



IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND THE PLIGHT OF RETURN RURAL MIGRATORY LABOURERS IN UTTAR DINAJPUR DISTRICT

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Abstract: According to the WHO, the COVID-19 Pandemic, which began in December 2019, has emerged as a major crisis that has devastated all migrant workers and human life worldwide, including in India. Countless deaths, economic despair, unemployment, job losses, and lockdowns left migrant Labour in perpetual uncertainty. This COVID-19 Pandemic has affected all migrant Labour in terms of livelihood and survival. This COVID-19 Pandemic has brought an extreme crisis not only in the economy but in the lives of all people. This study seeks to provide a timely analysis of migrant Labour in the labour market, focusing on identifying the COVID-19 Pandemic lockdown and its aftermath. Highlight the Plight of migrant Labour in Uttar Dinajpur and their financial status after returning home. It also describes how migrant workers from other states lost their jobs and returned home and also the employment status of migrants.

Keywords: COVID-19 Pandemic, Migrant Labour, lockdown, Plight

INTRODUCTION

There is a new Pandemic in the world today. This COVID-19 Pandemic started in the world last December 2019. This COVID-19 Pandemic affected all the countries of the world. No country in the world has been affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic. This Pandemic is killing a large number of people in the world. COVID-19 has caused significant damage to the economy of every country, starting in employment, education, health, unemployment, and people's daily life. Because of this COVID-19 Pandemic, every country positions social distancing and quarantines. Each country in this position adopts a lockdown method that particularly affects the country's economy (Prakash, 2020).

The COVID-19 Pandemic originated in Wuhan, the capital of Hubei Province, China. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), COVID-19 is a Pandemic that has spread throughout the world today. This COVID-19 Pandemic has turned into a fever, cold, shortness of breath, and serious illness, which is eventually taking the lives of people. The virus, known as COVID-19, was detected in late December 2019 in Wuhan, China. Among the 19 symptoms of this COVID can be general fever, runny nose, shortness of breath, and, exceptionally, death. This COVID-19 Pandemic has endangered the lives of people all over the world. The COVID-19 Pandemic is taking over one country after another, and this Pandemic has brought special risks to human health. The current COVID-19 Pandemic is spreading rapidly worldwide (Sirkeci & Yüceşahin, 2020).

In the present world, human lives are endangered due to this COVID-19 Pandemic. In almost all countries of the world, people have suffered economically and socially. This COVID-19 Pandemic has caused panic among the people since the day it spread and left them in a state of particular uncertainty about what the future holds. Since the beginning of this COVID-19 Pandemic, many countries of the world have declared lockdown, and then gradually almost all the countries of the world have adopted this lockdown approach. As a result of this lockdown, people have been stranded in different parts of the world; businesses,

production, shops, and mills have been shut down. On the one hand, people cannot move from one end to the other; on the other hand, many people have lost their jobs due to the closure of mills. In comparison, migrant Labour in India works in different parts of the country, some temporarily and some permanently; all the migrant Labour that used to work outside have lost their jobs due to this lockdown. India's economy has collapsed due to this COVID-19. The Indian economy is collapsing at a faster pace due to everything being shut down due to side lockdowns (Abdin & Kumar, 2020).

After this COVID-19 Pandemic, the situation in India has worsened. When the Prime Minister of India announced a sudden lockdown on March 24, 2020, millions of migrant Labour in other states tried to return to their destinations. Then a situation arises that becomes unbearable. As a result of this COVID-19 lockdown, migrant Labour became unemployed, and as a result, millions of migrant Labour became desperate to reach their destination. India's numbers show a lot of migrant Labour in different parts of the country. Many migrant Labour has lost their jobs and lost their jobs where they worked. Everything was shut down because of this cowardly Pandemic, even the vehicles and the workplace, so they ran out of money, so they was forced to move slowly to his destination. In this situation, millions of migrant Labour have been deprived of their shelter and forced to live in temporary shelters. (Jha& Kumar, 2020).

The COVID-19 Pandemic in India has caused the lockdown; as a result, all the migrant labourers in the city heard about the lockdown and tried to come to the bus stand and railway station. Since India is a populous country, there is much immigrant Labour here. Millions of migrant Labour gathered at the bus stand and railway station due to the sudden closure; some migrant labourers did not have any money to come home due to their lack of work. So they decided to walk on foot as an alternative. After seeing this situation, the state Government arranged special trains and buses for the migrant Labour of their respective states to return home (Khanna, 2020). The lockdown caused millions of migrant Labour to lose their jobs. At that time, the communication system was in such a bad condition that Trains and Buses stopped everything. Moreover, the fares of all the running vehicles were so high that the migrant Labour had nothing to pay them. That is why thousands of Labour walks thousands of kilometres to reach their destination. During the March-April 2020 lockdown, around 1.5 core migrant workers returned to their native places (Gupta & Jha, 2020). When all communication was cut off, migrant Labour began to move to their places on foot, by bicycle, by auto rickshaw, or any other available mode. Thus when migrant labourers started coming home, there was almost no emptiness for them, no food, no sufficient money half of what I got with the help of people was enough to keep me on my way. At that time, some died in a road accident, some died of starvation, and some committed suicide. At that time, those big national roads were just migratory Labour and a painful environment of frustration, screaming, and shock. At that time, except for some voluntary organizations, no one came near migrant Labour (Kumar & Choudhury, 2021). On May 8, 2020, some migrant labourers were resting on the railway tracks near Aurangabad in Maharashtra on their way home on foot. That night, 18 migrant Labour were killed by a freight train (The Indian Express, 2020). Many of these lockdown migrant labourers died while returning home on foot. An estimated that thousands of migrant Labour have died in road and Train Accidents (Banerji, 2020).

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this study are as follows:

1. To explore the problems faced by migrant labourers during the COVID-19 Pandemic
2. Study the impact of COVID-19 on their work
3. An assessment of the Plight of return rural migrant workers.

METHODOLOGY

This paper used the analytical method; the study is descriptive and based on various observations. The data and information were collected from primary and secondary sources. The primary data has been collected through the field survey and secondary information was collected from various books, journals, newspapers, articles, research papers, magazines, websites, etc. The paper is discussed both qualitative and quantitative data is included.

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON MIGRANT LABOUR

The global outbreak of COVID-19 (corona virus) from its centre in China's Wuhan Province is responsible for human migration and mobility. On the other hand, medical professionals believe that it is possible to control the contagious disease of this COVID-19 Pandemic through a lockdown and social distancing. However, the lockdown could lead to the economic and social system breakdown, which began slowly. This global COVID-19 Pandemic caused the most disasters and risks to migrant labours. When the first incident of COVID-19 in India came to light on January 30, 2020, it was slowly taking the form of a Pandemic in India. Later on March 24, the Government of India declared a nationwide lockdown for 21 days. International borders were closed, all transportation was closed, and factories, shops, all employees and all kinds of economic activities were closed, except for essential services. This COVID-19 Pandemic proved to be a nightmare for millions of migrant Labour. As a result of this COVID-19 Pandemic, migrant Labour lost their livelihoods overnight and became homeless and lost their way as they tried to reach their destination. These migrant Labour had to face various problems immediately. Such was related to food, shelter, loss of wages, loss of employment, fear of becoming infected and anxiety. As a result, thousands of their migrant Labour began fleeing from different cities to their respective destinations. In addition, many migrant Labour has lost their lives due to hardships, hunger, and accidents on the way and many have committed suicide. (Shaikh, 2020) A telephone survey of more than 3000 migrant Labour from Uttar Central India shows that most migrant Labour was earning daily wages, and at the time of lockdown, they had only a 42% Ration left. Without food, water and money, the destination city was stuck, and 94% of the Labour did not have identity cards (Shaikh, 2020). As a result of the sudden lockdown, many migrant Labour were detained in different cities of the country. When many migrant Labour could not find any public transport to reach their village then, many migrant Labour were forced to walk hundreds of kilometres on foot. Locals mistreated migrant Labour who arrived in their villages as potential carriers of their infection (India Today, 2020).

UNEMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY

About 450 million informal workers comprising 90% of India's workforce were not permitted to have paid leaves (Sengupta & Jha, 2020). A more significant part of them is migrant workers at the edge of an emergency or catastrophe during the lockdown when working from home becomes the new normal throughout the globe due to the epidemic. Numerous among these inter-state migrants picked to walk hundreds of kilometres in the hope of reaching their native places. Among them, the terror of staying hungry over day-to-day wage loss overshadowed their anxiety and distress of the virus (Sahni & Aulakh, 2020).

GENDER GAP AND INEQUALITY

Many women are losing their jobs more than men due to the global COVID-19 Pandemic. COVID-19 Pandemic loss of employment in India due to the Pandemic shows that gender is not neutral. Due to the high number of women in domestic work worldwide, there is an unequal gender division. As a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic, there are already more men than women in India due to the gender gap in employment. Since women are involved in many domestic chores in many states before and after the lockdown, there is a gender gap in terms of the number of hours women work during the lockdown. (Deshpande, 2020). The COVID-19 Pandemic has caused many problems in the workplace for skilled Labour, low-skilled Labour, the poor, and other migrant Labour. As a result of this employment crisis for migrant Labour, many economists believe that the COVID-19 Pandemic is expected to increase inequality among migrant Labour in all countries. (Furceri et al, 2020).

HEALTH CRISIS—RURAL/URBAN

Many migrant Labour has health problems due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. For various reasons, their health services are inferior. Even in the developed areas of India, there is a lack of health services. After the lockdown announcement, the stone migrant Labour returning home in a state of exhaustion became physically weak. However, the stones on that road did not give

them any human health to keep them physically fit. As of 2019, India's healthcare spending was only 1.28% lower than other poorer countries in the world. The COVID-19 Pandemic has adversely affected rural and urban areas, especially in rural areas. At Present, population growth is one of the reasons and due to high population density in urban areas, people and migrant Labour face more losses in urban areas. However, the risk of this COVID-19 Pandemic is much higher in rural areas where more than 80% of India's population lives. India's healthcare system collapsed after the Pandemic, but healthcare is slowly evolving. However, there is and will be a big difference between the healthcare system in rural and urban areas (Rakshit & Basishtha, 2020).

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND CRIME

This COVID-19 Pandemic resulted in the closure of all employment, factories, factories and all kinds of work. As a result, all migrant Labour collapsed economically. The migration also forced many migrant Labour to leave their workplaces and return home. As a result, all migrant Labour is without work without money, and as a result, they become victims of many kinds of unhappiness. This lockdown is responsible for the overall crime rate. But there is far less in India than there is in the world. However, various studies have shown that hunger, poverty, and inequality can increase crime rates due to any crisis or Pandemic (Uppal, et.al. 2020).

REVERSE MIGRATION

This is the second major Pandemic since the partition in 1947. The second major Pandemic (COVID-19) is the mass migration that the whole world and India are experiencing, which is "reverse migration". As directed by the IMO (International Migration Organization, 2011), reverse migration is the return of migrant Labour. Migrant Labour moves from their workplaces to their villages, and the response to the COVID-19 Pandemic is to return to its place. According to India's 2011 census, the number of migrant Labour from UP, Bihar, Assam, West Bengal and other states was the highest. The reverse migration is due to the unavailability of employment due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and simultaneous lockdown, the uncertainty of future employment crises, financial crises, health crises and poverty. In addition, the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the rural economy of India has become the ultimate Plight of Migrant Labour in the rural economy. The COVID-19 Pandemic has adversely affected the rural economy, both in the short and long term, with migratory Labour. The additional impact of the Pandemic on the rural economy has led to increased poverty (Mukhra et. al., 2020).

POVERTY AND JOB LOSSES

The COVID-19 Pandemic has led to an increase in the number of poor people in rural India. According to the World Bank (2016) Poverty Report, India ranks fifth. About 80% of the population in India lives in rural areas. According to the World Bank, an estimated 12 million people in India have been pushed into extreme poverty by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Most of them were migrant Labour. Migrant Labour who lost their jobs and returned home faces a financial crisis. Unable to meet his and his family's needs due to lack of money, he fell into poverty. As a result of the lockdown, all migrant Labour lost their jobs. The house fire came, and he did the work he got without finding any permanent work. In the case of agriculture, there are more labours than are required, but due to the lack of that amount of work, they have been forced to work for lower wages. In rural India, the amount of work in the formal and informal sectors is much less. Migrant Labour in the informal sector already face problems such as lower wages and income than work, and these migrant Labour are the most affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic (Dev, Sengupta, 2020).

THE PLIGHT OF RETURN RURAL MIGRATORY LABOURERS

The impact of lockdown has affected migrant Labour in rural areas. As a result of the lockdown across the country, migrant Labour has faced various problems. The pain, abandonment, anxiety, anger, frustration and adversity migrant Labour has felt due to the lockdown is beyond comprehension (Poornima, Kumar, 2020). When the lockdown was announced, thousands of migrants in the country tried to return to their destinations without following Government rules and regulations. Thousands of interstate migrant Labour tried to return from the city to local villages on foot by the highway. They lost their jobs in just a few days (Nilsen, 2020). Critically, when the Government announced a lockdown on March 24, 2020, to prevent the spread of COVID-19, thousands of migrant Labour were laid off. Not finding a way to make a living, migrant Labour began to flee to their destinations. Male, female and young migrant Labour loses their jobs and start walking mile after mile in their village. (Poornima, Kumar, 2020). Many newspapers, print media, social media and TV channels have confirmed the image of migrant Labour walking barefoot. Many migrant Labour has travelled many kilometers with their relatives for several days just to reach their destination. Many migrant labours start walking on the streets starving to reach home (Nilsen, 2020). According to the Indian Express, Banakar (2020), Phase 3 of the lockdown in India, which lasted from May 4 to May 17, killed 118 migrant Labour, the highest and most significant of all other lockdown periods, according to the Data Save Life Foundation. Phase 3 added about 60 per cent of all migrant worker deaths during the lockdown, while stages one, two and four witnessed 25, 17 and 38 deaths, respectively. The World Bank (WB) has revealed that the COVID-19 Pandemic has affected about 40 million migrant labours in India within a month of the start of the lockdown. (Business Today, April 23, 2020). Within a few days, about 50,000 to 60,000 people have started moving to rural areas from urban centers like other states and Metro Town. According to the report- "COVID-19 Crisis via a Migration Lens", - the scale of inner migration is ready and a 1/2 of instances of worldwide migration. According to Gulf News, a newspaper examines that "India is on foot domestic" regarding big range ranging from masses of hundreds of migrant people and labourers again domestic after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's statement of a national lockdown on March 23. Das added that on the night of March 25, when the lockdown turned into 24 hours, 60,000 migrants tried to return to their homes from Mega Town and Metro City. When all the trains and various public modes of transport were stopped, the migrant Labour created ways to get out of all the worries and emergencies by any means. Since then, their pain and suffering have only recently begun (Das, 2020). According to Sengupta and Jha (2020), after thousands of migrant Labour lost their jobs in India, their domestic adventures, showing greed for their little things, began to swarm the resource less, annoying transport networks after a surprise and sudden lockdown. In the context of the novel Corona virus Pandemic, they faced hunger, poverty, police rage, aggression and wrath, societal suspicion and unhappy coronary heartbreaking deaths.

Generally, temporary migrants belong to people from the poor economic classes and mostly from unprivileged or underprivileged areas of Odisha. Their destination is also selected based on their contact with friends and relatives. Though migration is coming under the demographic feature of society, their contribution to economic growth cannot be ignored. The remittance of migrants supports the economic upliftment of the concerned families. Besides, the current lifestyle of the people and matching aspirations are major promotional factors for migration. The hierarchy of needs (psychological – safety – belongingness – esteem- self-actualization), as stated by Abraham Maslow (1954), is also applicable to migration factors. When all the earning doors in the locality are closed or inadequate to meet the people's basic needs, they think about migration as an alternative option for livelihood. A widely-quoted figure based on the 2011 census and NSSO (National Sample Survey Office) data asserts that there are 65 million inter-state migrants, of which a third are workers in the informal sector (Dharker, 2020). The Odisha government has no database for such migrants. Rough estimates put Odisha's migrant worker population at around 20 lakh⁶. These migrants, particularly the labourers, have faced many difficulties due to the national lockdown declared by the Central Government from March 25 2020, to May 31 2020 in different phases to contain the spread of the novel corona virus disease. The sudden announcement of the lockdown and the frequent media coverage of the Pandemic of COVID-19 forced them to stay in social, psychological and emotional trauma. When the lockdown to control the spread of COVID-19 snatched their bread and butter, their survival in the host city became a question. The Government has also not considered their rehabilitative food security measures before the declaration of lockdown. The perception of risk, fear of being infected, and starvation instigated them to

leave the working cities and opt for reverse migration. But the seizure of the transport system made thousands of migrants stranded in different parts of the country, whereas some of them tried to reach their native places by walking or cycling. The Plight of the migrant worker brings out all that is rotten in today's India: obscene class inequalities, loss of society's moral compass, paralysis of politics and toxic media (Yadav, 2020).

When the lockdown was announced due to the Covid-19 epidemic, the migrants began their journey home desperately. Newspapers with pictures of migrant workers walking on the roads and railways started appearing regularly on all TV channels and social media. From this situation, it is well understood that in the early stages of the lockdown, migrant workers disappeared from the Government as well as politicians. But when they have no work, food and roof to stay in, they rush to the train station and bus stand to return to their place, because they have no other choice. Since migrants live in two worlds, that is, unsafe urban employment and a stable homeland, they are forced to return to their homeland during this epidemic. For immigrants who live in densely populated and unhealthy conditions, social distance does not mean anything to them. The only thing on their minds was how to survive. Thus in the crisis of lockdown, they came together and took to the streets. The reckless crowds at different stations shown in different media were evidence of the gravity of the opposite immigration situation.

Migrant workers are the backbone of the informal sector and are trapped in unsafe workplaces. Migrant workers lived in a group in a workplace slum where the landlord's livelihood depended solely on their rent. When migrant workers lose their jobs and go through a meaningless situation, homeowners force them to vacate their homes. Migrant workers such as the garment industry, textile industry and, masons, helpers struggled to survive during the lockdown, and employment employers could not extend their assistance. In addition to physical abuse, there have been deaths of migrant workers due to walking miles and miles. They had to go on hunger strikes as they were denied food security cards. As well as hunger and uncertainty, messages about the deadly corona virus start to frighten them and force them to return to their birthplace.

To bring migrant workers home, the state government launched the Efforts for Registration Schemes web portal. This web portal, Aadhaar identity number, has been registered by many workers. The Government of West Bengal has provided a grant of 1000(one thousand) rupees to all migrant workers (the time of India, 2020). As of June 7, 2020, more than half a million immigrants have been registered. Female immigrants were particularly stressed because no one paid attention to their Plight. Further, the decision to return home brings them together in different places resulting in physical distance, which makes them sensitive to covid. Although the state government provided special buses and trains for the return of migrants, migrant workers faced several problems. This covid-19 epidemic problem did not leave the migrant workers of North Dinajpur even after returning home. Migrant workers have already overcome many obstacles due to the lockdown. Although the state government has announced the provision of MGNREGS jobs for unskilled migrant workers after quarantine, semi-skilled and skilled migrant workers have not been guaranteed any job. As there is no source of income at Present, these workers who used to send remittances to their families have now become a burden to the family. (Dharker, 2020).

ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

In Uttar Dinajpur, thousands of people adopt migration as a livelihood strategy and are directed towards the urban centers. West Bengal has a population of 9Cr. population, as per 2011 census data, 2.2 lakh people had migrated from West Bengal to other states for work and employment. As per our data, Fifty per cent of migrants live in three states, namely Mumbai, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu (the Times of India, 2019).

IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC RETURNING HOME TO MIGRATORY LABOUR DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND LOCKDOWN PERIOD

The COVID-19 Pandemic is devastatingly affecting every aspect of human life. As well as adequately damaging the employment and livelihood of migrant Labour. The socio-economic aspect has also affected these migrant Labour. The male and female migrant Labour of Uttar Dinajpur has all been affected by this COVID-19 Pandemic. The Plight of migrant Labour in India during the lockdown has affected the economy and their daily lives.

The COVID-19 Pandemic has caused a massive economic crisis. Migrant Labour has been affected since the COVID-19 Pandemic first appeared in India. Since the Pandemic has gradually taken on a vast scale, there has been a massive tendency for migrant Labour to return home. Suddenly, when the Government announced a lockdown, all the migrant Labour in the foreign state tended to return to their homes. The journey from the major cities of India to their hometowns began with financial and emotional hardship due to the lack of employment and livelihood. A major macroeconomic crisis has erupted in the country, which has had a devastating effect on migrant Labour.

Table No: 1 Returning home to Migratory Labour during the COVID-19 Pandemic and lockdown period

SL No	Return home	Number of returning migrant Labour	Percentage
1	by foot	32	16%
2	by bus	44	22%
3	by truck	36	18%
4	by train	64	32%
5	by cycle	24	12%
Total		200	100%

Source: Field survey

Table No 1 shows the situation that occurred during the COVID-19 Pandemic and the lockdown when migrant Labour returned home. According to the field survey, a graph has been made based on migrant Labour feedback in Uttar Dinajpur. The figure shows that 18 per cent of migrant Labour returned home on foot, 22 per cent of migrant Labour returned home by bus, 18 per cent of migrant Labour returned home by truck, 32 per cent of migrant Labour returned home by train, and 12 per cent of migrant Labour returned home by bicycle. Many migrant Labour has shared their experiences in response to migrant Labour field surveys. The situation that was created in the homes of those migrant Labour is horrible. Many migrant Labour has returned home on foot day after day without eating. And some migrant Labour started walking along the railway line without finding any road. Some more migrant Labour has returned home on foot, by bus, and by train; they had no money for any place to stay.

The COVID-19 Pandemic has emerged as a major crisis that has affected all migrant labour sectors in this Uttar Dinajpur. The COVID-19 Pandemic has particularly affected the livelihoods and survival of migrant Labour. In the context of witnessing a massive crisis among migrant Labour, this paper explores the effects of COVID-19 on migrant Labour and their families in Uttar Dinajpur. Interview information on the impact of migrant Labour in Uttar Dinajpur and their experiences highlights the loss of their jobs and the state of their daily lives due to debt. The survey sheds light on the Plight of migrant Labour and their families in Uttar Dinajpur. Moreover, it has been argued that urgent policy intervention is needed to tackle poverty. The most important thing is to strengthen the social security system.

Table No: 2 the economic condition of rural migrant labour affects the return of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

SL. No	Economic condition after the effect COVID-19 Pandemic return home	Household	Percentage
1	Increased	00	00%
2	Decreased	198	99%
3	As it is	02	1%
Total		200	100%

Source: Field survey

Table No 2 shows that 99 per cent of migrant worker families report that their economic situation has deteriorated since COVID-19 came home after the Pandemic. Moreover, 1 per cent of migrant families reported that their economic situation remained the same, with no change. The survey found that the migrant Labour who came home after the COVID-19 Pandemic had improved their living conditions. The impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on these migrant Labour has had a profound economic impact on their families and their daily lives. Many manage their families through various loans and have to meet their family needs. However, in the situation they were in before, the time will take them a long time.

IMPACT ON EMPLOYMENT

Table No: 3 Impact of COVID-19 on rural migratory labour Employment, After COVID 19 Pandemic

SL. No	Impact of COVID-19 on rural migratory labour Employment, After COVID 19 Pandemic	Employment	Percentage
1	with job	100	100%
2	without job	00	00%
TOTAL		200	100%

Source: field survey

Table No 3 shows that 100 per cent of the migrant Labour worked before the Corona Pandemic. According to the field survey, the response of the migrant Labour showed that 100 per cent of the migrant Labour was working. They were also all involved in the work of migrant Labour. Their financial situation has improved a lot since they chose migration. As a result of this earning, the economy of the family and the daily life of all the migrant Labour changed a lot.

Table No: 4 Impact of COVID-19 on rural migratory labour Employment before the COVID 19 Pandemic

SL. No	Impact of COVID-19 on rural migratory labour Employment, Before the COVID 19 Pandemic	Employment	Percentage
1	with job	00	00%
2	without job	200	100%
	Total	200	100%

Source: Field survey

Table No 4 shows that 100 per cent of migrant Labour lost their jobs after the Corona Pandemic. According to the field survey, 100 per cent of migrant Labour lost their jobs. Before the COVID-19 Pandemic, they were all involved in migrant Labour. However, due to this sudden Pandemic, every migrant worker lost his job and was forced to return home. Their financial situation improved greatly after they chose to immigrate, but Pandemics and lockdowns disrupted their daily lives. As a result of these earnings, the economy of the migrant Labour changed a lot in their family and daily life, but their economic condition is not very good due to the Pandemic. According to the field survey, if the Pandemic is a little more active, they will have to starve to death next time if they do not return to their destination. Field survey responses from every migrant worker indicate that after the COVID-19 Pandemic and the lockdown, every migrant worker lost his job after returning home.

CONCLUSION:

This study focuses on analyzing the movement of migrant Labour. This study identifies the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic crisis and the subsequent condition of migrant Labour in North Dinajpur due to the lockdown. The Pandemic came as a nightmare for Migrant Labour in the labour market. This study is to analyze the impact of the Pandemic on the return of rural migrant Labour in the Uttar Dinajpur district due to this COVID-19 Pandemic and their economic and social impact after returning home. Migrant Labour in this district has become economically broken down. According to the study, migrant Labour in rural areas of this district was 100% employed in other states. On the other hand, due to this COVID-19 Pandemic, the rural migrant Labour of Uttar Dinajpur district became 100% jobless. This COVID-19 Pandemic is the reason behind the unemployment of all these migrant Labour. COVID-19 pandemics and lockdowns closed all workplaces, industries, factories, and the labour market. But now, due to the effects of this COVID-19 Pandemic, migrant Labour are returning home and looking for jobs in rural areas. Due to the difference in wages in rural areas and urban areas, there is a big difference. Lastly, this survey indicates the Plight of migrant Labour in the Uttar Dinajpur district. Undoubtedly, the condition of migrant Labour in this district is deplorable. Gradually, however, migrant Labour will be freed from this precarious situation. Life will start as before. Long working hours, lack of health facilities, security measures, poor housing conditions, oppression of female Labour, low wages and inadequate compensation create a lot of insecurity and barriers for migrant Labour. Therefore, various employment and companies need to protect and ensure the quality of life of migrant Labour so that migrant Labour are fully protected. Also, improve the quality of life of migrant Labour and increase crop productivity in rural areas. In addition to migrant Labour, other Labour also gets employment. All in all, Government and non-government constructive measures have to be taken for the welfare of the migrant Labour in this district and the welfare of the families.

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