



Research Paper

Seasonal Migration of Tribal Communities in Jammu and Kashmir and its Impact on Education- A Study

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14001153>

Abstract	Manuscript Information
<p>In Jammu and Kashmir officially recognizes 12 tribes, which are classified as Scheduled Tribes (ST) under the Indian Constitution namely Bakarwal, Gujjar, Gari, Mon, Purigpa, Gaddi, Balti, Beda, Bot (Boto), Brokpa (Drokpa), Changpa, and Sippi. The educational status of Scheduled Tribes in Jammu and Kashmir highlights significant disparities compared to the overall state averages. With the Scheduled Tribe population constituting 11.6% of the region's demographic and a literacy rate of only 50.6%, it is evident that these communities face substantial challenges in accessing quality education. Research indicates that various factors contribute to the low educational attainment among these tribes, including socio-economic barriers, limited infrastructure, cultural dynamics, and insufficient educational resources. Addressing these issues through targeted interventions—such as improving access to schools, enhancing teacher training, and integrating culturally relevant curricula—can play a crucial role in uplifting the educational status of Scheduled Tribes. Education is not just a fundamental right; it is essential for empowerment and socio-economic development. Efforts to promote education within these communities are vital for bridging the educational gap and fostering inclusive growth in the region. In this study, we are going to explore the seasonal migration of tribals in Jammu and Kashmir and its impact on their Wards in Education.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ISSN No: 2583-7397 ▪ Received: 29-04-2024 ▪ Accepted: 29-06-2024 ▪ Published: 19-07-2024 ▪ IJCRM:3(4); 2024: 203-207 ▪ ©2024, All Rights Reserved ▪ Plagiarism Checked: Yes ▪ Peer Review Process: Yes <p>How to Cite this Manuscript</p> <p>Shazia Sultan, Dr. Kumar Vivek Kant. Seasonal Migration of Tribal Communities in Jammu and Kashmir and its Impact on Education- A Study. International Journal of Contemporary Research in Multidisciplinary.2024; 3(4): 203-207.</p>

Keywords: Tribals, Education, Migration, Facilities and Schemes

1. INTRODUCTION

The 2011 Census data for Jammu and Kashmir reveals important demographic and socio-economic information about the region. The total population stands at approximately 12.54 million, with 6.64 million males and 5.90 million females. Scheduled tribes make up 11.9% of the population, totalling around 1.49 million individuals. Among the scheduled tribes, the Gujjar community is the largest, comprising about 763,806 individuals, or 69% of the total tribal population. The Bot tribe follows with a population of 96,698, while the Bakarwal tribe has 60,724 members. The Scheduled Tribe Act of Jammu and Kashmir was

enacted in 1989, initially identifying eight tribal communities. Subsequently, the 1991 amendment recognized four communities—Gujjar, Bakarwal, Gaddi, and Sippi—as scheduled tribes. The constitution of Jammu and Kashmir now includes twelve tribes, which were officially enumerated in the 2001 census. These tribes include Balti, Beda, Bot, Brokpa (Drokpa), Changpa, Gari, Mon, Purigpa, Gaddi, and Sippi. The literacy rate among scheduled tribes is notably low at 50.6%, with male literacy at 60.6% and female literacy at only 39.7%, reflecting a significant gap compared to the national average.

The Beda tribe is the smallest group, with just 128 members. This demographic overview highlights the diverse tribal

identities in Jammu and Kashmir and underscores the challenges in education and literacy within these communities.

Table 1: State-wise Number of Scheduled Tribes

S. No.	State/UT	No. of Tribes
1	West Bengal	40
2	Uttarakhand	05
3	Uttar Pradesh	15
4	Tripura	19
5	Tamil Nadu	36
6	Sikkim	04
7	Rajasthan	12
8	Odisha	62
9	Nagaland	05
10	Mizoram	15
11	Meghalaya	17
12	Manipur	34
13	Maharashtra	45
13	Madhya Pradesh	43
14	Lakshadweep	01
15	Kerala	36
16	Karnataka	50
17	Jharkhand	32
18	Jammu & Kashmir	12
19	Himachal Pradesh	10
20	Gujarat	29
21	Goa	08
22	Daman and Diu	05
23	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	07
24	Chhattisgarh	42
25	Bihar	33
26	Assam	29
27	Arunachal Pradesh	16
28	Andhra Pradesh	25
29	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	06
	Total	693

Table 2: Demographic Statistics of Scheduled Tribes in India & Jammu & Kashmir (2001 & 2011)

State	Total Population	ST Population	
		2001	2011
Jammu and Kashmir	12541302	11,0,5979	14,93,299
India	1210569573	84326240	10,42,81,034

Source: Census 2011

Migration

Migration refers to the movement of people from one location to another, often for reasons such as economic opportunities, escaping conflict, or seeking a better quality of life. It can be temporary or permanent and can occur within a country (internal migration) or across international borders (international migration). They migrated for several reasons such as agriculture, education, employment, etc. It can be observed in all species of life, human beings, birds, animals, etc. has defined “migration is a form movement, change of residence, and the

distinction between the place of origin and the destination. Migration can occur for various reasons, including economic opportunities, environmental factors, political instability, or social connections. Migration is influenced by a complex interplay of factors beyond just economic ones. Social ties, cultural connections, political stability, and environmental conditions all contribute to individuals' decisions to move. Many migrants seek better opportunities for their families, including improved access to education, healthcare, and overall quality of

life. This multifaceted nature of migration underscores the importance of understanding both the motivations behind it and the broader implications for communities and countries involved.

Seasonal Migration

Seasonal migration has traditionally been a strategy for many rural families to enhance their livelihoods, allowing them to seek work during times when agricultural activities are low. However, "distress seasonal migration" reflects a more pressing scenario, where individuals migrate out of necessity rather than choice. In Jammu and Kashmir tribal communities are migrating seasonally with their livestock. In summer they migrate to Kashmir while in winters they are migrated to the Jammu division. Agriculturally rich areas also attract a large number of Migrant laborers for sowing, harvesting, and other operations.

Not all Migrations are the same

The tribes in Jammu and Kashmir exhibit several distinct migration patterns, often shaped by their unique cultural, geographical, and economic contexts.

Intra-district Migration

Intra-district migration, particularly in regions like Jammu and Kashmir, involves movement within the same district, often driven by seasonal needs or resource availability. This pattern typically sees people relocating from lower-lying villages to higher-altitude pastures or alpine meadows during certain times of the year.

Inter-district migration

Inter-district migration in Jammu and Kashmir involves the movement of tribal populations from the plains of the Jammu division—such as the districts of Jammu, Samba, and Kathua—toward the highlands in areas like Udhampur and the Chenab region.

Inter-province migration

Inter-province migration among the Gujjar and Bakarwal populations is a significant pattern characterized by seasonal movement between the Jammu and Kashmir provinces.

Inter-State Migration

Interstate migration among the transhumant population from Jammu and Kashmir involves movement to neighboring regions like Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, and Punjab.

2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The present study was to find out the impact of seasonal migration on the education of tribal communities in Jammu and Kashmir. The research method selected for the present study was descriptive research where the data was collected through cross sectional survey. In this study, the researcher used a mixed approach, *i.e.*, qualitative and quantitative methods to ascertain the impact of seasonal migration on the education of tribal communities in Jammu and Kashmir. In this study, we have

collected the information regarding seasonal migration of tribes of Jammu and Kashmir and its impact on their wards in Education. The sampling plan of the present study is based on a sample of 50 respondents selected through the stratified random and purposive sampling method from rural areas of the Kashtiwari district of Jammu.

Educational Facilities for Tribes in Jammu and Kashmir

Education is important for every individual, and it is also one of the basic rights of every individual. After receiving an education, the person can differentiate between right and wrong. There should be no discrimination based on Caste, Gender, and religion in education, everyone should be treated equally in education sectors. It is the responsibility of both the central and state government as it had been placed in concurrent list of the Indian constitution. The central and state governments had implemented various policies and programs to provide a better quality of education to the tribes of its population. The data is presented below.

Table 3: Special Care for Scheduled Tribes in Jammu and Kashmir

S. No.	Facilities	Numbers
01	Hostel Boys	17
02	Hostel Girls	06
03	Hostel Total	23
04	Mobile Schools	1163
05	Schools remain Stationary	41

Source: Census 2011

As per the data from the above table total of 1163 schools are functional for the tribes who used to migrate during the time of seasonal migration. 41 schools for those who are not moving for their residence at the time of migration. The government of Jammu and Kashmir has established a total of 23 hostels for scheduled tribes out of which 17 are for boys and 06 are for girl students.

Scholarship Schemes for Scheduled Tribes

The government of Jammu and Kashmir has established various policies and programs for needy students who badly need financial support for their education. The scholarships which are being awarded by the center and state government of Jammu and Kashmir are awarded mostly based on academic merits or need intensity.

Table 5: Details of Scholarship for Scheduled Tribes in Jammu and Kashmir (Lakhs)

Scholar Ship	2015-16 Released Funds	2016-17 Released Funds	2017-18 Released Funds
Pre-Matric	700	0.00	0.00
Post Matric	2494	2587	1867

Source: JK Scheduled Report

Scheduled tribes are economically very poor they face significant economic challenges that can impact their access to education. To overcome this difficulty the government has

launched pre- and post-matric scholarships for the Scheduled tribes also. As per the data from the above table in the year 2015-16, the government released 700 (Lakhs) for Scheduled tribes. In the year 2015-16, the government also released 2494 (Lakhs) for

scheduled tribes, 2587 (Lakhs) were released in the year 2016-17, and in 2017-18 government released 1867 (lakhs) under post matric scholarship.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Table 6: Migrated from one place to another

Migrated from one place to another	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	45	90 %
No	5	10%
Total	50	100%

Source: - Field Survey

As per the data from the above table, out of 50 respondents, 90 percent of respondents responded that they are migrated from one place to another and only 10 percent of respondents

responded that they are not migrated from one place to another. It shows that the majority of the respondents migrated from one place to another.

Table 7: Whether your wards continue education after migration

Whether your wards continue education after migration	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	20	40%
No	30	60%
Total	50	100%

Source: Field Survey

As per the data from the table out of the total respondents, 40 percent of respondents responded that their wards continued education after migration while 60 percent of respondents responded that they could not continue education in their wards

after migration. It shows that the majority of the respondents responded that their wards could not continue education after migration.

Table 8: Awareness of Mobile Schools

Are you aware of mobile schools?	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	22	44%
No	28	56%
Total	50	100%

Source: Field Survey

As per the data from the above table out of the total respondents, 44 per cent of respondents responded that they were aware of mobile schools while 56 percent of respondents responded that they were not aware of mobile schools.

It shows that the majority of the respondents are not aware of mobile schools. Mobile schools are those schools that are established for tribes for the purpose of migration.

Table 9: Availability of Mobile Schools after Migration

Are you avail mobile after migration	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	16	32%
No	34	68%
Total	50	100%

Source: Field Survey

As per the data from the above table out of the total respondents, 32 percent of respondents responded that they avail mobile schools to their wards after migration, while 68 percent of respondents responded that their wards are not availing mobile

schools after migration. It shows that the majority of the respondents responded that they do not have mobile schools in their wards after migration.

Table 10: Faced Problems after migration

Whether your wards faced problems after Migration	No of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	35	70%
No	15	30%
Total	50	100%

Source: Field Survey

As per the data from the above table out of the total respondents, 70 percent of respondents responded that their wards faced problems after migration, while only 30 percent of respondents responded that their wards not faced problems after migration from one place to another. It shows that mobile schools are not functional in tribal areas after migration.

CONCLUSION

Migration of tribes can significantly impact the education of their children, with effects varying depending on the reasons for migration, the duration of migration, and the resources available in the new location. Seasonal migration is also known as temporary or cyclic migration is being undertaken with the primary motive of temporary change of residence. The people or communities engaged in cyclic migration maintain a temporary absence from the place of origin.

Seasonal migration has adversely affected the education of tribal communities in district Kashtiwari of Jammu and Kashmir. It has affected the national development and vision of the nation. Hence it is very essential to prepare suggestive measures and programs and implement them effectively to enrol the tribal children in schools and retain them by providing quality education and related facilities.

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