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Socio-economic profile of the migrated labourers of Raipur and Durg division of Chhattisgarh state

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Abstract

The present study was conducted in Raipur and Durg divisions of Chhattisgarh with main objective to find out the socio-economic profile of migrant labourers. For selection of the respondents from all 10 districts a list of migrated agricultural labourers were collected from the office of the labour commissioner of Chhattisgarh state. The migrated labour were registered their name in this department. The samples of agricultural labourers were randomly selected from the list from each district. From the total agricultural labourers listed around 20000 for statistical convenience from the total 20,000 agricultural labourers 1.5% sample were selected for study. From each division 150 agricultural labourers were selected for study purpose. In this way 300 agricultural labourers were interviewed. The general profile of respondents revealed that the majority of the respondents were young age and most of them were belonging to schedule caste. Most of the migrated labour were having education up to middle school and were living in joint family with family size more than 6 members. Maximum of migrated labour were having marginal (<2.5 acres) size of landholding and, more than fifty percent of them were having annual income level between Rs 74370.44- 107958.29. Majority of migrated labours were construction labour, followed by industrial labour, agricultural labour, mistri and few of migrated labour were engaged in brick construction.

Keywords: Migrant labourers, socio-economic, profile, livelihood, COVID-19 pandemic

1. Introduction

For millions of farm families, agriculture is a way of life and the backbone of our economy. The fundamental source of livelihood and a key determinant of the livelihood methods and outcomes is land. The adage "India lives in its villages" still holds true today, 65 years after the nation gained its independence. Living is never only about getting a roof over your head, getting some cash in your pocket, and preparing food to eat or sell in the market. It also concerns who owns and controls information, how social interactions are managed, how individuals and groups affirm their worth, and how these responsibilities are related to one another. A livelihood is made up of all these beneficial activities. A livelihood is an all-encompassing phrase for anthropologists, suggesting that social existence is layered and that these levels overlap (both in terms of how people talk about themselves and how they should be studied). According to Wallman (1984) [19], this is a crucial analytical component of the concept of livelihoods.

The means by which people support themselves, endure, and prosper are referred to as their livelihood. How and why people organise to change the environment to suit their requirements through technology, labour, power, knowledge, and social ties determines livelihood. Additionally, the larger economic and political systems that people live and work in have an impact on their livelihoods. Simply put, nearly half of the world's population lacks the socio-economic resources and political power necessary to exercise their economic and social rights. The absence of sustainable livelihoods in the developing world is one of the main causes of poverty.

Because of their complexity and location-specific needs, agriculture and related industries are distinctive and require technology adaptation to a variety of agro-ecological circumstances. Subsistence farming was practised in the past, where a farmer produced only the amount needed to support his farm and family. Numerous social changes are being brought about by technological innovation, and these changes are also being felt in the agriculture industry. The skills, resources (both material and social), and pursuits necessary for a livelihood are together referred to as a livelihood.

The total of a person's means of subsistence constitutes their livelihood. Existence of economic activity, access to other tangible and intangible assets, and the presence of human talents are the three main components that make up the concept of livelihood security. These factors combine to determine the type of livelihood a person chooses. Within the constraints of their context, households pool their resources for earning a living together and use their institutional relationships to pursue a variety of alternative livelihood options. These possibilities may consist of numerous productive and revenue-generating activities. Each household can therefore have a variety of entitlements that make up its means of subsistence. These privileges are determined by a household's endowments and place within the social, political, and legal framework of the community (Drinkwater and McEwan, 1992) [4]. According to the sustainable livelihood concept, any development programme for rural residents should be compatible with their current means of subsistence and capacity for adaptation. A livelihood security analysis should identify the portfolios of possible livelihoods that various people seek and the variables that influence them.

2. Methodology

Chhattisgarh state has 5 divisions, out of which Raipur and Durg Divisions were selected purposively because migrations of the agricultural labourers were maximum in this Division. From selected two divisions all the districts from Raipur 5 districts (Dhamtari, Gariyaband, Raipur, Baloda Bazar,

Mahasamund) and Durg 5 districts (Kawardha (Kabirdham), Rajnandgaon, Balod, Durg, Bemetara) were taken for study. Any research design is based on the context of problem, the research area, previous literature, and statistical consideration. The present study was based on Ex post facto study, a category of research design in which the investigation starts after the fact has occurred without interference from the researcher. An ex post facto research design is a method in which groups with qualities that already exist are compared on some dependent variable. Also known as "after the fact" research, an ex post facto design is considered quasi-experimental because the subjects are not randomly assigned - they are grouped based on a particular characteristic or trait. For selection of the respondents from all 10 districts a list of migrated agricultural labourers were collected from the office of the labour commissioner of Chhattisgarh state. The migrated labour were registered their name in this department. The samples of agricultural labourers were randomly selected from the list from each district. From the total agricultural labourers listed around 20000 for statistical convenient from the total 20000 agricultural labourers 1.5% sample were selected for study. From each division 150 agricultural labourers were selected for study purpose. In this way 300 agricultural labourers were interviewed. The data were collected by personally interview with the help of pre-tested interview schedule and collected data were processed and statistically analyzed by using statistical technique like frequency and percentages.



Fig 1: Location map of the study area

3. Results and Discussion

The facts and findings derived after analyzing the information have been presented under following main heads.

3.1 Age

The result of the variable is presented in Table 1, it observed from the table that 52.70 per cent of the respondents belonged to young age group followed by 30.70 per cent and 16.70 per cent of middle and old age groups, respectively.

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to their age (n=300)

Sl. No.	Age Categories	Frequency	Percent
1	Young age (<35 years)	158	52.70
2	Middle age (35- 50 years)	92	30.70
3	Old age (>50 years)	50	16.70
			Mean= 34.39 SD=1.28

3.2 Caste

The presented data in Table 2, reveals that the majority (32.33%) per cent of the respondents belonged to Scheduled caste, followed by other backward caste (31.33%), Scheduled caste (18.34%), and General caste (18.00%).

Table 2: Distribution of respondents according to their caste (n=300)

Sl. No.	Categories	Frequency	Percent
1.	General caste	54	18.00
2.	Other backward caste	94	31.33
3.	Scheduled caste	97	32.33
4.	Scheduled tribe	55	18.34

3.3 Education

Data for education variable is compiled in Table 3. It is observed that more than one-third of the respondents (37.00%) had a middle school level of education, subsequently primary education (33.67%), illiterate (18.67%), high/ higher secondary schooling (6.66%), and graduate (4.00%) education categories.

Table 3: Distribution of respondents according to their education (n=300)

Sl. No.	Educational Categories	Frequency	Percent
1.	Illiterate	56	18.67
2.	Primary education	101	33.67
3.	Middle schooling	111	37.00
4.	High/ Higher secondary schooling	20	6.66
5.	Graduate	12	4.00

3.4 Type of Family

From the study it documented (Table 4) that 49.30 per cent of the respondents belonged to nuclear family type and remaining 50.70 per cent of them fell under joint family type.

Table 4: Distribution of respondents according to their family type (n=300)

Sl. No.	Categories	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Nuclear Family	148	49.30
2.	Joint Family	152	50.70

3.5 Size of Family

It is concluded from the Table 5, that majority 50.67 per cent of the respondents belonged to big family size followed by 26.00 per cent and 23.33 per cent under medium and small family size groups, respectively.

Table 5: Distribution of respondents according to their family size (n=300)

Sl. No	Categories	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Small (<= 4 members)	70	23.33
2.	Medium (5-6 members)	78	26.00
3.	Big (> 6 members)	152	50.67
			Mean= 5 SD= 1.28

3.6 Land Holding

The results on the land size of the respondents (Table 6) shows that majority (56.67%) of the migrants had the marginal size of landholding followed by 21.00 percent who were landless labours, 19.00 per cent possessed small land holding, 3.00 percent of medium landholding, and only 0.33 percent of migrated labours had big landholding.

Table 6: Distribution of respondents according to their land holding (n=300)

Sl.	Landholding Categories	Frequency	Percent
1	Landless Labours	63	21.00
2	Marginal landholding (<2.5 acres)	170	56.67
3	Small landholding (2.6-5 acres)	57	19.00
4	Medium landholding (5.1-10 acres)	10	3.33
5	Big landholding (>10 acres)	0	0.00

3.7 Annual Income

The result displayed in Table 7 is depicts that majority 56.33 per cent fitted under medium annual income group subsequently high (26.00%) and low (17.67%) annual income classes. Data presented in Table also shows that majority 59.00 per cent fitted under medium annual income group subsequently low (21.30%) and high (19.70%) annual income classes.

Table 7: Distribution of respondents according to their annual income before and after migration (n=300)

Sl. No.	Income Categories	Frequency	Percent
A. Before migration			
1	Low (Rs <88378.73)	53	17.67
2.	Medium (Rs 88378.73- 111539.89)	169	56.33
3.	High (Rs >111539.89)	78	26.00
			Mean- 100429.78
B. After migration			
1.	Low (Rs <74370.44)	64	21.30
2.	Medium (Rs 74370.44- 107958.29)	177	59.00
3.	High (Rs >107958.29)	59	19.70
			Mean= 91164.39

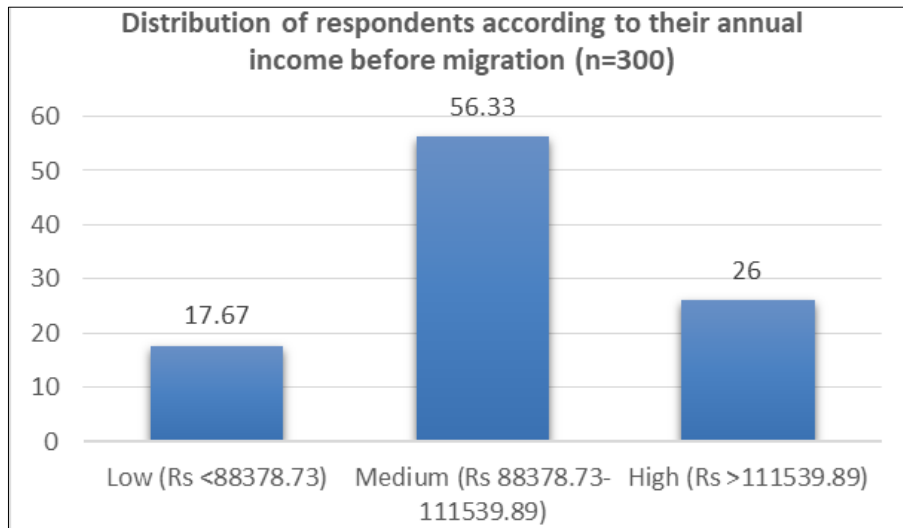


Fig 1: Distribution of respondents according to their annual income before migration

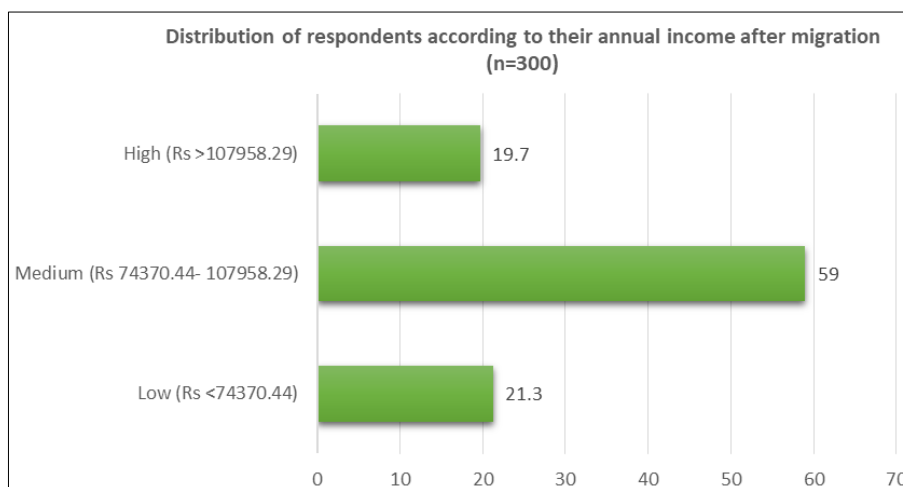


Fig 2: Distribution of respondents according to their annual income after migration

3.8 Skill possessed by the of migrated agricultural labourers

The data of skill possessed by migrants labour are compiled and presented in Fig 3. It is inferred from the table that majority (34.67%) of migrants were construction labour, followed by industrial labour (25.70%), agricultural labour

(15.33%), mistri (10.67%) and only 6.00 per cent of migrated labour were engaged in brick construction. Only a few migrated labours were engaged in salesman work (2.00%), carpainter and painter (1.33%), driver, coolie and tyles worker (0.67%) and electrician (0.33%).

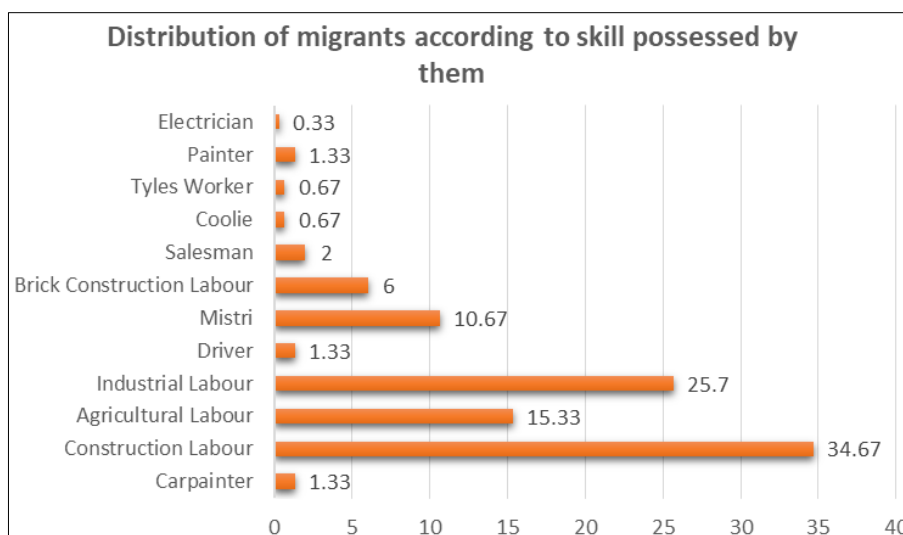


Fig 3: Distribution of migrants according to skill possessed by them

4. Conclusions

The general profile of respondents revealed that the majority of the respondents were young age and most of them were belonging to schedule caste. Most of the migrated labour were having education up to middle school and were living in joint family with family size more than 6 members. Maximum of migrated labour were having marginal (<2.5 acres) size of landholding and, more than fifty percent of them were having annual income level between Rs 74370.44- 107958.29. Majority of migrated labours were construction labour, followed by industrial labour, agricultural labour, mistri and few of migrated labour were engaged in brick construction.

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