

A STUDY ON THE PROBLEMS OF MIGRANT LABOUR FORCE IN KERALA

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Abstract

Whatever the kind of business, labour is the most crucial element of production. Labor migration is improving nowadays because of the variety of challenges that workers encounter in their home countries. However, it is distressing to learn that migratory workers are subjected to physical and verbal abuse, as well as human rights violations, in their new state of residence. Depending on the project's capital incentive, labour will be required. However, there are a variety of factors causing workers to move throughout the country nowadays. Local workers are in short supply in places like Kerala, thus the number of migrant workers is growing rapidly. Laborers face a wide range of challenges, no matter where they work. Workers from other states, in particular, should be welcomed. Regardless of the sort of work performed, workers' rights must be safeguarded. Studying migrants' labour issues is the purpose of this work.

Keywords- Workforces, Migrants, Migrants

INTRODUCTION

In all parts of the globe, labour is seen as a necessary component of production. Many technologies exist to minimise the number of workers, thus human interaction is still required. Internal migration in a nation like India has been going on for many years. Kerala is a popular location for workers from across the world. Kerala is like a foreign country to them, offering a higher standard of living and a better standard of living than their own country. There are several industries that heavily rely on

migrant workers either directly or via indirect means. There was a shortage of workers in various industries because of the growing popularity of white-collar jobs amongst domestic workers. Migrant labourers flock to Kerala for this reason above all others. They're always on the move in search of new work. Tamilnadu, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Orissa, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Assam, and other north-eastern Indian states are the primary sources of migrant labour. In addition, people from Nepal, Bangladesh, and other

countries migrate to the United States. Migration has been going on for a long time. Migrants are increasingly confronted with difficulties. Even in agriculture, migrant workers are already common. They are involved in our commercial, social, and economic growth in one way or another. Their work in the construction industry, in hotels and restaurants, and elsewhere is very beneficial to the growth of both the local community and the country as a whole. As a result, it's essential to look at the issues facing Kerala's migrant workers.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Feudal exploitation and extreme poverty were found to have sparked the flight from Bihar, according to Ghosh and Sharma (1990). They relocated to different states in order to survive. Other reasons for employee migration, according to him, include the attitude of local workers and their poor wages. Dubey. As stated by V.P. Chand Krishnan and Sukhvinder Singh (1996), migration has a crucial influence in economic growth, social transformation and political organisation. There are many migrant workers in Pakistan, according to the Punjab Human Development Report (2004). However, there are several ways in which the labours are discriminated against. According to R.B.Bhagath (2005), 309 million people in India are migrants, making about 30% of the country's overall population. A kind of linguistic prejudice against them has been documented in Punjab. According to Dilip Saikia (2008), the savings habit of the migrant labour force has been determined to be bad. All of their earnings are spent on themselves, and the remainder is sent back to their home

state. Migrant workers' monthly expenses are estimated to be less than \$1500, according to the report. An investigation by the Kerala government discovered that around 25 lakh of the migrant labourers come from northern Indian states, as reported by the Indian Express (2013). 5 percent of Kerala's gross domestic product is remitted by them. When it comes to male migration, the most common factors are work-related, followed by family and business concerns and education-related ones, according to research conducted by Ramees Abbas and Divya Varma in 2014.

METHODOLOGY

The research is purely descriptive in scope. The research relies on both primary and secondary sources of data. Surveys that had been pre-tested were utilised to gather information. Secondary data are used to augment the primary data, which were drawn from a large pool using a random sampling procedure. A total of 60 samples were used in the investigation. Shoranur Municipality provided the source of the sample.

OVERVIEW

Migrant workers have taken over Kerala, formerly considered as God's own land. Migrant workers from Bangladesh, Bihar, and Assam now populate almost every city and town in the country. In addition, there are a few foreign migrants. We've also seen workers from Nepal, Bihar, and other places. Migrant labour is widely used in the construction business, the hotel industry, and the agricultural industry. Kerala has become a haven for many long-term migrant workers. It's because the pay

is better than in their own state. But in Kerala, they're dealing with a lot of problems. Migrant workers face a wide range of health difficulties, discrimination, and human rights breaches. These migrants' social progress and economic well-being are likewise up for debate. However, migrant labour should be taken into consideration as a significant aspect in economic progress.



Various government policies and laws in support of them need be developed. The state of Kerala has a slew of labour camps dotted across its different regions. Shoranur is also home to a large number of labour camps. The refugee camps aren't clean.

They are overseen by an administrator. Many people work in Shoranur owing to its convenient transit options, such as a railroad and roads. Migrant workers need an agent to go to and from work every day. It takes them around 200 kilometres a day to go to and from work. People are drawn to these workers because of their hard-working attitudes. The Keralite inferiority complex is a major factor in the area's labour shortage. There are several types of occupations that they categorise. As a result, some are seen as prestigious, while others are seen as less so. The need for migrant workers is growing in this region.

FINDINGS

There is evidence to suggest that a large number of people are fleeing their home countries because of high levels of

unemployment, losses from natural disasters, and other unusual occurrences in their agricultural sector. Migrants under the age of 30 make up the vast majority of the population. Compared to males, the number of female workers migrating is lower. Employees that have just relocated seem to be under-educated. Incredibly, some of the supervisors who have also relocated to this location are recent graduates of their own state universities. Migrant workers are concentrated in the construction industry. Are migrant workers putting in more hours than the industry norm? The vast majority of migrants are employed in the unregulated labour market. As a result, they don't know about the many benefits that are accessible to them such as health insurance and ID cards provided by the local authority and the federal government. Kerala's construction business was boosted by the migration of workers from Kerala to Gulf nations. Kerala's building industry has grown, making it easier for migrant workers to relocate there. Migrant workers in Kerala come mostly for the higher pay. Migrants are mostly coming from Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Tamilnadu, and so forth. Other countries, such as Nepal and Bangladesh, have sent their citizens here. Migrants' living circumstances are likewise appalling. Unfortunately, the room's amenities are a disgrace. They have a difficulty because of the lack of sanitation and infrastructure. Health insurance and other programmes enacted to address their concerns remain unknown to the working class.

Manpower, particularly that of young people, is critical to a country's development. Providing young people with

a pleasant work environment is an important step the government can take to empower them. Migrants' workplaces must have adequate safety precautions in place. Migrant workers' information is not properly gathered by the state government. So a separate cell belonging to the local authorities may collect this data, which can be utilised for future purposes. To prevent the agents and other middlemen from being exploited by a licencing scheme. The government may provide migrants with a basic education to help them live moral and peaceful lives. The native government of each state has the power to address the issues that cause migrant workers to flee their home country and therefore aid in the rehabilitation of those migrants. Proper legislation is needed to protect the idea of pay equality. The government must safeguard human life and rights since they are critical to the country's economic progress.

Conclusion

In today's economy, labour plays an important role. Local workers in Kerala are hesitant to take on some professions because they believe they are beneath them. Some of them were exclusively interested in white-collar careers. Because of this, migrant workers were brought in to fill the labour shortage. Migrant workers are now the backbone of a number of industries in Kerala. In many respects, migrant workers are exploited. These folks are less informed of their rights. They are exploited mostly because they lack organisation. There were no labour unions or other social safety nets in place. Even still, in order to alleviate the woes of migrant workers, effective government

intervention is required. A variety of measures are needed to help migrant workers reintegrate into society in their home countries.

References

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