



TRIBAL LABOUR OUT MIGRATION: A CASE STUDY OF MALDA DISTRICT, WEST BENGAL

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ABSTRACT

Among the different type of relocation work out movement is a critical procedure which is usually seen in the provincial ranges. In West Bengal work out relocation is generally found in country regions where broad neediness and unemployment exists. Tribal work out relocation in the tribal

overwhelmed areas which are ordinarily covered by underdevelopment is a moderately less investigated range according to research is concern. Relocation of tribes prompts distinctive sorts of social changes when they contact other social gatherings. In study territory in light of organized poll field overview has been directed to uncovering dissimilar part of tribal movement. Investigation was generally being done on the foundation of relocation circumstance degree and diverse types of consequences of developments in the chose study range. The concentrate extensively recommends that unemployment and absence of salary is the key purpose behind such relocation. The most of the tribal out migration areas are agriculturally less prosperous and are suffering from



access to industrial or other form of employ ability. As most of the tribal population has the lower level of educational background they get employment in informal economic activities like construction of building, construction of telephone tower etc. The migrants' worker mostly moves to the major metropolitan cities in the country because it pays relatively higher wages. A remittance economy has grown in the study area which has been visited during the field survey and what has been noticed that the next generation of tribal population are also keen to follow the same path in future. The tribal out migrants are tend to settled in their own place of origin after spending few years in their present work place which will ensure a better future for them as per as tribal culture is concern.

KEYWORDS: Tribes, Labour Out Migration, Malda District, System of Dadon.

INTRODUCTION :

Migration plays a vital role for the transformation of a society. Millions of people left their home (especially rural areas) in search of work, shelter, better opportunities or some other reasons. In doing so, they are able to make valuable contributions to the economy both at the destination which may be a town or city by supplying necessary labour force, as well as to their family mostly by providing financial support. Some direct impact of migration are changing of the income level, increasing the per-capita income, increasing the provision of modern amenities and gadgets etc. According to work of different scholars in both developed and developing countries, out migration is a important phenomena for demographic and social change in an area. Hamdani.K, et. al(2005) suggests that there is positive association between rate of in-migration and out migration in different states of U.S. A major portion of rural people of West Bengal are involved in agricultural activities. For poor households in rural area of West Bengal, wage work is very often the key means of livelihood. Yet jobs are almost arranged informally, without a written contract, and reflect the temporary peaks of demand for labour in agriculture, brick-making, road-building and construction (Rogaly. et al, 2001, p.4547-4559). Demand of agricultural labour and other labourer almost temporal in nature and for some month a maximum people have not any job to meet their basic needs, causing huge number labour out migration. Thus many people especially from rural background are found at the outer portion or fringe areas of cities and sometimes slums areas (jugguis or in Jhupries) for some month (Rafique et al, 2006). Xaxa(1999,p.1519-1524) in his paper "Transformation of Tribes in India Terms of Discourse" addressed the different issue of transformation of tribes such as sankritisation, hindusisation, social differentiation etc. According to Srivastava(2003) "Labour migration is complex. Streams differ in duration, origin, destination and migrant characteristics. Economic and social impacts on migrants and their families are variable". Martin Kampchen(2006,p.100-109) in his study focuses on the issue of how different cultural aspect of tribes (specially santals) spreads over the world through the participation of different people and artist belonging to the tribes. Ghosaldanga and Bishnubati this two villages has been visited by him, the paper explained how through the migration different artist of this community represents their folk culture especially Germany and other parts of the world though their basis of participation especially dance and singing. The present paper deals with the various aspects of tribal labour out migration of Malda district. The physical isolation of the tribes came to an end in nineteenth and early twentieth century, railways and road networks converted all almost all the hills and forest accessible to all (R.Thaper,1977,p.1-6). Today, when political emphasis is placed on the protection of tribes, various tribal development schemes is introduced. Even some employment providing scheme also launched for all people especially in rural, some questions also arises why a huge amount of tribes are out migrated different places over India? Why self reliable tribal community transformed dependent community for employment The present study broadly tries to address the following issues of tribal out migration based on the empirical investigation -

- 1.To examine the major causes of migration.
- 2.To examine the seasonal and temporal pattern of migration of tribal communities

THE STUDY AREA:

The selected study area of the present research work is Malda District, West Bengal. The district of Malda is known as the part of North Bengal. English Bazar - its district headquarter, is located at a

distance of 365 kms from Kolkata, the state capital of West Bengal. Malda, being part of the Gangetic basin with Ganga as the main river touching the northern most point and entering Bangladesh, and its distributaries Bhagirathi, Jalangi, Mahananda and Bhairab flowing south of Malda, is characterized by fertile agricultural land. Spreading over an area of 3733 sq.km with a population of 32.91 lakh in 2001, the district of Malda covers 4.2 percent of the total landmass of the state of West Bengal. Geographically the area extend from 25°32'08"North, 88°02'0"East to 24°48'20" North, 87°45'50"East. The population of this district is mainly rural. The "Barind" areas are inhabitant mostly by a huge Santal population. From 19(according to Cencus, 2001) district of West Bengal the literacy, health and employment situation is in very poor condition comparing to other district among the STs.In Malda 13.29% of STs Population available for work. Among them only 3.91% of population literate and also available for work and they have didn't any job. According to National Human Development Report 2001, among the tribal population there are 38 sub-communities of which Santala, Oraon, Mores, Mundas and Malpaharias are main sub-communities. About 88% of the tribal population are concentrated in the "Barind" areas comprised in four blocks namely, Gazole, Bamongola, Habibpur and Old Malda.The scheduled tribes and scheduled castes people of this district are very much backward economically as well as educationally.This study was carried out mainly in 4 of the 15 blocks of Malda district: Bamongola, , Gazole, Habibpur and Harischandar pur-1. The population profile of these blocks and the major socio-economic features are presented below:

Table 1: Category wise population distribution with area

CD Blocks	Total population	Male	Female	Total Schedule caste	Total Schedule Tribes	Geographical Area
Bamomgola	1,27,156	65,196	61,960	63,459	25,083	206.20 sq kms
Gazole	2,94,749	1,50,337	1,44,412	98,649	58,076	513.73 sq kms
Habibpur	1,87,568	94,861	92,707	81,349	55,777	397.10 sq kms
Harishchandrapur-I	1,62,369	83,122	79,247	40,806	3,483	17140 sq kms

Source: Census of India, 2001

DATA SOURCE AND METHODOLOGY:

The present research is based on both primary and secondary data. The data have been collected from the Census of India -2001, District census hand book of Malda 1991, Annual report of Malda District 2001, Statistical Hand Book of Malda district,2004,District Human Development report, Malda,2007. Primary data has been collected from the field using the structured questionnaire. For selection of sample multi-staged process has been followed. With the help of purposive sampling method tribal population dominated blocks has been selected for the study. After that through the help of stratified random sampling some villages within the selected blocks has been selected and finally households have been selected through the random sampling. After collection of all the data directly from field and secondary sources, all the data has been represented with the help of tables, charts and others suitable statistical tools.183 household has been selected as sample in the study.

RESULTS AND ANALYSIS:

The Barind had been sparsely settled and was covered substantially by forests during earlier times,scarcity of water made it unsuitable for intensive agriculture. Maximum migrants coming from the uneducated background and a huge number of migrants only have primary education but most of them unable to read or write a single word. Habibpur shows quite better situation about matter of

primary education. The Higher Secondary passed people or the Higher Educated persons are not involving in migration activity. This indicates that the migration of skilled labourer is almost zero. A huge number of tribes of the selected area pursue their livelihood by working as daily wage labourer and agricultural labourer. According to primary field survey almost 80 % of population work in agricultural sector among them almost 52% of population worked as agricultural labourer where in Bamongola the percentage of agricultural labourer is almost 46% and in Habibpur is almost 40 %. The practice of hunting as a traditional subsistence activity has now practically vanished with the gradual disappearance of forest, according to Human Development report(2007) in Malda district have currently listed approximately 2.19 lakh rural families as living below the poverty line. Approximately 39 percent of all rural households in the district fall into the BPL category, including women-headed households, SC & ST families, as well several from other classes and communities. Tribal-dominated Bamangola and Habbpur in the Barind are among the poorest blocks in Malda district, where approximately half of all rural households live at levels of absolute poverty. Lives stock and husbandry are also a common practice within tribal community in Malda and Pigs are the main livestock animal. The use of fertilizers and other modern equipments of agriculture are relatively lower than the other community of this district. A huge number of days in a year a maximum number of farmers and agricultural labourer and other STs also situated in workless situation. Some farmers for agricultural purpose extract money (Dadan from different agent of labourer (who supply labour to different sector out side of state) especially known as thikadar for cultivation of paddy in winter known, reward of this the farmer out migrated from their village to other state as labourer, this the common picture of farmers and agricultural labourer in rural area of Malda. Another very serious issue that is increasingly affecting the tribal residents land-mortgage system located in many areas of Malda is the system of bandhaki or in regional language SudeVortuki. In this system, the ST-borrower has to repay the principal amount borrowed in cash to secure the release of his land, which is an exceedingly rare occurrence because of tribal poverty. Under this system almost 40000 rupees/Bigha paid to the mahajans and the entire ownership of this land transferred to the person who give money for minimum 3 years, after 3 year when the land owner able to pay the entire money which had he borrowed then again he able get the ownership of his own land. Under bandhaki the crop yielded by the mortgaged land enjoyed by the lender until the the ST-borrower is able to secure the release of his land.

Table 2: Education Status among the Migrants (%)

CD Blocks	Illiterate migrants	Primary(I-V)	of Middle (V-IX)	Secondary	H.S
Bamomgola	23.81	33.33	26.19	16.67	0
Gazole	28.21	28.21	23.08	17.94	2.56
Habibpur	22.5	45	20	12.5	0
Hari shchandrapur-I	25	35.71	28.57	10.72	0

Source: Household Survey, 2015

According to primary survey among the 183 household almost 24.75% people engaged in agricultural activity. Among them almost 2/3rd of population out migrated seasonally within every year. Maximum tribes of the region are working as labourer (53.2%). There are also some educated ST persons who are available for work in different block. A table related to tribal worker is given bellow-

Table 3: Distribution of working and non working population in rural areas of Malda (among Sts)

		Main worker	Marginal worker	Non worker	Seeking/available for work
Total	224698	73690	40612	110396	13.29% to total population
Illiterate	166815	51573	32918	82324	
Literate	57883	22117	7694	28072	
Total Illiterate persons per 100 population	74.24	69.98643	81.0549	74.5715	9.29% illiterate population of total population
Total literacy rate per 100 St population	25.76	30.01357	18.9451	25.4285	
% of literate but below matric/secondary to total	22.52	25.0360	0.1132	0.0705	
% of matric/secondary but below graduate total	2.03	2.9700	4.2437	0.0201	3.91% literate population of total population
% of Technical diploma or certificate not equal to degree total	0.02	0.0500	0.1665	1.3327	
% Graduate and above other than technical degree total	0.23	0.3800	1.5178	0.0047	
% degree or diploma equal to degree or post-graduate degree total	0.03	0.0700	2.3569	0.0008	

Source: Calculation based on Census data, Census of India , 2001

During the dry season, their daily wages ranges to between Rs.100-125 per day, depending on whether the region they live in is multi cropped or not. Rural males on the other hand have more stable wage-earnings of Rs.100-150 per day during peak season and Rs.100-130 per day in the dry season.

There not any reliable data that indicates how many persons of tribal community are involve in migration in various season. In primary survey it is found almost one persons of each tribal household migrated for work. Among 183 of house hold 149 persons were migrated different places at different time of a year. Interview with the official, elected representative, common people and also migrants it is found that there is no specific season among the ST for migration except only few persons who migrated Bardhaman and adjoining district at the some specific season for rice cultivation as agricultural labourer which is mostly found some pockets of chanchal (few person in Kapsia) in Bamongola. Maximum population are coming from the agricultural back ground in the productive/reproductive age group of 26-40 years. Migration of male and females was found to be socially acceptable and regular in Malda. Out-movement starts from the age of 12-14 on an average. One of the migrant labourer, who had returned from Delhi [Wari] for festival of Durgapuja said-

“A man between the age group 15-50 goes out of the state in search of work. At least one member from every house has left home to work in other states. The places that people like to go are Kerala, Rajasthan, Delhi, Goa, Hyderabad, Mumbai, and Bangalore. People have left the villages as there is no employment and the work available at low wages. There are no jobs even for educated persons, there are so many educated unemployed persons, and people wonder why they invest lot of money for the education of children. Farming is also not profitable .For example rice crop grown on one bigha of land sold in the market at Rs. 2000 but the cost of production, i.e. seeds fertilizers etc, is also 2000”

The causes of migration vary man to man, after categorisation of human perception about the causes of migration some general reason behind the tribal labour out migration of study area has been identified are given below-

Scarcity of employment opportunities throughout the year was mentioned by everyone to be

the primary reason behind such high rates of movement away from the district. Also, even when income-earning opportunities are available within the district, the pay is never as good as it is when people go outside to work. According to a migrant interviewed: *“jobs are available during the mango season; but the orchard owners pay Rs 200/- or less per day to take care of an orchard spread over 5 - 6 bighas. We get much better rates when we go out to work.”* Interactions were held with a group of mobile youth who had just returned the night before from construction work in Chennai and were ready to leave again in a couple of days’ time to travel to Delhi for 7 days to work in a mobile tower setting site. In 2001, more than 65 percent of the district population in Malda comprised non-workers. One of the major causes of tribal labour out migration is poverty. According to Primary survey almost 65% of people have not any permanent source of work. The housing condition is very poor. Out of total 183 household almost 32.79 % household have kacha house, where only 12.02% of household have pucca house. Among the migrants 57.35 % living in semi pucca house and 36.03 % living in kachha house only 6.62 % of migrants living in pucca house most of them were recently built and some are under construction at the time of surveying. The present scenario reflects that maximum people of tribal out migrated families lived in poor condition and maximum of them didn’t have any modern equipment and gadgets like clock, mobile, electricity, TV etc. The wages available here are not sufficient for betterment of their socio-economic status. Poverty treated as push factor to the tribes for migration. Worse economic condition of tribes of Malda indirectly forced to people to migrate outside the states. The persons who engaged in migration for some previous decade the economic condition is quite better and through the remittance their family members able to maintain their family smoothly which sometimes promote the out migration. After the independence the development rate of transportation and communication system is very high and now a days the railway network almost able to connect the every corner or point of states of India. The persons who willing to travel over the India there is no difficulty in term of transportation medium, one can easily moves from one parts of India to another part. Through the railway and highway the study area almost linked with the different parts of India which make easy to the common people even tribes to travel thousands of kilometres.

Table 4: Housing material and their corresponding score

Housing material	Score
Main material of the floor	Total=10
1-Natural Floor (Mud/Clays, Sand, Dung)	1
2-Rudimentary Floor (Raw wood planks, Palm/Bamboo, Brick, Stone)	2
3-Finished floor (Parquet or polished wood ,Cement)	3
4-Well finished floor (Ceramic tiles, Mosaic, Carpet, Polished stone/Marble/Granite)	4
Main material of the roof	Total=10
1-Natural roofing (Thatch/Palm leaf/Reed/Grass, Mud, Mud grass mixture, Plastic/Polythene Sheeting),	1
2-Rudimentary roofing (Rustic mat, Palm/Bamboo, Raw wood planks/Timber, Unburnt brick, Loosely packed stone, Tiles)	2
3-Finished roofing(Metal/GI, Wood, Asbestos sheets, RCC/RBC/Cement/Concrete)	3
4-Well finished roofing(roofing shingles, ,Slate, Decorated roof)	4
Main material of the exterior wall	Total=10
1-Natural walls (Thatch/Palm leaf/Reed/Grass, Mud, Mud grass mixture, Plastic/Polythene Sheet)	1
2-Rudimentary walls (Bamboo with mud, Stone with mud, Plywood, Raw wood /Timber, Unburnt brick)	2
3-Finished walls (Metal/GI, Wood Planks/Shingles, Asbestos sheets, Cement/Concrete)	3
4-Well finished walls (roofing shingles, Tiles, Slate, Decorated Wall)	4
Lowest Score =3(kachha),Relatively lower=3-below 9(Semi Pucca), Medium score =9-below12(Pucca)and Highest Combined score 12 (Well finished)	

Table 5: Status of Housing material

	Dominate housing material		
	Kachha(3)	Semi Pucca(above 3 to below 9)	Pucca(above 9-below 12)
% of Household	32.79	55.19	12.02
% of migrants	36.03	57.35	6.62

Source: Source: Household Survey, 2015

Another important thing of migration is wage available for work. At the time of primary survey maximum persons said that the wage available here is almost two times lower than the wages of the other state.

Barku Mardi (A migrants of Kapsiya Village), said –

“I am working in a cloth shop and I earn Rs.2500 only per month. It is very difficult for me to maintain my household of 5 family members as amount of wage is too small money. So I decided to go to Bikaner for job and I went there for 6 months (June 2014 to November 2014) and working in a hotel as cook only preparation of tea, snacks etc. And I earn Rs.250 per day some times more than 250.”

The table-6 depicts the wages of different sectors of Source area and the other states

Table 6: Wages available at source and destination of migration and their variation according to age and sex

Age	Sex	Wage at Malda	Wage at place of Migration	In of Migration		
				Employment	Movement pattern	Location
12 – 18 years	F	Rs 100 per day	Rs 150-250 per day	Agricultural work	In groups with other girls with agents under the dadon system or in independent groups	Bardhaman district
14 – 18 Years	M	Rs 150 per day	Rs 250 per day	Building or road construction (helper)	In groups with other men and women from the same village – with agents under dadon or as independent groups	Delhi/Chennai
14 – 18 years	M	Rs 150 per day	Rs 280 per day	Building construction, erecting mobile phone towers, digging, road construction		All over India – ever there or wherever
18 and above	M	Rs 100-150 per day	Rs 300 per day	Building construction, erecting mobile phone towers, digging, road construction	In groups with other men and women from the same village – with agents under dadon or as independent groups	All over India- wherever there is work
20 and above	M	Rs 100-150 per day	Rs 250 per day (if experienced)	All kinds of job – no preference at all	In groups, but with all family members – sometimes under dadon, sometimes independently	All over India – the trend is primarily prevalent with ST villages

Source: Field study, 2015

Note: Figures of wages are in an average value, there is some variation is also located within various blocks.

In the different states of India the demand of labourer increases day by day especially at expense of cheap rate which treated as pull factor among the tribes to gathering in some metro cities of India as labourer. Some industries especially in brick clean, hostelling etc. industry and in domestic purpose the demand of unskilled child and women is very high which provide the job to the women of this sector even it provide job to the child as child labour breaking the rules and regulation of constitution of India.

There are various modes through which tribes are got their jobs. One of the important custom which act as trap for labour migration is system of “Dadon”. Dadon – a traditional custom of taking a group of men and women to work in a particular industry for a period of 50-60 days, after paying the family an advance amount of anything between Rs 1000/- and Rs 2500/-. discussions occur about the rate between the family and the ‘dadondar’, i.e. the recruiting agent paying the advance. Maximum persons involved in out migration under the dadon system belongs to the Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities. The second system prevalent, also concentrated among the ST communities, is that of a known agent from a nearby village gathering the worker for engaging them as domestic labour in cities. According to primary source almost 19.46 % of population of total migrants going to the different places of India self and single in independent manner. Maximum persons going to the Delhi, Rajasthan and some time Chennai and Kolkata also. Persons who basically travelled single, most of them work in hotel or other shops and sometime worked in construction sector (as Carpenter or as painter to painting building). Seasonal migration is a common feature among the STs of Malda though the proportion of that kind of migration is relatively lower. Maximum people migrated throughout the year. The persons who migrated seasonally they are basically worked in agricultural sector at destination place. Labourers are migrated different places within four seasons. Some character of seasonal migration based on agriculture has been given below

Table 7: Seasonal migration and their character

Months	Main activity	location	Character
July-August	Crop transplanting	U.P, Punjab, Haryana, Gujrat etc.	Specially for Paddy, Sugar cane and wheat cultivation.
November-January	Harvesting	Within different districts of West Bengal, Panjab, Haryana, Bihar	Specially wheat cultivation and harvesting
February	Transplanting	Different states all over the India especially Punjab	Does not co-incide the agricultural work with source area. Though the crop cultivation is also continued at some places of Malda, Maximum persons cultivated their crop before february
April-May	Harvesting	Different states all over the India	Very hot season. Rarely co -incide with the won work at source but remittance may be usefull for beginning of own monsoon transplanting.

Source: Field study, 2015

Duration of migration is not same all over the district. General trend of duration is almost 2 months (50 days in case of Dadon) and sometimes people even go for 6 months also and some time they come back within 30 days. Maximum migrants return back to their home at their festivals especially Durga puja and Holi and at same time tribes are also return back though the trend of returning home of tribes especially depend on their festivals. Apart from the type scale of migration of labourer among the tribes is another important thing. There is not any relevant data source which explaining how many tribes migrated in what place or in broad what state. In primary survey among total migrants maximum persons were engaged in working in Delhi. According to them as the maximum persons of those villages going to Delhi from previous few decades , it prepare a general awareness about Delhi to get job and it is also helps to make communication easy to the new migrants. Among the interviewed persons almost 20.81% of persons in every year migrated in Delhi.

Table 8: Percentages of migrants within various Destination places:

Delhi	Mumbai	Punjab	Rajasthan	Goa	Haryana	Kerala	West Bngal (Kolkata and Burdwan)
20.81	13.42	16.78	15.44	8.05	12.75	6.04	6.71

Source: Household Survey, 2015

Almost 15.445% of tribes of different block migrated at Rajasthan. But migration rate within West Bengal and in Goa and Kerala is almost very low. Table-8 represents a general picture of tribal migration within different states all over the India during Primary survey. Almost 15.445% of tribes of the study area migrated to Rajasthan. But migration rate within West Bengal and in Goa and Kerala is relatively low. The migrant doing what kind or type of work has been tried to measured through the primary survey according. During the primary survey it is found that almost 22.82% of total tribal migrants are involving in digging work it is basically the work of digging for prepare the base of building, drain and sewerage channel etc. Another important work they had done is telephone tower making, almost 8.05 % of total migrants working as a labourer at construction of mobile tower and telephone tower especially in Delhi, Mumbai and sometimes in Hyderabad and other states of Bengal. Almost 11% of migrants are engaging in agriculture sector as agricultural labourer especially in Punjab, Haryana and Bardhaman district situated at West Bengal. Maximum of these migrants are going to the destination within a group. But the migrants who migrated through the Dadon system especially engaged in construction sector as labourer. Only 2% of migrants doing other work like cooking or preparing furniture as a carpenter etc. Maximum worker recruit at destination as temporary sometime occasional. Maximum persons done their job at daily wages basis at rate of Rs.200 – 300 on an average though the wages are vary from place to place .

Table 9: Different type of work done by migrants

Type of Work	% of Migrants
Painting of building	9.4
Hoteling	12.75
Digging	22.82
Tower (Telephone)	8.05
Labourer at road construction	21.48
Labourer at construction	12.08
Agricultural labourer	11.41
Other	2.01

Source: Household Survey, 2015

They are working daily 5 hours and sometime 8 hours. In some cases especially in construction sector (building painting, Machinery maintenances and as a guard of buildings) some amount of payment for overtime also made for worker if they do the overtime. The amount is given as half of total daily wages for half of total work they have done within a full day. Suppose a person earning Rs. 300 for 5 hours then he again earn Rs. 150 for working as overtime for 2 ½ hours.

Table 10: Mode of Wages and their character

Mode of Wages	Responses	Remark
Salaried	No	No
Contractual payment prior to the work (total amount without any condition)	No	No
Contractual payment after completion of work (Total)	No	No
Contractual payment prior to the work with given condition (Some amount of Total)	44%	The person who get advance they receive rest of amount after completion of work so the % indicate the combined of two responses (some amount they able to withdrawn if they want at any time of work)
Contractual work post payment with specific condition (Some amount of total)		
Daily wages	38%	In case of Dadon daily wages also located but the payment made in advance has been deducted (as particular proportion of daily wage) from daily wages.
Payment week basis	18%	Especially located at hoteling, Tower and digging works

Source: House hol and Perception Survey,2015

Some worked they have done identified as risky like the working in tower construction or fertilizers company but nobody said that they have engaged in any kind of hazardous work. There is absence of any amount of bonus also and if a worker failed to attend work then the wages of this day deducted from their total payment or they failed to earn any amount in that day.

According to Sonaton Hasda, a labourer working in road construction in Delhi-

“I was absence in work for 4 days in Delhi as I suffer a severe unknown fever and admitted in hospital. They did not give me any wages for those days and I lost my job. After a lot of requesting they recruit me in work. I returned back to home with very small amount of rupees as maximum amount of earning expend for treatment.”

CONCLUSION:

Malda district is one of the poorest district of West Bengal has one of the lowest literacy rates among all districts of West Bengal. The condition of tribes of Malda is very poor in term of literacy health and economy. It is a predominantly rural district with poor tribal community dominated blocks like Bamongola, Habibpur etc. Selection of out migration in search of work is now a common trend

among the youth of the tribal societies of study area as the migrants enjoy the entire journey of migration and also try to enjoy the climate, culture and other aspect of the distinct and different states all over the India. The predominant occupation of the tribes in Malda is agriculture and related occupation. Since there is hardly any industrial development in Malda, There is lack of employment opportunities in the region. Widespread poverty, unemployment and unawareness about the scheme of government to rural development all this factors have contributed to the migration of tribal people from the district. Even the migrants and their families faced many problems but they always prepare to send at least one person of their family to other states who will give financial support by sending remittance.

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