



SOCIAL ECONOMIC STATUS OF THE MIGRANT WORKERS LIVING IN LUCKNOW (U.P) INDIA

Home Science

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ABSTRACT

Migrant workers are those who migrate within a home country or outside to pursue work. Migration includes both voluntary and forced movement of people. Lucknow being the capital city, many workers travel from around the nearby state to find and satisfying job. These labors are asked to do all kind of dirty and dangerous jobs with a very less pay. In this study 400 migrant workers including domestic, industry and construction workers of Lucknow city are taken in account to find their social economic status. To study SES, modified Kuppaswamy scale 2019 has been use and also a pre determined interview test has been used for the determination of the general profile. The result determine that majority of the workers belong to the upper lower class and concluded that major action should taken by the government to improve their living.

KEYWORDS

Social Economic Status, Migrants, Kuppaswamy Scale.

1.1.INTRODUCTION

Human migration is the movement of a person from one place to another to settle permanently or temporarily in search of work or employment. Migration includes both forced and voluntary movement of people. One of the main reasons for the people to migrate is the growing pace of unemployment and poverty in developing countries like India. In India, the development of various states shows significant inequalities such as Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, and Maharashtra having attained a higher level of development than Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, and Chhattisgarh. (Kundu and Sarangi, 2007)

The socioeconomic status of migrant workers in India is characterized by a range of challenges and disparities. Migrant workers are individuals who move from their home regions or villages to other areas within the country in search of employment opportunities. They often face economic, social, and legal vulnerabilities.

Migrant workers in India typically come from rural areas and belong to lower socioeconomic strata. They are often employed in low-skilled sectors such as construction, agriculture, manufacturing, and domestic work. Due to their limited education and skills, they are more likely to engage in informal and precarious employment arrangements. One of the major issues faced by migrant workers is the lack of social protection. Many are employed in the informal sector, which means they are not entitled to benefits such as minimum wages, healthcare, and social security. This absence of safeguards leaves them vulnerable to exploitation, unsafe working conditions, and arbitrary wage deductions.

Additionally, migrant workers often encounter challenges related to housing, sanitation, and access to basic amenities. They typically live in overcrowded and substandard accommodations, lacking proper sanitation facilities. This not only affects their living conditions but also exposes them to health risks. Another significant concern is the marginalization and discrimination faced by migrant workers. They are often viewed as outsiders and experience social exclusion and stigmatization. Language barriers, cultural differences, and lack of familiarity with local customs further contribute to their social isolation.

Furthermore, the pandemic and subsequent lockdowns in 2020 exposed the vulnerabilities of migrant workers in India. Many were stranded far from their homes without adequate means of survival, as transport services were suspended. The crisis highlighted the need for improved welfare measures, including better job security, social safety nets, and effective mechanisms for addressing their concerns.

Lucknow is one of the main cities in U.P. and also being the capital it gives good opportunity to the workers leaving nearby states. This study is conducted to find the socio economic status of the migrant of Lucknow.

1.2.Objective,Material and Method

- To identify the living and working condition of migrants
- To study the socio – economic status of migrant workers.

1.2.1. Research Design

In the present study, descriptive research design was chosen to study the socio – economic status of migrant workers. An exploratory research design was planned to identify the living and working condition of migrants and to study the reasons of migration.

1.2.2. Selection of Variables

A variable as the name implies, is something which varies. In other words variables are the characteristics of conditions that are manipulated, controlled or observed by the experiments. The schematic presentation of the variables used in the study was given in Fig.

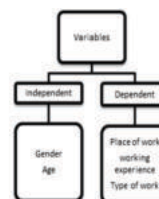


Fig 1.2.1: Schematic Presentation of the Variables

1.2.3. Tool Used

I. Self -Constructed and Pre Tested Interview Schedule:

It was constructed to collected information related to demographic profile of respondents, living and working conditions of respondents and the reasons of migration of respondents.

II. Modified Kuppaswamy Socioeconomic Scale Updated for the Year 2019

This scale is the most commonly scale used for determining the SES. It consists of three items for assessing the socioeconomic status of the rag pickers. The three items of the scale are:

- Occupation of the head of the family
- Education of the head of the family
- Total monthly income of the family

The score range and category of the scale are:

Score Range	Category/Class
26-29	Upper (I)
16-25	Upper middle (II)
11-15	Lower middle (III)
5-10	Upper lower (IV)
<5	Lower (V)

1.2.4. Pilot Study

The pilot study was accomplished with 30 respondents to check the appropriateness of measuring tools. Minor changes were made in the tools on the basis of pilot study and then the same was finalized to collect final data.

1.2.5. Selection of Sample

1.2.5.1. Selection of the Locale: The present study was conducted in four different areas (Rajnikhanda, Charbagh (Mawalia), Aurangabad (Khalsa) Krishna Nagar) of Lucknow City. The selection of the areas was done, as there was presence of migrant workers in these areas in Lucknow.

1.2.5.2. Sampling Design: Quota plus purposive sampling design was used to select the study area and samples as the data was collected from migrant workers by dividing them into three categories on the basis of place of work –Construction workers, Domestic workers and industry workers.

1.2.5.3. Sample Size:

A sample size is a definite plan for obtaining a sample from a given population keeping in view nature of universe, nature of study, sampling technique, size of population etc.

The sample for the present study was comprised of 400 migrant workers from Lucknow the detailed description is discussed in the below-

- 200 Construction workers were taken from the Rajnikhanda and Charbagh (Mawalia) area of Lucknow city.
- 100 Domestic workers were taken from Aurangabad (Khalsa) area of Lucknow city.
- 100 Industry workers were taken from Krishna Nagar area of Lucknow city.

The Schematic presentation of the sample is as given below-

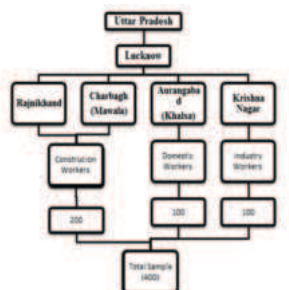


Fig1.2.2 : Schematic Presentation of the Sample

1.2.6. Statistical Analysis

Research was conducted by collecting primary data from rag pickers regarding their work, family, income etc. The data was coded and analysed using IBM SPSS 20.0 Version. Gender, age, marital status, family size, work experience, working duration, and monthly income were recorded as categorical variables. Qualitative variables were represented in frequency and percentage.

1.3. RESULT

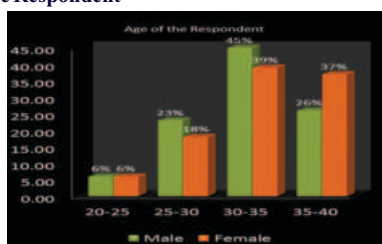
1.3.1. Demographic Profile of the Migrant Workers

i. Gender of the Respondents

The figure below gives brief information about gender wise breakdown of respondents. The finding of the study shows that 300 (75.0 %) respondents were male. While a total of 100 respondents constituting (25.0%) of total respondents were females.

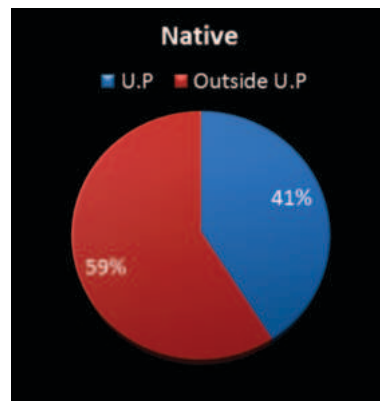


ii. Age of the Respondent



It can be seen from the figure that out of the total 400 respondents, majority of the respondents were in the age group of 30 to 35 years with 136 (45%) males and 39 (39%) females. While 77 (25%) male and 37 (37%) female respondents were from the age group of 35 to 40 years, 69 (23%) male and 18 (18%) female respondents were from the age group of 25-30 years and only 18 (6%) males and 6 (6%) females were from the age group of 20 to 25 years.

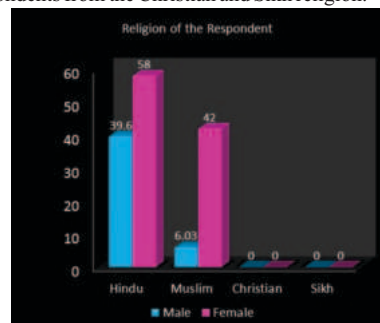
iii. Native



Nativeity-wise breakup of the respondents showed in the above table reveals that majority of the 199 (66.3%) male and 59 (49%) female were from the outside of UP. While 101 (33%) male and 41 (41%) female were from the UP.

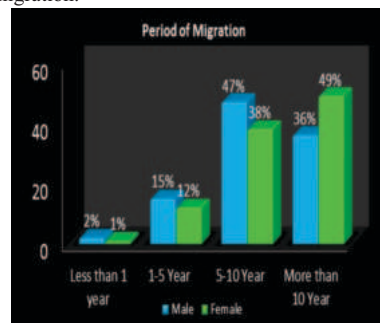
iv. Religion of the Respondent

The figure showed the religion of respondents. Out of the total 400 respondents, majority of the respondents were Muslim 181 (60.3%) male and 42 (42%) female. While 119 (39.6%) male and 58 (58%) female were from the Hindu religion. In this study researcher does not found respondents from the Christian and Sikh religion.



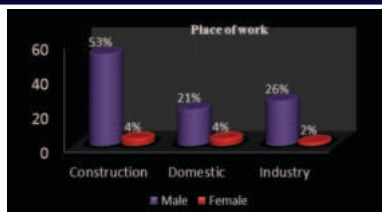
v. Period of Migration

The figure provided the Period of migration of migrant workers, it was seen that 7 (2.3) males and 1 (1.0) females have Less than 1 year of migration, 44 (14.7) males and 12 (12.0) females have 1 to 5 year of migration, 141 (47.0) males and 38 (38.0) females have 5 to 10 year of migration and 108 (36.0) males and 49 (49.0) females have more than 10 year of migration.



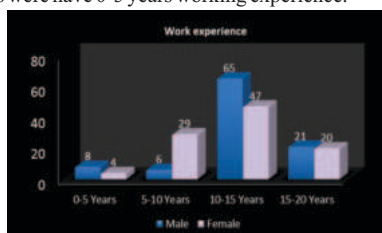
vii. Place of Work

The figure provide the information about the workplace of respondents. Table showed that 160 (53.3%) male and 40 (40%) female were work in construction area, 80 (26%) male and 20 (20%) female respondents were work in industries and 60 (20%) and 40 (40%) females were work in domestic places.



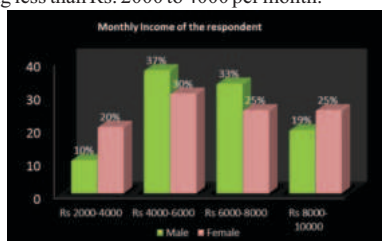
viii. Work Experience

The above table showed the working experience of the respondents. The data showed 130 (43.3%) male and 47 (47%) female were have 1-15 years working experience, 43 (14.3%) male 20 (20%) female respondents were have 15-20 years working experience, 11 (3.6%) male and 29 (29.0%) female respondents were have 5-10 years working experience and remaining 16 (5%) male and 4 (4%) female respondents were have 0-5 years working experience.



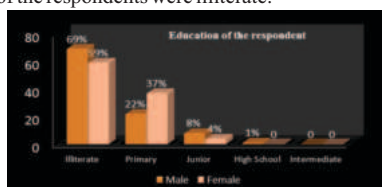
iv. Monthly Income of the Respondent

Income-wise breakup of the respondents shown in the figure explains that majority of the respondents income was between Rs 2,000 to 4,000 per month and they constitute 118 (39.3%) male and 3(35.%) female. While 112 (37.3%) male and 30 (30%) female were earning Rs 4,000 to 6,000 per month, 70 (23.3%) male and 35 (35%) female respondents Rs. 8000 to 10000 per month. Researcher found that 0.0 respondents were earning less than Rs. 2000 to 4000 per month.



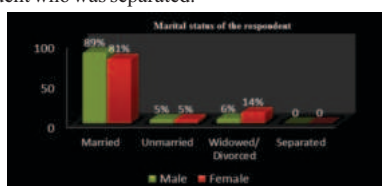
v. Education of te Respondent

Out of 400 respondents, (69.3%) male and 59 (59%) female respondents were illiterate, 67 (22.3%) male 37 (37%) female were get education up to primary level and 23 (7.6%) male 4(4%) female were get education up to junior level and 1 (0.3%) male respondents were get education up to high school and remaining 1 (0.3%) male respondents were get education up to intermediate. 58 (19.3%) respondents were literate only, 53 (17.7%) respondents were post graduate, 27 (9.0%) respondents were get education up to Intermediate and 5 (1.7%) respondents were Illiterate. The table showed that a large proportion of the respondents were illiterate.



vi. Marital Status of Respondent

The data showed that most of the respondents, 267 (89%) male and 81 (81%) female were married, 19 (6.3%) and 14 (14%) female respondents were widowed/ divorced and remaining 14 (4.6%) male 5 (5%) female respondents were unmarried. Researcher was not found any respondent who was separated.



1.3.2. Socio Economic Status of Migrant Workers.

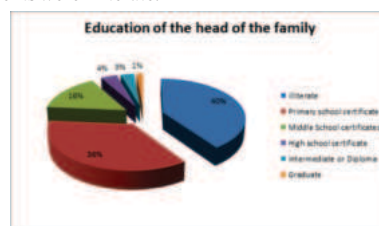
i. Occupation of the Head of the Family.

Figure showed that the majority of the respondents' were in elementary occupation and they constitute 167(41.8%) of the total sample size (400). The study also shows that 95(23.8%) respondents were Unemployed, 21(5.3%) respondents were professionals, Other21(5.3%) respondents were Plant and Machine Operators and Assemblers, 20 (5.0%) respondents were doing clerical work as a clerk, private jobs and remaining 3(0.8%) respondents were Skilled worker and shop and market sales worker.



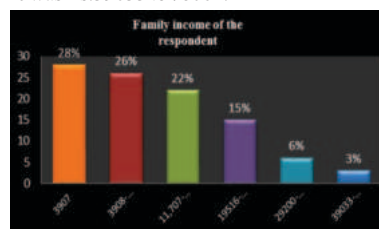
ii. Education of the Head of the Family.

The figure showed educational qualifications-wise breakup of the respondents on the basis of head of family. Out of 400 respondents, 175 (43.8%) were illiterate, 123(38.8%) were having education up to Primary school certificate, 67(16.8%) were having education up to Middle School certificate, 16(4.0%) were having education up to High school certificate, 13(3.3%) were having education up to Intermediate or Diploma and remaining 6 (1.5%) respondents were having education up to graduation. The table shows that a large proportion of the respondents were illiterate.



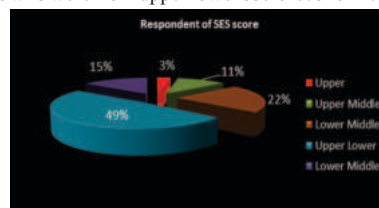
iii. Family Income of the Family.

The figure discussed Respondent's family income. Out of 400 respondents, 168(42%) respondents family income was Rs.11,708 to 19515, 137(34.3%) respondents family income was Rs.3908 to 11,707, 82(20.5%) respondents family income was Rs.19516 to 29199, 7(1.8%) respondents family income was Rs.29200 to 39032, 5(1.3%) respondents family income was Rs.3907 and 1(0.3%) respondents family income was Rs.39033 to 78062.



iv. Respondent of SES Scores.

The figure gives brief information about gender wise distribution of respondent on the basis of SES score. Out of 400 respondents, 219 (54.8%) respondents were from upper lower, 89(22.3%) respondents were from lower middle, 58 (14.5%) respondents were from lower, 30 (7.5%) respondents were from upper middle and remaining 4 (1.0%) respondents were from upper. The results showed the majority of respondents who were from upper lower socio-economic status.



DISCUSSION

The research from the selected site in Lucknow city indicated that the migrant in city do various kind of jobs. For the research 300 male and

100 females were selected. Observing the demographic profile of the migrant workers, majority of them belong to the middle age (25-35). Similar findings was noted in a study carried out by Rashmi et.al (2013), more than half (60.45%) of migrants were young adults below the age of 23 years. The trend was even proper semi-permanent or temporary labour migrants in a study by Srivastava (1999), 97.3% of total migrant were males while 2.3% were females.

These migrant were from the migrant were mostly from the nearby state and holding their identity prove such as adhar card, rashan card, voter card and pan card. The study also shows that the marital status of the workers plays an important role for the reason of migration. It was found that out of 400 workers, 348 workers were married. Also most of the workers were illiterate (69.3% male and 59% female) or have a education qualification at primary level (22.3% male and 37% female).

In a study by Li X. et.al. shows that the educational background, 43.1% of the migrant workers had junior high school education, and 22.2% had high school education, indicating that they had generally received primary education. Similar study by Banerjee and Raju (2009) reflected that the nature of work done by migrant women is determined by a host of factors such as education, marital status etc. This has been proved in the present study, about 78 per cent of the domestic workers are married and of the age group of 25-65 years and rest (22%) are unmarried belonging to the age group 15-25 years.

The main objective of the study is to inquire the Social Economic Status of the migrant workers. Studying all the three parameters of SES score while using Kuppuswamy scale shows the educational qualification, occupation and total income of the family. The result showed that majority of the respondent belong to upper lower class, i.e., 54.8%. Similar study done by S. Pavithra, 2017 shows that out of the total respondents, monthly income of a little more than one-fourth of respondents after migration is between Rs.8000 and Rs.10000 and about 18 per cent respondents earn between Rs.14000 and Rs.16000; 8.1 per cent of respondents each earn between Rs.10001 and Rs.12000 and between Rs.12001 and Rs.14000 respectively. Respondents who earn more than Rs.16001 account for 9.3 per cent. It clearly indicates that economic condition of the respondents has improved after migrating to Chennai city.

Also, in a study by Saikia (2016) reveal that Poor economic conditions in the native place and high wage rate and better employment opportunities in Kerala have been identified as the main reason for migration. Though there is barely any changes in the nature of employment of the migrants even after migration.

CONCLUSION

The study concluded that the people not only from U.P but also from other state migrate to the city to pursue work. Majority of the workers were of age group 30-35 and illiterate. The social economic status of the respondent was studied which shows that up to 49% of the respondent were from upper lower SES. The migrant workers do all kind of dangerous work and yet have to deal with low income and other essential. This biasness has affected the migrant workers life as well as the economical growth of the country. Therefore, the study suggested that policies and rules could be develop in the favor of the migrant workers.

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