

## **Seasonal Migration of Gujjar and Bakarwal Tribes of District Rajouri Jammu & Kashmir and its Impact on their Primary level Students**

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### **Abstract.**

There are different views on seasonal migration. Generally, seasonal migration refers to the period when peoples staying left from their homes for a short time. In other words, it can be said that Seasonal migration is a form of return migration. It is generally seen in the agriculture field, wherein some part of country people transform their location according to the requirements as well as the climate change factor. Prof. Nitin Bajirao Bose (2016) explained that it includes migrations such as moving their sheep, cattle to higher places during the summer to protect heat. In India, Scheduled Tribes (ST) dominant areas of Jammu district peoples migrate in the summer season and specifically the Gujjar and Bakarwal Tribes migrate from their permanent place to transitory place. Therefore, seasonal migration is a great issue and challenge for the student of these communities for their studies because it impacts their regular classes or studies adversely.

To understand the problems faced by the students of Gujjar and Bakarwal Tribes due to seasonal migration; the authors of this paper are trying to study the problems and challenges of the students of Gujjar and Bakarwal Tribes and tried to give possible suggestions for improvement of their children's education...

**Keyword: Seasonal migration, Tribal Students, Challenges, Education.**

## **INTRODUCTION-**

Present-day migration is an important issue for debate and discussion everywhere. Every individual is in search of the polite living standard and needs to migrate to highly develop part of the city or country, the main factor behind this, to get additional avenues and opportunities in their life. Mostly, people settled in developed cities to get every luxury and comforts. Generally, this process may call migration. There are differences about the extent of the migration process in Gujjar and Bakarwal Tribes, of Jammu & Kashmir state, which we call Seasonal Migration.

Seasonal Migration is a short-term migration and again used interchangeably with spherical and spur-of-the-moment migration, and has been a topic of much debate. In the views of (Zelinsky 1971), every these activities, generally short-range, repetitive or returning, having the general reason of the conditional change of residence, are spherical. Hugo (1982) explain that the smoothed migrants to go behind a rounded pathway and keep up constant but provisional nonappearances as of their place of the starting point for supplementary than one day while momentary or circular relocation is a travel ready for a short time to return to their place of the usual residence. An important cluster of temporary migrants consists of seasonal migrants, who have combine activity at several places according to seasonal labour requirements (Keshri and Bhagat 2010). Seasonal migration has been extended the key starting place of earnings for pastoral family units those are not capable to hold up themselves throughout by the help of agriculture. Family units expand of their financial activities external the normal farming area by transfer not at home members to work in metropolitan spots in the lean period (Pham and Hill 2008). Dealing to the School of New Economics of Labour Migration (NELM) momentary resettlement is measured a hazard diversification strategy (Prothero and Chapman 1985; Stark and Bloom 1985; Stark and Levhari 1982).

In the Jammu & Kashmir state of India, the concentration of Gujjar and Bakkarwal are observed mainly a nomadic community, who has now make mind up down to a large level in permanent villages in the plain bordering the foothills and have taken to the cultivation of land as their primary occupation during their journey to the higher reaches of the mountains in summers

Generally, it is believed that Gujjar and Bakkarwal are migrated to Jammu and Kashmir from Gujarat (via Rajasthan) and Hazara district of the North Western Frontier Province. Gujjars are a semi-nomadic pastoral community who used to group animals like sheep, goats and

buffalo. They transmigrate from the lowland plains in the winter to the upper ranges of the Himachal Pradesh during the summer season. Their main job is only to keep sheep, goats and buffalo and sell their milk products. However, to go hand in hand with the demands of the changing situations, many of the Gujjar and Bakkarwal have at present taken up different other occupations like porters or pony men for the tourists and pilgrims who go for trekking in the Himachal Mountains and holy places those are situated in high peaks of mountains.

### **Seasonal resettlement outlines along with nomadic Gujjar & Bakkarwals of Jammu and Kashmir -**

The State Jammu and Kashmir, popularly known as one of the "paradises on the earth", "crown of Indian union" "the Switzerland of Asia" and more names is inhabited by various ethnic groups like Gujjar and Bakkarwal. Therefore in the midst of the onset of summers every year, the Gujjars and Bakkarwals migrate all by the side of with their livestock to upper hilly areas of Himalayas throughout main tribal seasonal movement paths like; Rajouri and Poonch, go behind by, Doda, Udhampur, Anantnag, regions etc; of Jammu & Kashmir state.

. Above and beyond, seven main migratory directions, there are various sub-routes as well. All the foremost paths and sub-routes pass throughout different mount passes which are identified as Gallis in the home verbal communication. Various Dheras (clans comprising of many households) of migrants begin their journey as of different places like Margot, Mendhar, Rajouri, Poonch, Surankote, Thanamandi etc: Therefore, in every year in close proximity about 20,000 community moves around to summer pastures and revisit after the grazing period is preferred come to end. Seasonal Migration in the Jammu generally takes position from three regions: Poonch, Rajouri and Kishtwar regions. The Rajouri and Poonch seasonal migration constructs for the heaviest way out of the three. All these routes confirm the way to different passes of the Pir Panjal ranges.

### **Geographical Location of District Rajouri -**

This study is conducted of district Rajouri which is geographically located at 33.38°north to 74.3°East. It has an average elevation of 915 [meters](#) (3001 [feet](#)). The climate of Rajouri is somewhat cooler than the other surrounding plains. Summers are short and pleasant. The

summer temperature generally does not exceed 41 degrees. Winters are cool and chilly characterized with rainfall due to western disturbances.

### **The objective of the study-**

The main objective of this study to study the Seasonal Migration among Gujjar and Bakrwal Tribes of District Rajouri (J&K), and its impact on the education of their Primary level Students.

### **The methodology of the study:**

The present study is focused on case type of study which was fixed on Gujjar and Bakrwal Tribes of Rajouri district. For this study, the secondary source of data was used which was collected by the different Libraries, Textbooks, Internet sources, Research journals and articles etc.

**Table NO-1**

Migration sample of the Deras (drifting families) In Rajouri in2012

S.No.	Combined Check Post (JCP)	derived from	central point	Upper reaches	Stations
1	Thanna Mandi	Villages of Rajouri district	Manial Azmtabad Bara Chhar Kopra Nerian	DKG Dorewali Nai Pir Gali Sigari Biranala	Sonamarg Gulmarg Shopian Srinagar Pir Panjal
2	Darhal	Tanda (Jammu) Akhnoor Villagesof Rajouri district	Kandi pairi Galian Jatawala pajja Bhediwala	Kharimarg Kalian Shakarmarg Danna Jalamang	Bala sarhota Dhudwali chhambarwala pupri Galli

3	Kandi	Villages of Rajouri district	Lowa Pathri Phulwai Mandarniriwala Naka Kattha	Marguri Panch Gabbar Chee Sari Rupri Galli	Pir Panjal Kauri Hill Kesri Hill, Shopian Gulmarg
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Source: Joint Forest Posts (JCP) Records 2012

**Table 2**

Summer Relocation of Gujjar and Bakkarwals from the months of 17 April-4 August 2012

Joint Post (JCP)	Total no of Deras (families) movement	Number of males	Number of females	Number of childrens	Total persons	Total Animals
Thanna Mandi	1383	2909	1387	859	5155	65704
Darhal	496	978	297	73	1348	19491
Grant total	1879	3887	1684	932	6503	85195

Data: Joint Check Posts (JCPs) 2012

Table No-3

The winter (overturn) seasonal movement) of Gujjar and Bakkarwals from the month of mid  
September to mid November 2012

Joint Station (JCP)	Total no of Deras (families) movement	Number of males	Number of males	Number of children	Total persons	Total Animals
Thanna Mandi	786	1858	718	560	3136	60306
Darhal	144	185	85	65	335	15113
Grand total	930	2043	783	625	3471	75419

Source: Joint Check Posts (JCPs) 2012

### **Education:-**

Education is a thought which is known for the development of the human fight back for survival and enlightens. The tribes of Gujjars & Bakarwals communities also develop their skills for better survival and a way of transmitting a language, skills, knowledge, beliefs to their children which prepare them for the future. Some Gujjars & Bakarwals are subsisting by hunting and get-together teaches their children to make weapons; girls to collect food from forests. Also, some tribal communities who subsist by cultivating crops teach their children to get ready the land, sow, and relocate and harvest crops (Khatana 1976). Education can play a main role in the development of Gujjars & Bakarwals and their society to enhance social, cultural and economic condition. Gujjar & Bakarwal Tribes student faces many problems which impact on their education adversely. Some of the problems are as under-

### **Conflict situation in Jammu and Kashmir -**

The Jammu and Kashmir were faced with militant conflict from 1989. The Gujjars ad Bakarwals inhabitants of Jammu and Kashmir have been roughly strike by this variance which hit the roofed in the boundary condition since 1989. So, the tribal peoples are facing big problems like;

- **Economic challenges:** Generally, the village people migrate in search of better economic status and well-being. Low paid wages at the home town pulls the people (94.3 %) to migrate; furthermore, most of the people in villages are not able to achieve skilled labour and relevant jobs in the area and many at times they fetch fewer remuneration wages, which results in migration of people. In addition to this, rain-fed (60%), smallholding size (52.5%), landless (50.4%), indebted (39%), timely crop failure (30.4%) and educated unemployment (23%) were other economic reasons which led to migration.
- **Social challenges:** Social factors like poverty, political instability, turmoil, etc. play a dominant role in migrating people to urban centers. Unfriendly relations with neighbors or relatives (6.8%) and political pressure (4.4%) were the social binding factors causing long-term migration of the people. These social challenges are responsible for the education of Tribes students.
- **Psychological challenges:** Due to the internet and social media, the rural youth is getting attracted to urban life. This has changed the psychology of the people and intern leads to migration. In the present situation, this type of psychology induced a new generation of these

tribal higher desires (77.2%) and demonstration effect (59.1%). No doubt, these trends are responsible for short and long term migrations of Gujjar and Bakarwal tribes and it affects adversely proper education of students.

- Lack of communication: Peoples of Tribe area are face problems due to lack of communication those impacts on the life of Gujjar Tribes students. The researcher feels that the education system has a lack of internet facilities; if these facilities are available it helps to improve the educational standard of Gujjar and Bakarwal tribes.

### **Result and Discussion**

From the above discussion, we find that the seasonal migration of Rajouri district is mostly impacted by the educational system of Tribe students. As we already discuss about the reason for the seasonal migration that by the help of migration it has both positive and negative result. If we think about the right views that the migration is the source for the income but it has some problems for the Tribes peoples. So here we need some steps have been taken for the better development and improvement of our educational systems. By the different views from the educationist and scholars are discuss It needs to take different types of actions to help of Gujjar Tribe life.

Here some suggestion that may help for the better improvement in our education and also help for the students that are face challenges in education as well as their whole life.

- ✚ The government should set up permanent mobile schools for the Gujjar Tribes students.
- ✚ The government should set up a team that care of these schools whether these schools are working are not.
- ✚ The government makes a survey report in every year-end.
- ✚ Parents also take care of the education of their children.

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