

# MIGRATION STUDY REPORT OF GAISILAT BLOCK OF BARGARH DISTRICT OF ODISHA

PREPARED BY

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SUPPORTED BY SDTT,  
MUMBAI

### **The Migration Study report of Gaisilat block of Bargarh district**

Bargarh district is located in the western part of the state of Odisha come under Hirakud command area. The district continues to depict a picture of chronic under development.

The tribal and scheduled caste population remains disadvantaged social group in the district, In this district absolute poverty, food insecurity and malnutrition are fundamental form of deprivation in which seasonal migration of laborers takes place. About 69.9 percent of the rural families in Bargarh are below the poverty line; of this 41.13 percent are marginal farmers, 22.68

percent small farmers and 25.44 percent agricultural laborers. Bargarh district of Odisha is prone to frequent droughts which accentuate the poverty of the masses and forces the poor for migration. In our survey area in 19 Grampanchyats of Gaisilat Block of Bargarh District where DEBADATTA CLUB (DC) has been undertaken the survey and observed that in many villages of these western Orissa districts almost half of the families migrate out bag and baggage during drought years. Only old and infirm people under compulsion live in the village. All able-bodied males and females including small children move out to eke out their living either as contract workers in the brick kiln units or as independent wage workers/self-employed workers of the urban informal sector economy in relatively developed regions of the state and outside the state.



## Operational area-

SL No	Grampanchayat Name
1	Buromunda
2	Chantipali
3	Chikhili
4	Dangabahal
5	Firingimal
6	Gaiapali
7	Gaisilat
8	Gourenmunda
9	Guderpali
10	Jagalpat
11	Jamutpali
12	Kandagarh
13	Katabahal
14	Kathoumal
15	Kundakhai
16	Raisalpadar
17	Sandhibahal
18	Saradhapali
19	Talpali



### **Social and Demographic Profile**

The household survey data reveal that the seasonal migrant households of the region belong to lower social strata of society. Only 1.58 % from the general category upper caste households like Brahmin, migrate out as seasonal contract workers. The larger percentages of seasonal migrant households in the sample are scheduled tribes 19.94 % and scheduled castes 17.58%. Other Backward class, 60.89 % percent of the migrant households are from OBC (other backward classes) category belonging to lower castes such as Luhura, Gauda, , Teli, Mali, Kumbhar, Kulta, etc. As expected the majority of the migrant households 66.84% are listed as BPL (below poverty line) category households. It is further found that although only 14% of the households in the sample are listed as APL category, the rest 20 per cent of the households are neither listed as BPL, nor as APL. The survey reveals that 5.74% children goes to migration in age groups of 6 to 14 years.

At present the children of only 50 percent households have send minimum seven class of schooling. 39.15 % migrant goes to intrastate like Bargarh,Sambalpur,Jharsuguda,Sonpur,Bolangir & 14.99% are Interstate like Hyderabad,Andhrapradesh,Tamilnadu,Surat,Gujrat,Madhyapradesh,Raipur,Uttarpradesh as company labor & brick klin.

The principal means of livelihood of majority of them is non-agricultural wage work, which is mainly in the brick kiln, as construction workers, factory worker, agricultural labourers, Scrap workers, Security Guard, Textile workers in far off places outside the state such as Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh etc.

Only 27.70 percent of the households report agriculture as their principal means of livelihood and another 59.85 percent cling to agricultural sector as agricultural labour. Of the rest, 9.45 per cent of the surveyed households practise traditional craft as their principal means of livelihood, and 2.00 per cent in small business and 1 per cent people's government service as their principal means of livelihood.

Total Households-22072

Migrant Households=14754(SC-2594, ST-2942, OBC-8984,General -234).

Total Population=87163

Migrant Population=47205(SC-8225, ST-10532, OBC-27867, General-581)



Despite Janani Surakshya Yojana, many pregnant women due to poor transport networks and bad road conditions do not go for institutional deliveries in local PHCs and Health Sub-Centres. It is reported that in many cases the poor women are harassed by the doctors and nurses in the PHCs and Sub-Centres. So, the majority prefer to use the services of traditional birth attendants for delivery at home instead of visiting the local health centres. Only one PHC & one CHE function in Gaisilat Block. Most of the days Doctor absent in their official & family problem. So, the patient goes to Patnagard, Bargarh & Bolangir district Hospital which is long distance from Gaisilat. This causes more numbers of neo-natal deaths, still births and delivery deaths of weak and anaemic women coupled with the problems of frequent pregnancies and gynaecological disorder.

In present household survey it has been found that none of the seasonal migrant households of the region has any steady and sustainable source of earning so as to keep them above the poverty line. It is found that only around 18 per cent of the seasonal migrant households reported agriculture as their principal means of livelihood. Of the rest, 72 per cent of the households subsist on by doing wage work in both agriculture and non-agricultural sector economy and the other 10 per cent by pursuing their traditional caste occupations such as pottery, basket and mat making, weaving, petty shop keeping and the like in self-employed category. The average size of family among the surveyed households is 4.10 persons. The average size of holding is only 1.5 acres. In such situation, the agriculture dependent families have no other option except seeking other avenues of earning for subsistence. The other source of earning for all such families is wage work and collection of minor forest produce like Kendu leaf, Sal seeds, Mahua flower, resins, lac, mango, tamarind, etc. However, at present a poor family of the study region is earning a meagre income of Rs.2,000 to 2,500.

Under the state's different social security programme almost 71% of the surveyed families have been covered in the past. It has been observed that in the name of poverty alleviation the benefits accruing by the high category population all over the state through forging of records and false enumeration and listing of BPL households during various rounds of poverty survey. In this scenario of lack of sustainable living either through viable occupations in self-employed capacity or wage-based employment for adequate number of days, the poor families are left with no other alternatives except moving out to far off places as a contract labour. It has been revealed from our household survey of migrant families in the region that now days the poorest among the poor in the village, especially the landless, SC, ST and marginal farmer families every year move out for bread during lean agricultural season. They mostly go to work as brick kiln workers on contract basis after receiving a lump sum cash advance from the local labour contractor. The places to which these poor worker families of the region move out almost every year are: Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Waltair, Hatipet, Mehebab nagar, Vijaynagar, Sikandarabad etc. in Andhra Pradesh; Bangalore, Mysore, , etc in Karnataka; Bhudei Allahabad, Amrut nagar, in Uttar Pradesh; Bhilai, Raipur, Durg, Bilashpur, Mahasamund, Sareipali etc. in Chhattisgarh; Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, Baroda, Surat, etc. in Gujarat; Mumbai, Nagpur, etc. in Maharashtra, Chennai, Arani, Erode, Peredu Palayam, Perendri in Tamil Nadu, and Bargarh, Sambalpur, Jhursuguda, Cuttack, Barahampur, Bhubaneswar etc. inside the state.

The majority of these migrant families work in the construction sector and brick kiln units as unskilled labour. It seems after working in brick kiln units regularly for more than five/six years, these poor families have developed expertise and skill in this trade. The migration ensures only two square meals a day for the poor worker families at the cost of loss of health and increasing disease burden, loss of children's education, neglect of old and disabled persons at home in wretched condition and excessive work burden. Although in few places the workers are provided with one-room accommodation with minimum civic amenities like water, electricity, toilets and space

for cooking, in most of the worksites such facilities do not exist. The workers usually make their own shelter in the worksite by constructing temporary earthen bricks. There is no provision for answering nature's call and bathing, washing, etc. At many places, they use open/bore wells for bathing, washing and the same water for drinking and cooking purpose. Life remains very hard for the migrant families. They live like animals in temporary houses without any basic need like drinking water provision, electricity, toilets and bathrooms, not to speak of crèche and education facility for small children or health care services for the sick.

However, the other negative effects of this type of seasonal migration are continuation of child labour and discontinuation of education of small school going children. It is revealed from our focus group discussions held in many villages of the study region that the parents engage their small children in work with the hope to earn more.

The labour contractors are mostly local people personally known to the migrant families by virtue of their long years of association with them since last 18/20 years. It is found from the household survey data that around 5 per cent of the labour contractors are from the same GP/block area and 10 per cent from the same district. Only 85 per cent of the labour contractors are from near Bolangir district. They act as via media with the employers requiring workers for their brick kiln units in places like Hyderabad, Waltair, Sikindirabad, Bijayanagar, Mehebab nagar, of Andhra Pradesh, in any other states such as Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamilnadu etc.

It is also found that many do not like to work in MGNREGS project because of unusual delay in payment of wage. People allege that it takes more than three four months to get their dues released by the government officials handling MGNREGS projects at the grassroots level. Moreover, in many cases it is alleged that the muster rolls are forged by the officials in the name of fake beneficiaries. It may be mentioned here that MGNREGS job cards are issued only to the families listed under the BPL. In many villages of the region people give many instances where the names of non-



wageworker people have appeared as MGNREGS beneficiaries, although they never do any wage work. Further, it is important to note that artificial generation of wage employment for the distressed poor families of the region cannot be sustainable in the long run without the development of local human capital and diversification of occupational skills of people for their absorption in non-farm sector economy on a sustainable basis. It is seen that the average size of land holding among the poor migrant families of the region owning agricultural land is only 1.00 acres and of this more than 95 per cent of the land does not have any irrigation facility. More so, only about 75 per cent of the families own some agricultural land and 25 per cent of them are totally landless sustaining round the year on wage-based income.

It is seen that majority of the migrant families have developed skill in brick moulding work. Their skill is in greater demand in outside states like Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Goa, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu etc. because of the cheap price of their labour and docile behaviour. At present seasonal migration is the only means available for the distress poor families in Gaisilat block of Bargarh district of Odisha. To escape from poverty and subsistence insecurity, seasonal migration has enabled the poor to get adequate wage employment. It also enables them to fulfil their other socio-cultural and emergency needs like marriage of sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, etc., birth and death rituals of family members and medical treatment of the seriously ill persons in the family. However, it is found all such needs including basic consumption needs of the family in the village are often met from borrowing from the local moneylenders at usurious rate of interest of 10 per cent per month assuming cash flow in the form of advance from the labour contractors during migration season, October/November of the year. This type of borrowing by the poor from the local moneylenders at very high rate of monthly interest to meet subsistence needs or other emergency and socio-cultural needs in fact keeps them in vicious circle of poverty despite steady source of earning.

Gasilat Block of Bargarh district is located in the Western part of Orissa and near K-B-K region. The Bargarh district, one of the poorest districts in India, as well as the target blocks falls extremely low on socio-economic indicators of development such as poverty ratio, literacy, per capita income irrigation coverage size of land holding, morbidity rate and coverage of health infrastructure to name a few. Geographically the Bargarh district, particularly the Gasilat block is situated in the rain shadow zone and dry climatic conditions. The loss of crop on the one hand and non-availability of alternative sources of employment on the other, leave the small and marginal farmer with little option other than mortgaging (and, often, selling) their land to the village landlord. When the crops fail, the poor farmer has to borrow from the moneylender for his immediate consumption. The produce from the unproductive land, after the farmer has taken his disproportionate share, does not leave the farmer with enough to eat till the next harvest. He is thus forced to seek another loan from the moneylender. NTFP, as a rule, never get the determined price. It is here that the middleman plays a major role. Acting on behalf of the producer, he compels the poor farmer to sell his produce at a rate well below what is prescribed by the government by using a combination of bluster and threat. In the absence of alternative avenues of marketing the poor farmer is forced to sell his produce at the price determined by the procurer.

Frequent droughts leading to progressively diminishing returns from agriculture coupled with the absence of local employment opportunities and debt trap has forced large scale migration of labour from the area. Every year thousands of people across the length and breadth of Gasilat block of Bargarh district leave their native villages in search of food and employment, and flock down to the brick kilns, and construction work in the neighboring state of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad, Waltair, Vijaynagar etc. In the brick kilns, the labourers are subjected to a very hectic schedule, which requires them to work for nearly fifteen hours in a day. A large number of people of Gasilat Block of Bargarh district are found to migrate to big cities and other specific destinations in search of livelihood from a variety of work. In the course of the study, people migrating to a

large number of urban locations, e.g. Hyderabad, Tamil Nadu, Mumbai, Surat, Raipur, Uttar Pradesh, Bhudai, Banaras etc. were intercepted. Mostly people headed for these locations to work in construction sites as construction workers, masons, wage labourers, hotel boys, factory labor and most of them are working in the agricultural and scrap work in Chhattisgarh.

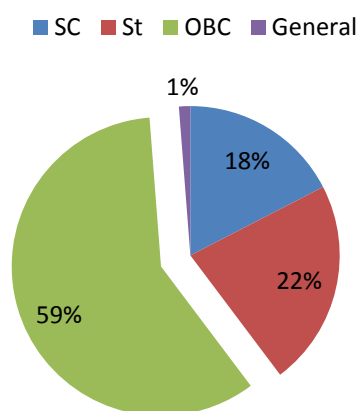
Debadatta club has been undertaken 19 Grampanchayat in Gaisilat block of Bargarh district for the improvement of the condition of the distress migrant with support of SDTT and collaboration with Aajeevika Bureau. Now we prepare the consolidated survey and study report of Gaisilat Block where Debadatta club has been undertaken the migration programme. We prepared the consolidated survey & study report of 19 GPs those are Talpali, Katabahal, Kandagarh, Jamutpali, Phiringimal, Buromunda, Gaisilat, Ganiapali, Kundakhai, Guderpali, Chhikali, Chantipali, Gourenmunda, Sandhibahal, Jagalpat, Dangabahal, Kathoumal, Raisalpadar & Saradhapali G.P with consisting of 22072 household with the total population of 87163. Out of 22072 household in the Block 14754 household are migrant household where the people among the family has been migrated to the above mention cities in search of employment. The families may be wholly or partly migrated to the above mentions places for a period of 6 to 7 months and even 9 months in some families.

As per our survey finding in this year 47205 persons has been migrated to the different cities. There are about 54.15% of persons whole migrated from the project area to in search of jobs in the metro cities. Out of total 47205 people migrated to different destination 13073 state are interstate and only 34132 are intra state.

## Cast wise migration data of Gaisilat Block

SC	8225	17.42
St	10532	22.31
OBC	27867	59.03
General	581	1.24
Total	47205	100

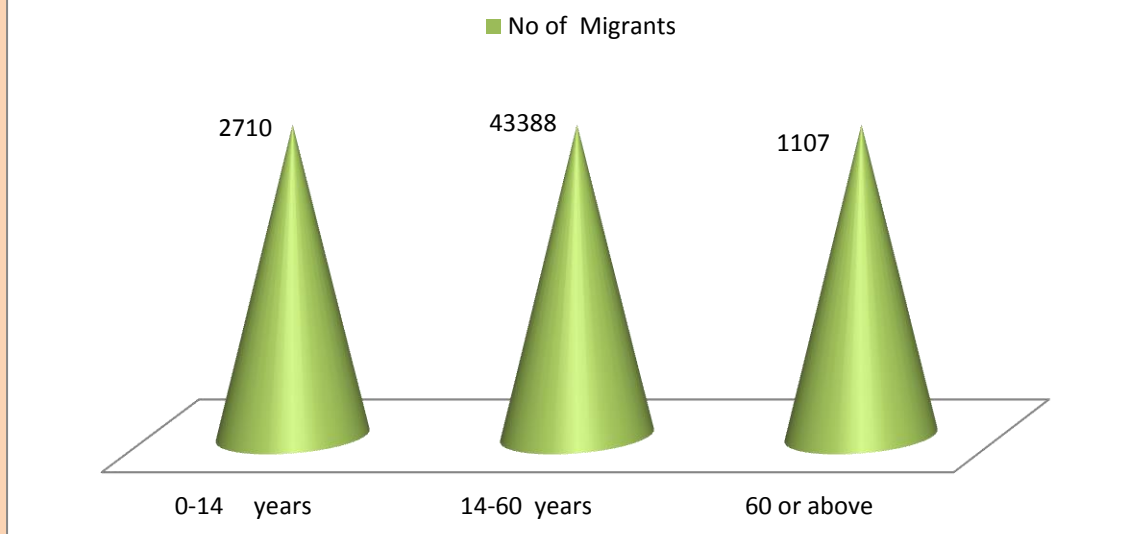
**Cast wise migration Data of Gaisilat Block**



The age composition of the migrants are shown in the following table as

SL. NO	Age Group	No of Migrants	Percentage %
1	0-14 years	2710	5.74
2	14-60 years	43388	91.91
8	60 or above	1107	2.35
	TOTAL	47205	100%

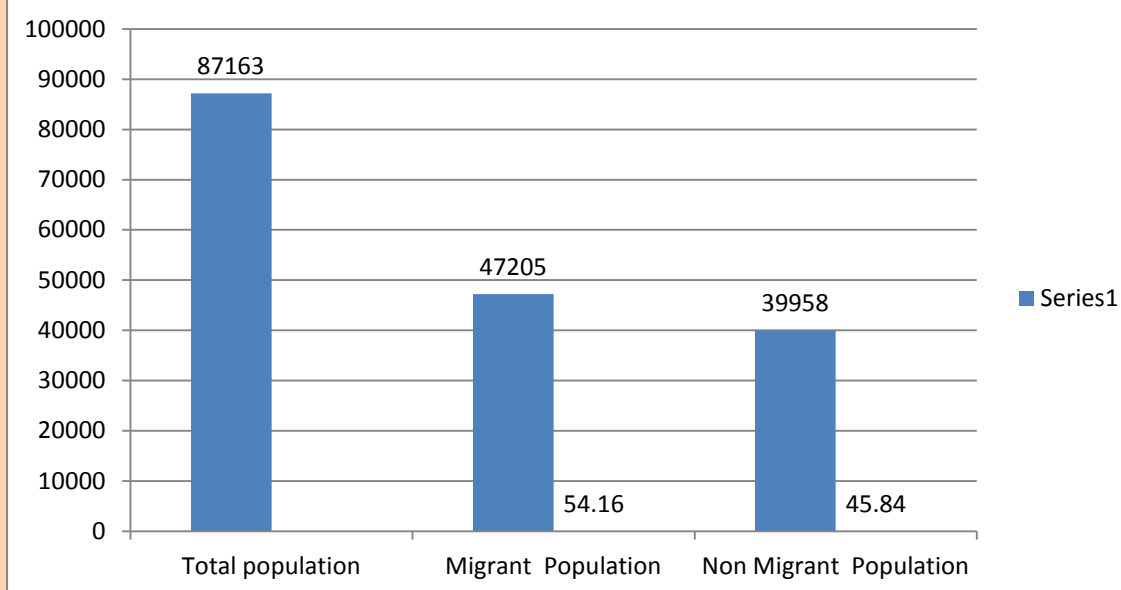
### Age wise migration data



### Gaisilat Block data

<b>Total population</b>	<b>87163</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Migrant Population</b>	<b>47205</b>	<b>54.16</b>
<b>Non Migrant Population</b>	<b>39958</b>	<b>45.84</b>

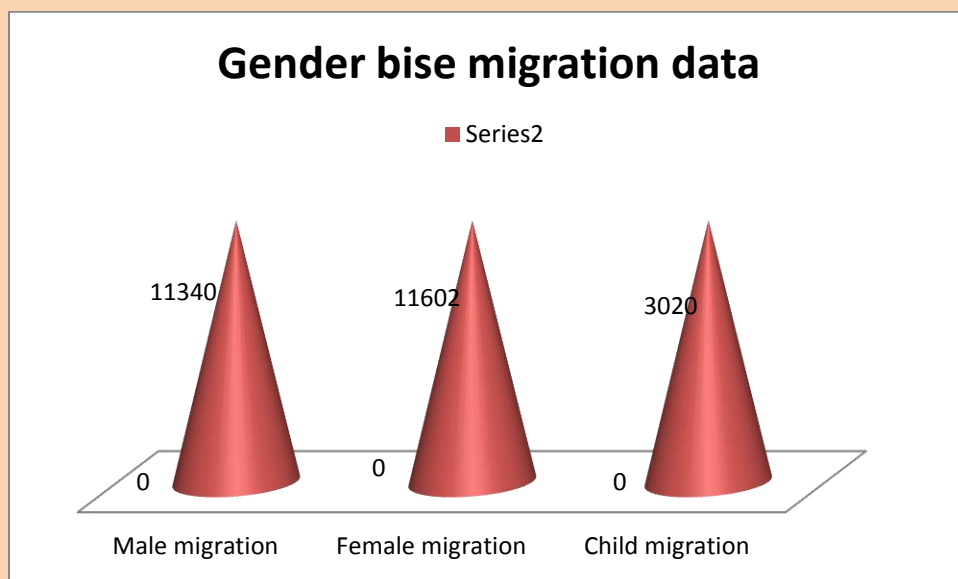
### Migrant & non migrant Data of Gaisilat block





### Gender wise migration Data

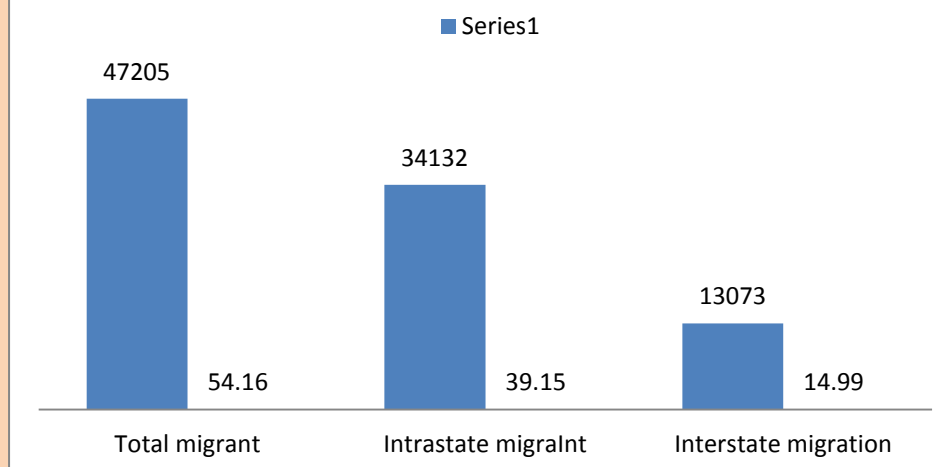
<b>Male migration</b>	<b>24231</b>	<b>51.33</b>
<b>Female migration</b>	<b>20264</b>	<b>42.92</b>
<b>Child migration</b>	<b>2710</b>	<b>5.74</b>



### Intra state and Inter state migrant data of Gaisilat Block

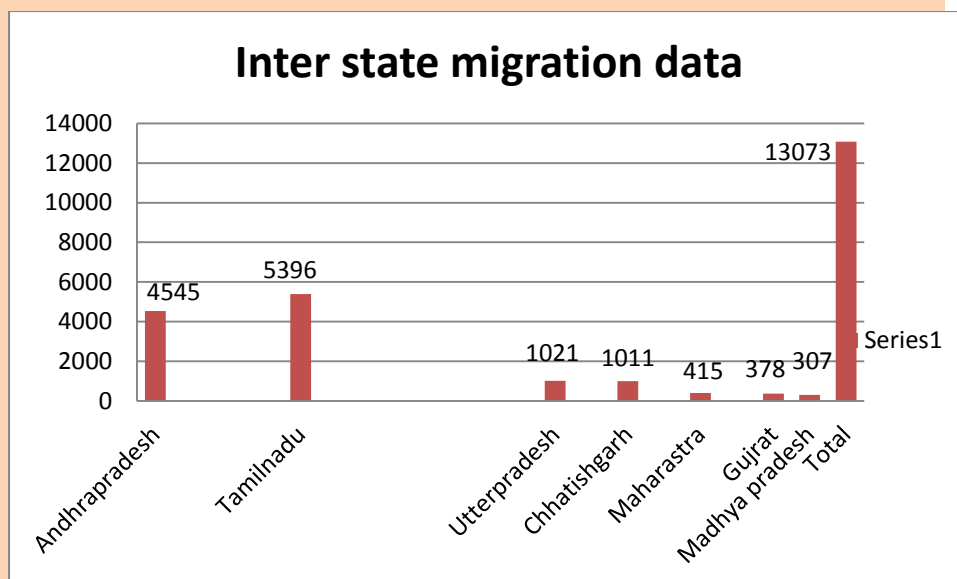
<b>Total migrant</b>	<b>47205</b>	<b>54.15</b>
Intrastate migrant	34132	39.15
Interstate migration	13073	14.99

### Intra & Inter state migration data



### INTER STATE WISE MIGRATION DETAIL OF THE GAISILAT BLOCK.

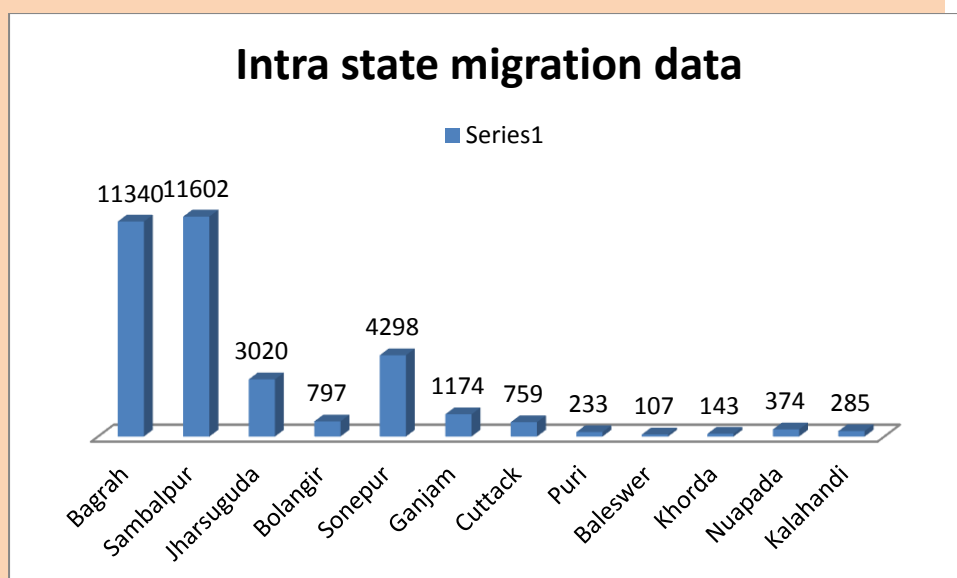
SL.N O	STATE	TOTAL MIGR ATED	DISTRICT WISE	MIGRATED
1	Andhrapradesh	4545	Ankapali	988
			Hyderabad	1647
			Tirupati	754
			Walter	1156
2	Tamilnadu	5396	Chennai	1630
			Erode	1314
			Perendri	850
			Tiruvalur	605
			Tripur	712
			Bhanur	285
3	Utterpradesh	1021	Bhadohi	666
			Baranasi	355
4	Chhatishgarh	1011	Mahasamund	421
			Raipur	590
5	Maharastra	415	Mumbai	294
			Puna	121
6	Gujrat	378	Surat	378
7	Madhya Pradesh	307	Bhopal	307
<b>Total</b>		<b>13073</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>13073</b>



By this representation we found that more than 41.27% people migrated to Tamil Nadu and most of them are Factory workers, Security Guard and Bricks maker. Similarly 34.76% of migrants migrated to Andhara Pradesh as Bricks maker, Factory worker, mason and industrial workers. 7.80% migrated to Utter Pradesh as factory worker .7.73% migrated to Chhattisgarh as a scrap worker, vegetable saller, hotel boy. 3.17% of Migrant are migrated to Maharashtra as a factory worker. 2.89% migrated to Gujarat as a factory worker. 2.34% migrated to Madhya Pradesh as factory worker & other sector.

#### INTRA -STATE MIGRATION DETAILS OF THE GAISILAT BLOCK.

SL.NO	STATE	TOTAL MIGRATED	DISTRICT WISE	MIGRATED
	ODISHA	33942	Bagrah	11340
			Sambalpur	11602
			Jharsuguda	3020
			Bolangir	797
			Sonepur	4298
			Ganjam	1174
			Cuttack	759
			Puri	233
			Baleswer	107
			Khorda	143
			Nuapada	374
			Kalahandi	285
	<b>Total</b>			<b>34132</b>



The table has been presented in the graph as shown. By this representation we find that more than 33.22% people are migrated to Bargarh Irrigated area as a Agriculture labor, 33.99% people are migrated to Sambalpur Irrigated area as a Agriculture labor, 8.84% people are migrated to Jharsuguda as a construction worker, factory Labor & Bricks Maker, and most of them are Factory workers, 12.59% people are migrated to Sonepur Irrigated area as a Agriculture labor, 2.33% people are migrated to Bolangir as a Construction worker, 3.43% people migrated to Ganjam as a Bricks Maker, 2.22% people migrated to Cuttack as a Bricks Maker, 0.68% people migrated to Puri as a Bricks Maker, 0.31% people migrated to Baleswer as a Bricks Maker, 0.42% people migrated to Khordha as a Bricks Maker, 1.10% people migrated to Nuapada as a Scrap worker, 0.83% people migrated to Kalahandi as a Scrap worker.

By the survey and study in the 19 GPs of Gaisilat block these poor migrant families migrated to the metro cities in the above mention sectors but their basic earning is too less. Majority of the migrant families are low educated and have little knowledge on the government provisions on migration, their right and liberty is the migrated field. The financial management and health benefits are not properly known by them so they have been exploited in many ways. Most workers have not able to calculate their wages and engaged in some lump sum monthly income without the other facilities.

With this study period of migration problem of Gaisilat Block, Debadatta Club continues to engage with different migrant related problem with the support of **SDTT,Mumbai** & Technical guidance of **Aajeevika Bureau, Udaipur**, Rajasthan. Difference sensitization, awareness camp, CANOPY are continuous activities for batter information distribution to migrant people, how their migration will be very save, it is the main motto of our programme. Therefore information collection is continuous by our staff registration of migrant labour & distribution of Identity Card by SSSK. There no of legal awareness, legal literacy camps are organized for migration labour. More than 74 cases handling like wages, harassment, low payment, missing case related. There no of Health awareness, free Health camps are also organized. Student of migrant children those were stay in their own village for their study facility appointed volunteer teacher & continuing “**Dadan Shishu Shikshya Kendra**” with fooding support. When youth are not get proper training for their livelihood organization gives difference skill development training like driving,Masson,Auto driving, House wearing,plumbing etc.This programme are more effective for migrant people of Gaisilat Block.



