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"Impact of short-term parental migration on children-A case study among the tribal community of Bastar, Chhattisgarh"

Dr. Rupendra Kavi and Dr. Rajendra Singh, Research Assistant, Tribal Research and Training Institute, Regional Unit, Jagdalpur. (C.G.) 494001. e-mail- drkavianthro@gmail.com

Key Words- Short-term parental migration, Children, Bhatra tribe.

Introduction-The children are the future of the nation and childhood is the foundation for a good civilization. Hence the prime responsibility of the society is to provide a safe childhood to the children. The children have the right to freedom, health and nutrition. Article 14 of the constitution provides right to education to the children up to 14 years of age.

When people are pressurized to work and survive outside of village since permanent, long term or short-term by environment or condition is called migration. In migration peoples go out left their children for the supervision older/elder or any relatives. Their children's feel emotionally and physically distance to lacking of her/his father, parents or guardians in this duration. Mainly the children are away from educational development. It's true that "Nobody can fulfill lacking of father or mother." In migration of father/ mother, children are mostly affected. Illiterate, immature, unskilled citizens are interested in the nation and nation engaged to solve the problems.

Chhattisgarh state and Bastar division's agriculture is based on Monsoon. After the crop season, less availability of employment which results is short term migration. From this area youth, males and females used to migrate during the month of November-December to May-June. This period is most important to children for educational, physical and mental development, because in this period the main educational and social works are organized.

Area and peoples:- Bhatra tribe, resides in middle-east area of Bastar districts is a semi-developed tribe. Bhatra tribe mainly resides in Jagdalpur, Bakawand and Bastar Blocks. The population of Bhatra tribe is - 213900, male population is 105283, female population is 108617 and sex ratio is 1032 (according to census 2011). Literacy rate is 48.7 (according to census 2011). Present study has been conducted in densely inhabited five Bhatra tribal villages, namely: Junavani, Ulnar, Nalpawand, Taraguda and Tungapal at Bakawand tehsil of Bastar district.

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Historically Bhatra tribes are known as servant of the local king. Among Bhatra tribe three subgroup viz. Pita, Amnit and San Bhatra are found. The main festivals of Bhatra tribe are Amus, Nuakhani, Bijputani, Mati tihar, Diyari, Dussehara etc. The main local deities of Bhatra tribe are Bhairam deo, Buda deo, Pardeshin Mata, Shitala Mata and Danteshwari Mata etc.

Socio-economic status of Bhatra tribes of Bastar district depends on agriculture, animal husbandry, forest produce collection, laborer and besides this they get income from other sources.

Objectives-

1. To Study impact of short-term migration among Bhatra children of Bastar.
2. To know the status of physical and mental development of Bhatra children's.
3. To study of natural changes among Bhatra children's due to short-term parental migration.
4. To study educational participation and educational development related aspects.

Research Methodology -For the present study five villages namely: Junavani, Ulnar, Nalpawand, Taraguda and Tungapal were selected from Bakawand Tehsil situated in Bastar District of Chhattisgarh. 100 families were selected by random sampling method has been used for the collection of primary data, Interview schedule and Identified group interview techniques. Research book, papers and reports have been used for the collection of secondary data.

Discussion-

Table No. 01

Details of educational status among surveyed families

No.	Situation	Number	Percentage
1	0-6 year	94	14.31
2	Literate	208	31.66
3	Illiterate	355	54.03
	Total	657	100.00

The table shows that 31.66% persons are literate and 54.03% persons are illiterate in surveyed families, excluded the 0-6 year's 14.31% persons. The literacy rate of surveyed families is 36.95%.

Table No.02

Details of educational status (Regular/ dropped) among surveyed families

No.	Situation	Male		Female		Total	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
1	Regular	67	47.86	53	77.94	120	57.69
2	Dropped	73	52.14	15	22.06	88	42.31
	Total	140	100.00	68	100.00	208	100.00

The table shows that among the literate persons 57.69% are regular and 42.31% persons are dropped their education. In male persons 47.86% are regular and 52.14% persons are dropped and in females 77.94% are regular and 22.06% dropped their education.

Table No.03

Impact on educational status of children due to short-term parental migration

No.	Details	Family	
		Number	%
1	Increase in irregular attendance.	32	32
2	Impact on the final result.	21	21
3	Increase in drop-out rates	13	13
4	Loss of interest in education.	14	14
5	Decrease the regular study period	12	12
6	Loss of Moral value/ moral education.	08	08
	Total	100	100

The above table shows the impact of short-term parental migration on children's educational status. In surveyed families maximum 32% children are irregular attend their classes and minimum 8% children's are loss of moral value/ moral education due to short-term parental migration.

Table No.04

Impact on routine life of children due to short-term parental migration

No.	Details	Impact				Total Family
		Yes		No		
		Number	%	Number	%	
1	Increase the period of involvement in domestic work.	68	68	32	32	100
2	Sustain the remaining economic works (Agri., fire wood, Watching)	61	61	39	39	100
3	Increase the involvement in social work.	57	57	43	43	100
4	Change in routine activities	72	72	28	28	100
5	Work load and tension	48	48	52	52	100
6	Changes in behavior (Pre age maturity)	69	69	31	31	100

The table shows that Impact on routine life of children due to short-term parental migration. In 68% families increase the period of involvement in domestic works, among the children of 61% families are sustain the remaining economic works, children of 57% families increase the involvement in social work, in children of 72% families change in routine activities (example- they are involved in domestic work in place of sports and studies.), in children of 48% families feels Work load and tension and in the children of 69% families shows the pre age maturity.

Table No.05

Impact of short-term parental migration on children

No.	Details	Impact		
		Yes	No	Total
1	Impact on Education	73	27	100
2	Impact on Physical and mental development	41	59	100
3	Growth in tendency of child crime.	38	62	100
4	Increase of child labour	39	61	100
5	Increase of freeness tendency.	53	47	100

The table shows the main overall impact of short-term parental migration on children. Out of 100 surveyed families, impact on education on 73% families, impact of physical and mental development of children in 41% families, increase the tendency of child crime in 38% families, increase of child labour in 39% families and increase of freeness tendency in 53% families.

Problems-

- *Short of attendance of the children's have been found in surveyed families, so that school end in being affected.
- *Sharing of domestic work has been increased in the children's family.
- *Illusion has been developed due to the shortage of guidance of the elders.
- *Physical and mental development is being hindered.
- *The attitude of children is being increased (free movement/criminal tendency).
- *Migration of elders causes the increase of child laborer.
- *Situation of immigration is being enhanced. (Short-term departure from the native place is also developing a positive attitude towards immigration.

Suggestions-

- *Record should be kept and mentioned for the immigration in the Govt. level so that illegal immigration should be checked.
- * Disciplinary action must be taken against those who inspire for the extraction and should be discourage the villagers for the extradition.
- * By establishing small, cottage units and processing units must be established in the village for the local employment, so that immigration must be checked.
- * By proper implementation on MANREGA scheme and other alike income generation scheme immigration can be checked.
- * Agriculture, Horticulture and Multi crop should be encouraged, so that employment and income is being increased.

Conclusion-

The routine short- term migration is a serious problem in rural and tribal India. The present study shows that the short- term parental migration is changing the lives of children. The migrated people left their children in the supervision of older/elder or any relatives. In native place, the children's feel emotionally and physically distance to her/his father/ mother or both, parents or guardians in this duration. Mainly the children are away from educational development. **Illiterate, immature, unskilled citizens are interested in the nation and nation engaged to solve the problems.** The short term parental migration affected children's education, increased participation in economic activities, domestic work and social work. This entire are create tension and change the natural life and behavior of children. The overall impact of short-term parental migration on children's are Increase of child labour, Education, Physical and mental development, Growth in tendency of child crime and Increase of freeness tendency.

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