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THE SALT WORKERS : A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY

(SPECIAL REFERENCE WITH KUTCH SMALL RANN)

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ABSTRACT

“Rann of Kutch” is an occasionally boggy saline dirt desert situated in “Thar Desert biogeographic region” in “Gujarat territory”. The “Rann of Kutch” involves somewhere approx “30,000 square kilometers (10,000 sq mi)” between “Gulf of Kutch” & mouth of the “Indus River in southern Pakistan”. Social life is intense in “Little Rann - the Kutch desert” is partitioned into “Little Rann & the Great Rann” - with temperatures contacting “50 degrees Celsius in top summer & dropping to approach zero during winter evenings”. In “June”, rainstorm proclaims intrusion by “Arabian Ocean” from mouth of “Gulf of Kutch”, causing “mudflats” to vanish under knee-profound water for a considerable length of time and, as an outcome, become saline. The saltpan laborers or “Agariyas”, as they are brought in Gujarat, is perhaps the most in reverse local area, with north of 70% living underneath neediness line under brutal circumstances in the “Little Rann of Kutch” (LRK). “Agariyas”, who rely only upon salt handling, live in extremely unfortunate circumstances. There is an absence of fundamental conveniences like drinking water, house, schooling & facilities like gumboots, shades, instruments and medical care. This paper tries to present the sociological conditions of these salt workers.

KEY WORDS: Salt, Worker, Kutch, Agariyas, Conditions

INTRODUCTION

The “Rann of Kutch” is an occasionally boggy saline dirt desert situated in “Thar Desert biogeographic region” in “Gujarat territory” situated 8 km far to town “Kharaghoda in Surendranagar District of northwestern India and the Sind region of Pakistan”. Name “Rann” derives from “Hindi” word ran signifying “salt bog”. “Hindi” word is gotten from “Sanskrit/Vedic word” verified in the “Rigveda & Mahabharata”. “Kutch” is name of area wherein it is arranged. “Rann of Kutch” involves somewhere in the range of “30,000 square kilometers (10,000 sq mi)” between “Gulf of Kutch” & mouth of “Indus River in southern Pakistan”. “Luni River”, which starts in “Rajasthan”, discharges into upper east corner of Rann. Social life is intense in “Little Rann - the Kutch desert” is partitioned into “Little Rann & the Great Rann” - with “temperatures contacting 50 degrees Celsius in top summer & dropping to approach zero during winter evenings”. In June, rainstorm proclaims an intrusion by “Arabian Ocean from mouth of the Gulf of Kutch”, causing “mudflats” to vanish under knee-profound water for a considerable length of time and, as an outcome, become saline.

THE SALT WORKERS

The saltpan laborers or “Agariyas”, as they are brought in Gujarat, is perhaps the most in reverse local area, with north of 70% living underneath neediness line under brutal circumstances in “Little Rann of Kutch” (LRK). As indicated by most recent accessible report ready by “the Union Ministry of Labor” named “Working and Living Conditions of Salt Workers in India”: “The “Agariyas”, who rely only upon salt handling, live in extremely

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unfortunate circumstances. There is an absence of fundamental conveniences like drinking water, house, schooling & facilities like gumboots, shades, instruments and medical care... Children are raised on pungent land without any exercises for development. The part time employees live on the

actual skillet... They face wellbeing dangers like “rankles, consumes, trims, eye burning, falling hair, cerebral pains and numerous different diseases”. “Lower legs & feet foster injuries like ulcers and moles”. “Skin issues happen like scaling, atrophic scars, keratoderma, callosities & crevices”. This works with improved assimilation of salt into the body, which could be one of the reasons for hypertension. They additionally need to drink saline water more often than not. Lack of vitamin A, night visual impairment, tuberculosis, baby mortality and gynecological issues are normal. Temperature variance is exceptionally high which goes from “0° Celsius to 47° C” most extreme making home troublesome. “Little Rann of Kutch” is additionally a held asylum for “wild ass”. What’s more, accordingly, it is moreover critical to watch out for the biology of the spot. They leave fields in period of Oct.-Nov. furthermore, stay in field for next six months, that is to say, till April - May. The everyday environments of individuals are so awful in light of the fact that outrageous environment in the desert.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF SALT WORKERS

The various examinations plainly demonstrate that the execution of the “ICDS project” in the different provincial, ancestral and metropolitan ghettos essentially affect the advancement of ladies and kids having a place with the more fragile and weak areas; the effect shows varieties coming together to bunch. The plan comprehensively works with scholarly, social and mental advancement among youngsters under 6 years old. The Pre-school training additionally contributed an extraordinary arrangement in kid advancement and has empowered school enlistment and maintenance. The non-formal sustenance & wellbeing instruction given by anganwadi specialist engage the ladies in age bunch 15-45 years; to empower them to take care of their own wellbeing & nourishment needs as well as that of their kids & families. A portion of the above examinations plainly uncover that local area interest is an essential component for guaranteeing outcome of an “ICDS project”.

CONCLUSION

It very well may be plainly expressed that these salt laborers don’t have a simple admittance to wellbeing administrations in the town. It tends to be seen that most extreme “Agaria” individuals are not piece of any association. This might be because of their absence of ability or ignorance of any such associations. This shows that base number of individuals were currently are of names of the laborers association. This examination brings as far as anyone is concerned, the predominant orientation one-sided society, their functioning distinction and the low and unimportant working air for ladies present in the towns. It gives with respect to the cooperation of the spouses of “Agaria’s” permitted in the ladies association, predominant in the towns. A not many percent of “Agaria” individuals are familiar the public authority government assistance projects for them. In this way, a couple of percent of them are benefited by these ventures. Larger part for example 60% of “Agaria” individuals who get cash from financial specialist. Larger part for example 59% of “Agaria’s” are not taking advances from banks and other monetary gatherings. It mirrors that “Chakada” is the most extreme used public vehicle by the “Agaria’s”. All the above conditions analyzed

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by various reports and researches presents that the current conditions of “Agariyas” are not so good and thus they need much social development in all terms.

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