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CODEN: IJRSFP (USA)

International Journal of Recent Scientific Research Vol. 10, Issue, 07(E), pp. 33670-33674, July, 2019

International Journal of Recent Scientific

Research

DOI: 10.24327/IJRSR

Research Article

A STUDY ON QUALITY OF LIFE AND WORKING CONDITIONS OF MIGRANT WORKERS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

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DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.24327/ijrsr.2019.1007.3720

ARTICLE INFO

Article History:

Received 13th April, 2019 Received in revised form 11th May, 2019 Accepted 8th June, 2019 Published online 28th July, 2019

Key Words:

Quality of Life, Working Conditions, Migrant Workers

ABSTRACT

In the present scenario, in search of better quality of life, people want the very best of opportunities to migrate with the aim of settling. Based on UN report (2015) immigrant population, there are more than 258 million immigrants worldwide and the number continues to rise. India holds the 12th position with 5.2 million immigrants. It is not surprising that every third Indian is a migrant and there is 98% increase in Tamil Nadu's migrant population based on census report 2016. The increasing rate of migrant population in the state is mainly from the north are facing many problems such as the language barrier and accommodation facilities. The migrant workers work very hard, are paid very low wages and they are living in very poor conditions. The Sulur area contains around 400 migrant workers. Data collection for this study involved 50 samples of migrants in Sulur, hence the work followed probability sampling type and adopted simple random sampling. This work aims to focus the spotlight on the problems faced by migrants who work in manufacturing industries in Tamil Nadu especially in Sulur to improve their working conditions and the general well-being of individuals and societies. The government and voluntary organizations can implement more schemes and programs for improving their quality of life based on this work.

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INTRODUCTION

The agricultural sector is the highest GDP contributor for India, but urbanization and development of new technologies have made people to diversify their source of income by joining in non–agricultural sectors. There are numerous factors involved for people to move from one place to another, they are mainly push and pull factors. The push factors include difficult living conditions, government persecution, affordable flat/houses, unemployment, good economic prospects, urbanization, education, health. The pull factors are poverty, lack of job opportunities, corruption, presence of friends and family. Migrant manufacturing industry workers are migrating mainly because of economic issues.

The manufacturing industry is a big employer of labour in India, These migrant industry workers are facing many problems such as improper sanitation and living in terrible conditions, poverty, unemployment, job uncertainty, geographic and demographic isolation, separation from family, intense time pressures and psychiatric illness. These workers are also exposed to number of health hazards in their manufacturing workspace such as exposure to moving parts

and occupation disease from noise and chemical exposure. There are numerous factors influencing the Quality Of Life (QOL) of the migrant manufacturing industry workers. The indicators that depict the quality of life include job security, asset holdings, environment, health, recreation, social belonging and leisure time.

The working conditions of the migrant industry workers is very important, workers need to be satisfied with lighting, facility of work, working condition and safety measures. The working condition categories are job level categories that include workload skill utilization, job future, resource adequacy, recognition, job satisfaction, overtime flexibility benefits and union. There are many factor related to working conditions which include frame of work of organization, financial factors and job factors like threat of perfection. It is the general climate of organizations that affect the work life of its employees, for example prolonged working hours that take up leisure time for an employee on a regular basis will show changes of how effective he/she is and will also affect all factors of work life. The quality of work life can be measured by better career perspective, healthy work environment, occupational safety,

social integration, proper balance between work and social life and the opportunity to fully understand and develop human capabilities. Certain measures like reducing occupational stress, alternate work schedule, promotions, and employment on permanent basis can be done to improve the Quality of Work Life of labours. Benefits of good working condition life as higher production and productivity, greater job satisfaction, low rate of absentees, low rate of labour turn over, greater motivation, high employee morale, reduction in complains and grievances, reduction in stress conditions, more loyal workers. It is well known that the migrant workers are generally illiterate, unorganized, are ready to work in extreme conditions and in light of this administrative and legislative arrangements from both the states from where they are recruited and where they are engaged are necessary to provide effective protection against their exploitation. In India a tenth of the population derive live hood from seasonal migration. Migrants have created pressure on others who are in the same job market. Tamil Nadu being one of the fastest urbanizing state in the country, we can see the northern state move to Tamil Nadu for earning purposes. Tamil Nadu is home to more than a million migrant workers, most of these workers work in manufacturing industries there have been several complaints from migrant labours on delay and non-payment of wages. It's unfortunate that children of these migrant workers often do not get formal communication. These workers are also subjected to discrimination and are living in poor conditions. This study brings into attention, the lifestyle problems faced by manufacturing industry workers in Sulur, Tamil Nadu.

Review of Literature

The authors Singh. K.K and Anita Pathak, discussed the problems and solutions of inter-state migrant workers of Bilaspur district. This work is published by the labour department of Bilaspur district on 1st November 2010.

The paper published by Amarjit Kaur in 2010 explores migration trends in the post-colonial geography of migration against the backdrop of growing regionalism and the development of regional migration systems and migration corridors.

Objectives of the Study

- ✓ To find out the demographic details of the manufacturing industry respondents
- ✓ To examine the quality of working conditions of the respondents
- ✓ To ascertain the level of quality of life of the respondents

Hypothesis

- ✓ "There is a significance difference between working condition of the migrant workers and the Quality of life of the migrant workers".
- ✓ "As the level of education of the respondents increases the Quality of life is likely to increase".
- ✓ "As the income of the respondents increases the Quality of life is also likely to increase".

METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

Research design: Descriptive research design is all about describing people who took part in the study. This research

described the quality of life of the migrant manufacturing industry workers and their working condition.

Universe and Sampling: The Sulur area in Coimbatore district contains around 400 migrant workers which constituted the universe and the researcher collected 50 samples through simple random sampling technique for the study.

Tools for Data collection: The researcher used self-administered interview schedule for data collection which consists of socio demographic profile and WHOQOL for assessing Quality of Life. Each of it has four items with response values 1 through 5. The raw score has minimum 5 and maximum 20.

Period of Study: The reference period was from December 2015 to February 2016.

 Table 1 Socio-Demographic Detail Of The Respondents

S. No	Variables	Variables Items		Percentage	
		Below 19	Respondents 3	6%	
1.	Age	20 to 30	43	86%	
		31 above	4	8%	
2.	Sex	Male	50	100	
3.	Community	BC	16	36%	
		MBC	34	68%	
		Hindu	21	42%	
4.	Religion	Muslim	23	46%	
	_	Christian	6	12%	
		Illiterate	2	4%	
_	Educational	Elementary	12	24%	
5.	status	Middle	19	38%	
	24444	High school	17	34%	
		Bihar	9	18%	
6.	Native State	Assam	18	36%	
		West Bengal	13	26%	
		Odissa	10	20%	
		Hindi	19	38%	
		Hindi and	19	30/0	
7.	Language	Tamil	18	36%	
1.	known				
		Hindi,	13	26%	
		Bengali	10	200/	
8.	Marital Status	Married	19	38%	
		Unmarried	31	62%	
		Joint family	17	34%	
9.	Family types	Nuclear	33	66%	
		family			
10.	Family size	Below 3	11	22%	
10.	1 anning Size	3 to 6	39	78%	
	Way to find	Relatives	4	8%	
11.	•	Friends	8	16%	
	the job	Contractor	38	76%	
	X7 C	Below 1	15	30%	
12.	Years of	Below 3	28	56%	
	Migration	Above 3	7	14%	
13.	Do you come alone?	Yes	8	16%	
		No	42	84%	
14.	Income	Below 8000	15	30%	
		Below 9000	28	56%	
		Below 10000	7	14%	

Age: Age wise distribution respondents Majority 86% of the respondents belong to 20 to 30 age group, 8% of the respondents belongs to 31 years, remaining 6% of the respondents' age is 19 years.

Sex: As per the sex concerned all100% selected respondents are male because it is a manufacturing industry.

Community: The selected respondents' community felt that, 35% of the respondents are BC, 16% (backward caste), remaining 34% of the respondents are MBC (Backward Caste).

Religion: The selected respondent religion 42%was following Hindu religion, 12 of the respondents was Christian and 46% of the respondents was Muslim

Education: Majority 38% of the respondents were completed their education up to middle school level, 24% of the respondents were at elementary level, 34% of the respondents were at high school and 4% of the respondents were illiterate

Native State: 18% of the respondents' belongs to Bihar,36% of the respondents belong to Assam, 20% of the respondents belong to Orissa,26% belongs to west Bengal.

Languages Known: 36% of the respondents knows Hindi and Tamil, 38% of the respondents knows Hindi, 26% of the respondents knows Hindi, Bengali.

Marital Status: Above half62% of the respondents were unmarried and 38% of the respondents were married

Family Type: Majority66% of the respondents were lived in nuclear family and 34% of the respondents were lived in joint family

Family Size: Above half 78% of the respondents family size was between 3–6, 22% of the respondents family size was below 3 and 5.

Awarness About Job: Majority76% of the respondents came to know their job contractor, 16% of the respondents by friends and6% of the respondents by relatives

Migrated With: Majority 16% of the respondents were migrating alone, 84% of the respondents were migrating with friends and family.

Migration: One-third 30% of the respondents were migrated within one year, 56.6% of the people migrated 3 years before, 14% respondents migrated above 3 years.

Income: Majority of the respondents 56 are getting below Rs. 9000 as their income, 30% are getting their income as Rs.8000 and below and 14% of the respondents are getting their income as Rs.10000 and below.

Table 2 Working Conditions of the Respondents

S. No Working Condition		No of respondents	Percentage	
1	Low (7&Below)	6	12	
2	Moderate (8-14)	35	70	
3	High (Above 15)	9	18	
	Total	50	100	

The above indicates that the working conditions of the respondents. Majority 70% of the respondent's work conditions were at moderate level, 12% of the respondent's Working conditions were at Low level and 18% of the respondent's working conditions were at high level.

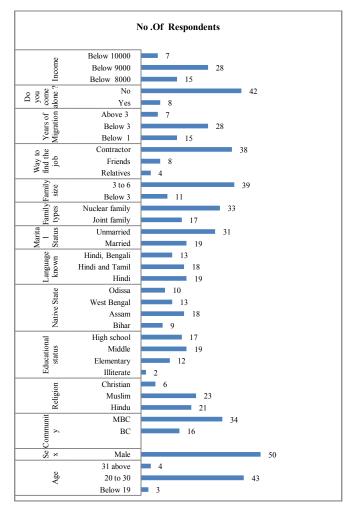


Chart 1

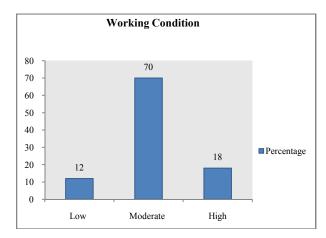


Chart 2 Quality of Working Conditions of the Respondents **Table 3** Quality of life of the respondents

S. No Quality of life		No of respondent	Percentage	
1	Low	8	10%	
2	Moderate	30	62%	
3	High	12	28%	
	Total	50	100	

The table is about the quality of life of the respondents. 60% of the respondents quality of life were at moderate level, 24% of the respondents quality of life were at high level and 16% of the respondents quality of life were at low level.

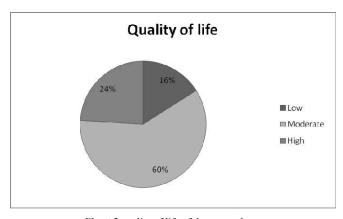


Chart 3 quality of life of the respondents

Table 4 Problems faced by the Migrant Workers

S. No	Problems faced	No of respondent	Percentage
1	Issues	40	90%
2	No issues	10	10%
	Total	50	100

The table is about the problems faced by the respondents. 90% of the respondents are facing problems such as physical pain, problems in working area, physiological problems, and 10% of the respondents don't have any issues.

Table 5 Table for Quality of Life by Working Condition

Working conditions	N	Mean	S.D	F value
High	14	1.36	.491	F-25.387
Moderate	31	2.10	.301	Df-2,47,49
Low	5	2.60	.548	Sig-0.000
Total	50	1.94	.550	

The ANOVA F test was used to find out the difference in the Quality Of Life among the respondents based on working condition. Table: 4.5 clearly explains that respondents having low working conditions reported more quality of life(mean 2.6) than the respondents of high and moderate working conditions. This clearly indicates that as the position of working conditions increases quality of life among the respondent decreases.

Table 6 Co-Relation Table for Education, Income and Quality of Life

Variables		Education	Income
Education	Coorelation	1.000	.487
Education	Significance (2-tailed)	-	.000
001	df		
QOL	Coorelation	0	47
T	Significance (2-tailed)	.487	1.000
Income	df	.000	-
		47	0

There is a significant relation between the Education and Quality of Life and Income and Quality of Life.

Table 7 problems with working condition Problems in working area with working condition

S. No. Problems in working area		Working Condition				
		High	Moderate	Low	Total	
1	Yes	8 (8.9)	33 (94.3)	6 (100.0)	47 (94.0)	
2	No	1 (11.1)	2 (5.7)	0(0.0)	3 (6.0)	

The 94.3% respondents who have problem in working area have moderate working condition.

Table 8 Problems in Working area with gol

_	C N-	Problems in	Quality of Life			
	S. No.	working area	High	Moderate	Low	Total
	1	Yes	12 (100.0)	27 (90.0)	8 (100.0)	47 (94.0)
	2	No	0 (0.0)	3 (10.0)	0(0.0)	3 (6.0)

The 90.0 respondents who has problem in working area has moderate quality of life.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS OF THE STUDY

Majority 86% of the respondents belong to 20 to 30 age group. As per the sex concerned all 100%selected respondents are male because it is a manufacturing industry. The selected respondents' community felt that, 35% of the respondents are The selected respondent religion 42% was following Hindu religion. Majority 38% of the respondents were completed their education up to middle school level. 36% of the respondents belong to Assam. 38% of the respondents knows Hindi. Above half 62% of the respondents were unmarried. Majority 66% of the respondents were lived in nuclear family. Above half 78% of the respondents family size was between 3 and 6. Majority 76% of the respondents came to know their job contractor. 84% of the respondents were migrating with friends and family. 56.6% of the people migrated above 3 years. Majority of the respondents56 are getting below Rs. 9000 as their income. Majority 70% of the respondent's work conditions were at moderate level. 60% of the respondents' quality of life was at moderate level. 90% of the respondents are facing problems such as physical pain, problems in working area, psychological problems.

The ANOVA F test was used to find out the difference in the Quality Of Life among the respondents based on working condition. Table: 4.5 clearly explains that respondents having low working conditions reported more quality of life (mean 2.6) than the respondents of high and moderate working conditions. This clearly indicates that as the position of working conditions increases quality of life among the respondent decreases. The Table 4.6 lists significant relation between the Education and Quality of Life and Income and Quality of Life. The Table 4.7 shows that the 94.3% respondents who have problem in working area have moderate working condition. From Table 4.8 the 90respondents who has problem in working area has moderate quality of life.

Suggestions of the Study

- The industries which hires the migrant workers need to ensure accommodation at free of cost and subsidized food
- Access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities have to be given which will lead to quality of life.
- The industries may take necessary steps to support the workers to access to get public distribution system.
- Access to health care services may be increased through medical camps and referral services.
- Organizing training and sensitization programmes for migrant workers on safety measures related to their working area.

CONCLUSION OF THE STUDY

The major reason for migration is because of poverty, unemployment and less income so they are migrating from one

state to another and it is in increasing phase. Most of the respondents working condition and quality of life are in moderate level. So the Central, State & NGOs should take effective step to implement integrated development schemes to provide employment opportunities in their state itself and should take steps to control state to state migration. The government should implement new policies and acts to safeguard the migrant workers. They should take steps to improve migrant workers quality of life and working condition.

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How to cite this article:

A.R. Aishvarya and Dr.M.Nagalingam., 2019, A Study on Quality of Life and Working Conditions of Migrant Workers in Manufacturing Industry. *Int J Recent Sci Res.*10 (07), pp. 33670-33674. DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.24327/ijrsr.2019.1007.3720
