intense industrialization and urbanization which displaced a large tribal populations for purposes of land-acquisition, mining etc. (Bhagat, 2016 & Areeparmpil, 1996). Jharkhand experienced 'resource-curse' as the mega-projects based on developments displaced its erstwhile occupants, which led to the dispossession of their traditional livelihood sources. This forced a large section of the population to work in brick kilns and quarries of North Bihar, Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and other places as contract and even bonded labourers.

Further, the agriculture of the state drastically suffered due to the historical prevalent feudal system, the non-implementation of Green Revolution and low productivity. These forces compelled the impoverished landless labourers and agricultural workers to opt for out-migration for better life (Rodgers, et al., 2013).

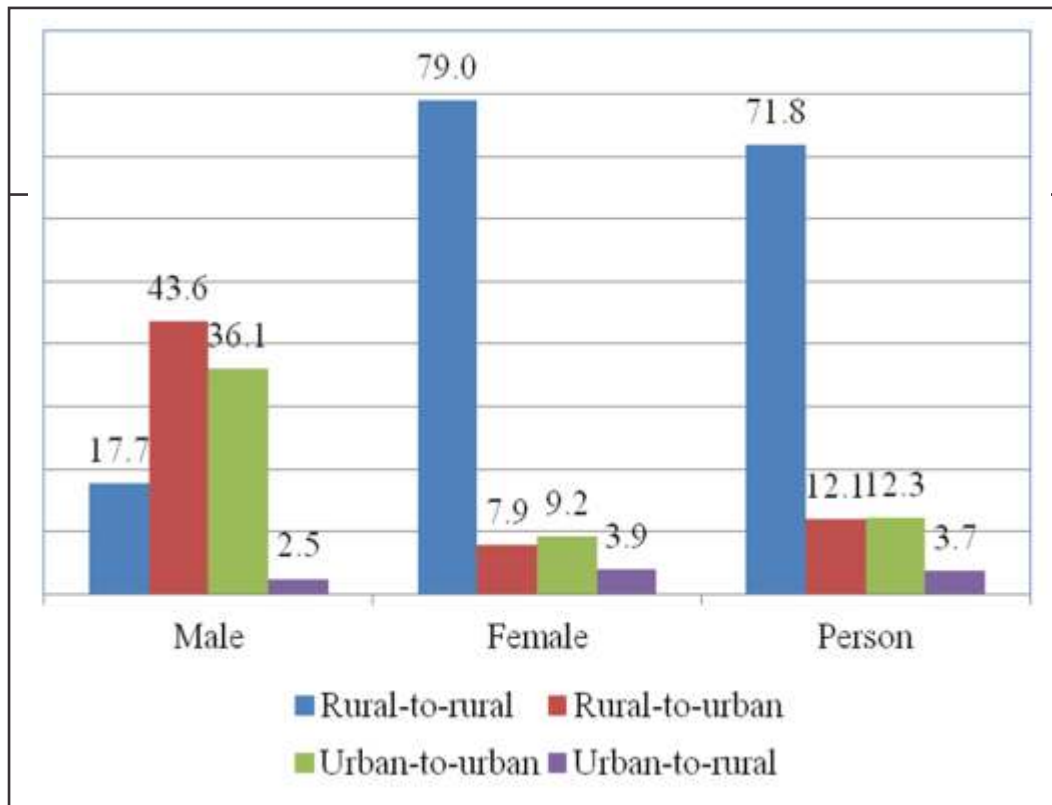
MIGRATION IN JHARKHAND

Migration is an age-old phenomenon and temporary and circular migration is most common amongst poor and socially deprived classes. As Keshri and Bhagat (2012) stated that temporary migration rates of different social groups varied considerably with it being relatively high among tribals (4.5 per cent) and schedule castes (2.5 per cent) . Deshingkar also stated the same that circular migration is particularly high among the poor, scheduled castes and tribals. They tend to migrate in order to survive due to lack of infrastructure and economic opportunities at their place of residence. This shows that poor and socially deprived classes are more mobile because of the distress-driven nature at their native places.

Rural- To- Rural Migration In Jharkhand

This is a main migration stream as this stream assumes a high proportion with almost 72 per cent of rural-rural migration in Jharkhand. The agricultural economy of the state also reflected through this stream as almost half of the people in the state still depend upon agriculture. In this stream, females (79 per cent) are significantly more mobile than males (17.7 percent). However, much of the female migration may be due to marriage.

Figure 1: Proportion Of Internal Migrants By
Type Of Migration (percent) (2007-08)



Source: National Sample Survey Organisation (2008), Migration in India, 64th Round (2007-2008), Government of India, New Delhi.

Rural- To - Urban Migration In Jharkhand

This is the second dominant stream of migration as it indicates migration of people from rural areas mainly involved in agriculture shift to non-agriculture activities in the urban areas. Around 12 per cent of the people migrate from rural to urban areas in the state for working in non-agriculture activities. However, the situation is reverse in case of male and female, the former percentage (43.6 per cent) is over five times compared to latter (7.9 per cent). As male dominate in rural to urban migration because they work in non-agriculture activities more compared to female and latter are involved more in agriculture activities in rural areas.

Urban- To - Urban Migration In Jharkhand

This stream is also called "Step Migration", which is mainly motivated by economic factors. It drives people to move from one place to another, who would like to improve their employment status or better employment in terms of income and security. This is again second most popular

option after rural to rural migration. Among intra-state migrants, 12.3% of the total migrants move from one urban area to another urban area. Again the percentage of male compared to female in this category is almost four times, which is 36.1% and 9.2%, respectively.

Urban- To -Rural Migration In Jharkhand

It is relatively less important and only 3.7% of the total migrate or 'return migrate' from urban to rural areas. This phenomenon is more popular among female (3.9 per cent) compared to their male counterpart (2.5 per cent). The possible reasons following it are: firstly, may be high cost of living in urban areas that has led people to reside on the fringe of towns; secondly, people retiring from government services as well as private jobs in the cities move to their native places and thirdly, migrants (including both - internal and international) returning to home village to settle down there.

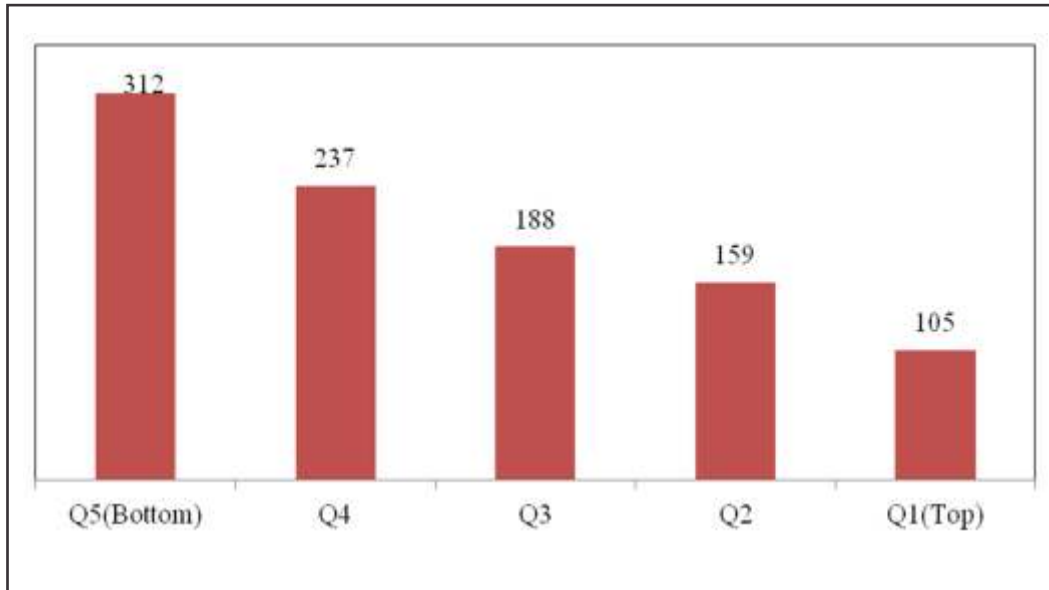
MIGRATION BY SOCIAL GROUPS IN JHARKHAND

The migration rate of tribal was second highest after upper caste in urban areas, while lowest in rural areas in 2007-08. The migration rate in the rural areas was lowest amongst the tribe and it was the highest among the upper caste. In rural areas, male and female migration rates were lowest among the tribal viz. 440 per 1000 persons for male and 47 per 1000 persons for female respectively. On the other hand, male and female migration rate was second highest amongst the tribal after upper caste in urban areas, viz. 288 per 1000 persons and 430 per 1000 persons respectively. Supporting the argument of increase in tribal and schedule caste migration, Bird and Deshingkar (2009) stated that migration among schedule caste and tribal was nearly twice that of upper castes. It can be seen that overall migration of tribal's has increased and more as compared to other social groups. But, it is not the same for male and female of all social groups. The other important issue is the nature of movement and location of the last place of residence to understand their mobility by their household economic status represented by their monthly per capita expenditure quintiles.

MIGRATION BY INCOME CATEGORY IN JHARKHAND

The analysis shows that highest proportion of people who migrate are from bottom economic class or poorest (312 per 1000) households and lowest from top quintile (105 per 1000) or top economic class to other places. Majority of them had migrated permanently (800 and more per 1000) with only few stayed for at least 12 months or less and migrated in rural areas of same district followed by same state and another state. Migration to another state was quite less as compared to same state and same district. The data reveals that the migration of rural people from bottom economic class was greater than top economic class. It confirms that people who migrate from bottom economic class or poor migrates are more than others.

Figure 2: Migration Rate (per 1000) From Rural Areas, 2007-08

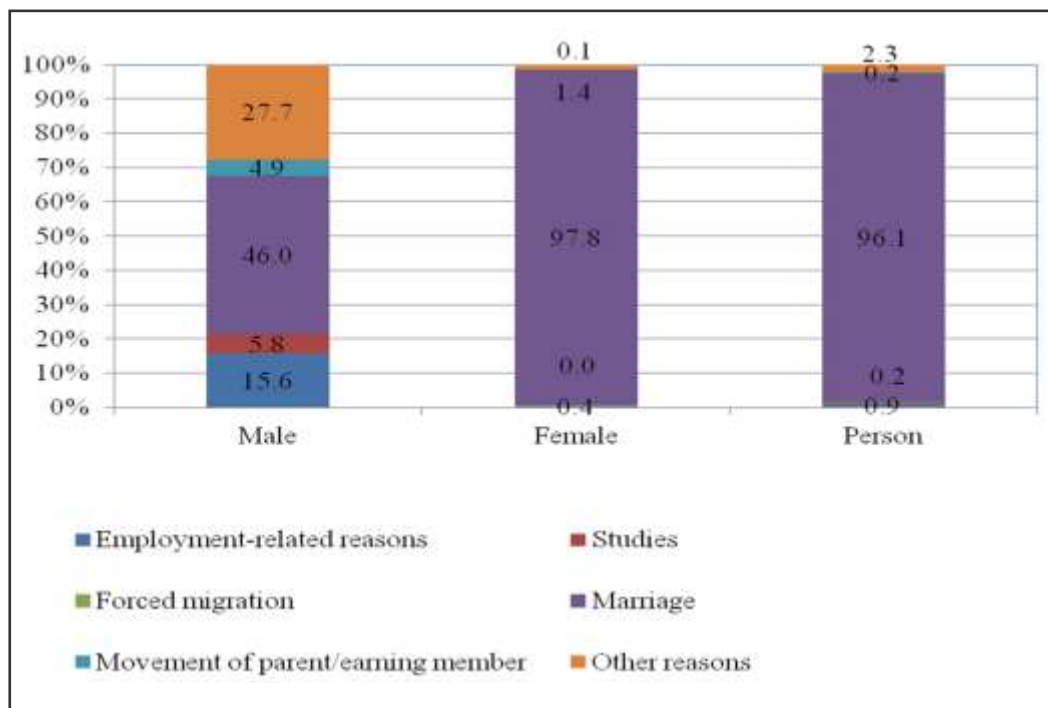


Source: National Sample Survey Organisation (2008), *Migration in India, 64th Round (2007-2008)*, Government of India, New Delhi

REASON OF MIGRATION IN JHARKHAND

The main reason for migration was marriage followed by other reasons such as natural calamities and drought etc. However, only 0.9 per cent migrated in search of employment/related reasons, while 0.2 per cent to pursue studies and 0.2 per cent for parents/earning members moved. There is a significant difference between male and female migration. The most important reason for migration among males apart from marriage was due to others (27.7 per cent), followed by work/employment (15.6%), and (4.9%) cited migration due to "moved with households". Among female migrants, majority migrated due to marriage (97.8 per cent) followed by just 1.4% reported migration due to "moved with household" and 0.4 per cent due to work/employment. It is surprising that significant proportion of males also moved due to marriage in the state.

Figure 3: Reasons For Migration From Last Residence, 2007-08



Source: National Sample Survey Organization (2008), Migration in India, 64th Round (2007-2008), Government of India, New Delhi.

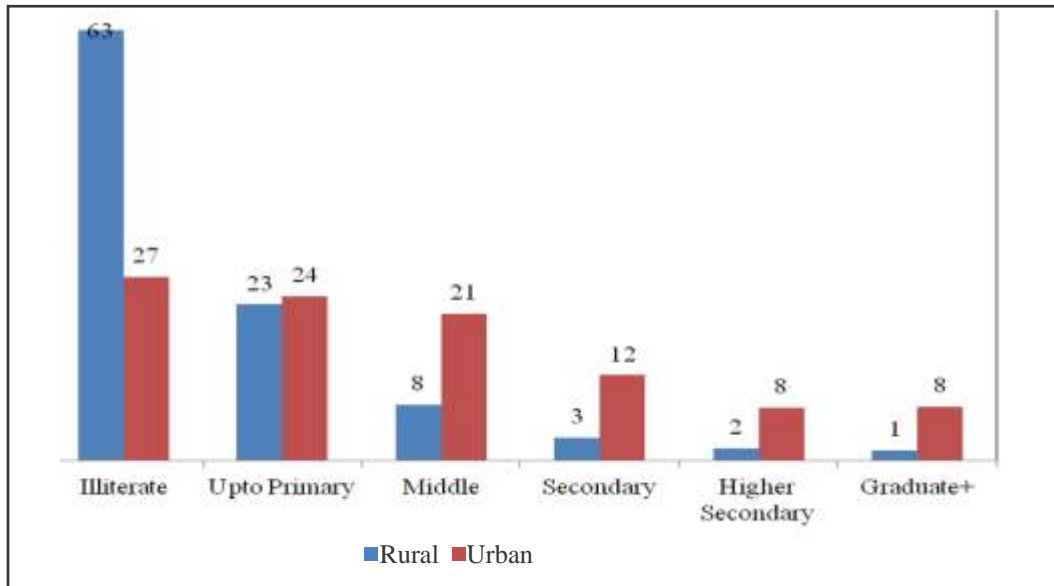
This confirms that a substantial portion of people particularly males migrate out in search of employment due to lack of opportunities at their native places.

EDUCATION LEVEL AND MIGRANTS

The literacy level has significantly enhanced over the last decades (2001-2011) for both male and female in the state. Total literacy rate of the state has increased from 53.6 per cent in 2001 to 66.4 per cent in 2011. The literacy rate of female and male has also increased from 67.3 per cent to 76.8 per cent for the former and 38.9 per cent to 55.4 per cent for the latter during the same period.

Further, the education level of migrant shows that in rural areas, literacy was higher as compared to the urban areas viz. around 63 per cent were literate in the former compared to 47 per cent in latter. Further, the difference is clearly visible in educational qualification of migrant in rural and urban areas. In urban areas demand for higher education is relatively more than in rural areas. This can be seen from the increasing percentage gap across higher educational level of migrants between rural and urban areas. The percentage gap of middle, secondary, higher secondary and graduate qualified in urban and rural areas were ranging from 6 percentage points to 13 percentage points.

Figure 4: Educational Level Of Migrant Workers, 2007-08

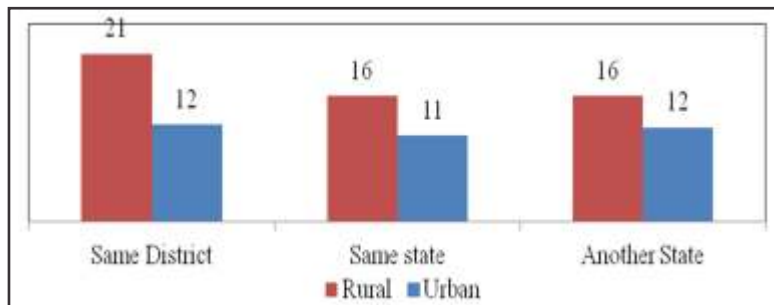


Source: National Sample Survey Organisation (2008), Migration in India, 64th Round (2007-2008), Government of India, New Delhi.

LIVELIHOOD STATUS OF MIGRANTS

The work participation rate of migrant at their last residence place shows that almost one fifth of them were employed or working in productive activities. This proportion of employed people was relatively higher in rural areas than urban among migrant in the same district (21 percent in rural areas and 12 percent in urban areas), same state (16 per cent in rural areas and 11 per cent in urban areas) and another state (16 per cent in rural areas and 12 per cent in urban areas). In urban area the work participation rate among migrant was around 12 per cent, while in rural areas it ranges from 16 to 21 per cent. In addition, the work participation among tribal migrant women in other countries was around 17 per cent.

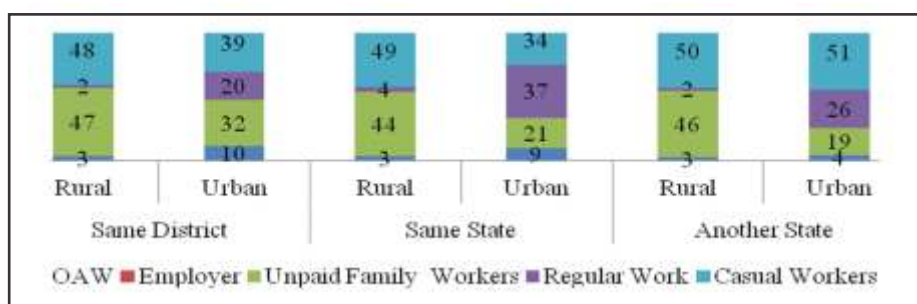
Figure 5: Work Participation Rate Of Migrant At Their Last Residential Place, 2007-08



Source: National Sample Survey Organisation (2008), Migration in India, 64th Round (2007-2008), Government of India, New Delhi.

The employment status of migrant workers indicates their quality of work at their last residential place. Regular work is considered to be better quality of work due to its regularity and higher salary compared to self employment and casual labour activity. Overall around half (48 per cent) of the people working as a casual daily workers followed by unpaid family workers (45 per cent) and only 4 per cent in regular salaried jobs and own account self employment work. There is a significant difference between employment status of workers in rural and urban areas. In urban areas migrant workers were involved more in regular and own account self employment, while in rural areas of same district and same state were involved more in casual labour work. This clearly indicates that better quality work in terms of payment, also shows that regular payment is available more in urban than rural areas attracting more women for migration.

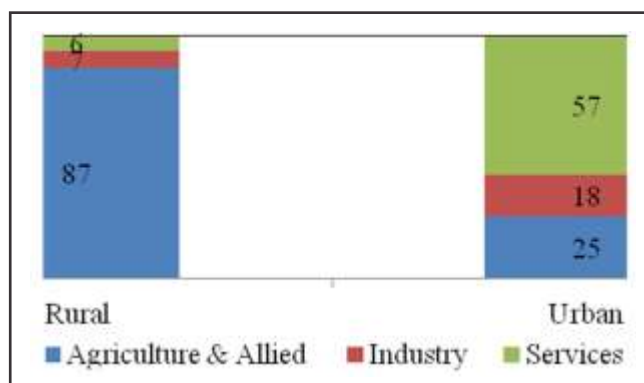
Figure 6: Employment Status Of Migrant At Their Last Residence Place In 2007-08



Source: National Sample Survey Organization (2008), Migration in India, 64th Round (2007-2008), Government of India, New Delhi.

The people are mainly involved in agriculture and allied activities (87 per cent) in rural areas, while they dominate in services (57 per cent) and manufacturing (17 per cent) in urban areas. In urban areas their involvement in services sector as in informal sector jobs such as small trade & business activities, manufacturing such as garment and textile, and construction was relatively more than rural areas.

Figure 7: Industry Of Employment Of Migrant At Their Place Of Work In 2007-08



Source: National Sample Survey Organization (2008), Migration in India, 64th Round (2007-2008), Government of India, New Delhi.

CONCLUSION

Several studies in the past have shown the Jharkhand to be the prime source of migrant working population of the country. This has been further highlighted in the Jharkhand Economic Survey 2016-17. This chapter focuses on the people including women who are compelled to migrate out due to high dependency on agriculture, loss of forest and cultivable land with limited livelihood opportunities at their native places. These people migrate to both rural and urban areas within district, within state and other states in search of better employment opportunities. Due to lack of encouraging employment situations within Jharkhand, the people are forced to migrate out for livelihood. They migrate relatively more in urban areas within state and other in state in search of livelihood opportunities compared to rural areas. Marriage, migration of parents & other family members and job search are stated as the major reasons behind migration of tribal women. Majority of them are from lower income classes or poor households, illiterate or low educational qualification, and are engaged in self employed and casual labour work in rural areas, and also engaged itself employment and regular jobs in urban areas. These migrants are mainly involved in informal sector services such as trade and business activities and garment and textile manufacturing. Thus, the migration is low from rural to rural and high among rural to urban areas. This show that people from the state migrate to urban areas in search of better livelihood opportunities and compel to work in low paid informal sector activities such as construction labour for their survival in urban areas and big cities.

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