

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Migration of people from one place to another is a usual phenomenon since the beginning of human civilization. The migration in the beginning was for the sake of food and exploring new places for security purpose. But gradually the migration took the shape in diverse forms and now has become a very essential and common in each and every corner of the world. Millions of people from around the world (especially from the developing world) are leaving their usual place of residence for seeking better employment opportunities and supply of food for their dependents. With globalization, the trend of people going from one place to another has intensified (ILO, 2004).

Labour migration has, in the 21st century, moved to the top of the policy agendas of many countries. It is estimated that, over 150 million migrants are searching for improved economic opportunities abroad (ILO, 2004).

Nepal is a small landlocked country surrounded by two large and economically strong countries: China and India. It has got many potentialities to improve its economy by maintaining and utilizing its capital. For this the government needs a lot of funds to be spent by the people for the protection of public authority for the creation of various socio-economic infrastructures. In Nepal one of the major sources of GDP is remittance. The money sent back by the longer term (more than six months) migrants to their families back home is considered as a remittance. Remittances are the transfer of funds by the workers who are living and working in foreign countries. For example, in the case of Nepalese people India, Arab countries, Malaysia, Japan, Korea, Australia, Europe, America, Canada and others are the major foreign countries where a lot of Nepalese are working. Remittances are very important for countries with lower economic index like Nepal which has high rate of unemployment.

Remittance economy has become a major phenomenon in the international finance since the past few decades. At present the magnitude of remittance has stepped up rapidly. It is because of the globalization that people began to cross the border as foreign employment has become easy and there is high demand of manpower in the foreign countries. It has become a major source of income for developing countries like Nepal.

Remittance income in developing countries has become a lifeline for economic development. Many people who are employed in the foreign countries have supported their home and families by sending earnings along with household gadgets. Remittances from migrant workers are primarily personal and private transfers. They are not commercial or public transfers as many migrant workers limit their spending in order to send money home. With increase in outflow of people, the money transfer business has picked up in the country. More importantly, it has led to increase in foreign currency reserves and also helped improve the balance of payment situation to some extent. Remittance has also a significant effect on the economic activities of people and their purchasing power as well as improved lifestyles.

For many decades, Nepalese men have been moving temporarily to foreign countries for employment. In recent years, economically underprivileged people have also begun seeking opportunities for foreign employment, mainly to ease poverty at home. Remittance holds great significance in Nepal where one-fourth of the population lives below the poverty line.

Remittances are playing an increasingly large role in the economies of many countries, contributing to economic growth and to the livelihoods of less prosperous people. As remittance receivers often have a higher propensity to own a bank account. Remittances promote access to financial services for the sender and recipient and help promote economic development. As migrant remittances are sent cumulatively over the years and not only by new migrants, remittances are able to be persistent over time. Remittances are often sent by circular migrants, migrant workers who move back and forth between their home and host countries in a temporary and repetitive manner. These workers have the benefit of working in a high-income country and sending their remittances to a low-income country, thus benefitting financially. Remittances can boost up the GDP as well as encourage economic growth. However, remittances may also have adverse impacts by increasing income inequality and reducing labor supply among recipients.

Migration from the village to the city and out of the country has now become so rampant that its impact is felt in every aspect of life in the developing countries. At first, migration was confined within the country, but nowadays migration to the outside countries has grown rapidly.

Usually, an international migrant brings/transfers money to their home countries. This transferred money is termed as "remittance". Remittances from foreign employment

have become a very important component of the balance of payments for developing countries in recent years.

Until recently, remittances were considered as (microeconomic) benefitting the end user, the recipient household, including effects on poverty. The increasing magnitude of the remittances compared to other external flows to the GDP, in many developing countries, suggest that the macroeconomic effects of remittances are getting critical importance. High levels (or large increases) in remittances flows can be expected to have direct repercussions on foreign exchange rates, domestic rate and the balance of payment, poverty, growth and indirect repercussions on macro variables.

Remittances are incorporated into the national accounts of the receiving economy as a transfer from abroad. As such, they go directly into the expenditure path of the economy. As remittances come into the receiving economy, expenditure and savings will tend to increase thus, initiating higher investment.

The impact of remittance on poverty is considered positive. Remittance directly affects poverty by increasing the income of the recipient. They also indirectly affect poverty in the recipient country through their effect on growth, inflation, exchange rates and access to capital.

Remittances have positive impact on a country's balance of payment. Remittance act as a stable source of external finance and help in bridging the deficit on the current account. Remittances also help in improving several macroeconomic indicators. (Misra, 2007)

1.2 Foreign Employment: Existing Scenario

Usually, in underdeveloped countries, domestic labour market suffers from low labour productivity attributing to lack of skills, work ethics, obsolete technologies, and lack of industrial peace. Low growth exists in both agriculture and non-agriculture sectors, which are detrimental to create additional employment opportunities, people are seeking for better opportunities outside the country. Thus, international migration for foreign employment considerably increased in recent years.

But in the present scenario, there is lack of proper support system and monitoring resulting in frequent cheating and exploitation of workers by manpower companies both at home and abroad. Foreign employment is conspicuously confined to low paid jobs due to lack of appropriate skills required for matching demand for international labour market.

There are three types of People's migration pattern found in South Asia and Nepal.

They include: permanent migration to Europe, Australia and North America; contract labour migration to the Gulf and Southeast Asia; and cross border/seasonal migration within the region. In this context foreign migration for employment is increasing day by day in Nepal as well. In fact, foreign employment has become a major area in strengthening the country's economy.

In addition to financial benefits to the sending countries, migration provides opportunities to build their human, capital and social assets. Returning migrants usually bring new skills during employment abroad through what is today recognized as beneficial transfer of know-how and competencies called 'brain gain'.

1.2.1 Foreign Employment: Nepalese Context

After 1990, Nepal entered into liberal and free market; Nepalese people gradually started entering into foreign job markets. Nepal's economy is circumscribed by poverty and stagnation, which is further engulfed by low level equilibrium trap due to prolonged conflict, inefficiency and corruptions. Macroeconomic indicator exhibit that the size of Gross National Income (GNI) is found to be relatively diminutive (US\$ 8.1 billions), and GNI per capita is inordinately low (US\$ 311 per year) as of WDR, 2008. Economic growth rate is confined to 2.5 percent, lowest in South Asian Region. Around 31.0 percent of the total population live below the poverty line in object poverty and 24.1 percent population receive less than US\$ 1 a day. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) stagnated and siphoned off with the closure of a number of joint ventures in recent times. The balance of trade with India and overseas countries is growing excessively negative, but with favorable balance of payment situation. Fiscal and budget deficits are pressing hard to accelerate the quantum of internal and external borrowings. Saving/Gross Domestic Product (GDP) ratio declined while investment/GDP ratio moderately increased in recent years. Currently Nepse Index illustrates that share market is rising steadily against the back drop of prolonged conflict leading to downswing of the economy.

However, revenues are buoyant, International reserves have sustained increasing trends, and remittances significantly swelled up over the years, particularly due to growing demand for foreign employment at international labour market. Labour market is highly encapsulated by informal sector with poor contribution of manufacturing sector to GDP, and human resources lack quality, efficiency and competitiveness to match at domestic and international labour market and maximize benefits from globalization.

The figures of foreign employment indicate that, it is growing rapidly resulting in

huge amount of remittance estimated to be to the tune of more than US\$ 1.5 billion. The number of workers going abroad for employment has been steadily increasing as per the data provided by the Department of Labour and Employment Promotion. In 2008/09, the number of workers going overseas for employment was 219965 compared to 2,159 in 1994/95 (Shrestha, 2008).

1.2.2 Foreign Employment Patterns in Nepal

Migration from remote districts to the urban centers and to other countries has increased in the recent days and now become rampant that its impact is felt in every aspects of life of the country. This is a relatively recent development having peaked due to decade long conflict situation and political unrest in the country. Migration and foreign employment has become a way of life to many educated youth of the country. A large no of people have been migrated for foreign employment and the number has been increased rapidly every year. It also shows that the migration has concentrated (more than 65.14%) in the Gulf countries and a few to other countries.

The major factor contributing to large-scale out-migration from Nepal is higher growth of labour force and limited employment opportunities outside the farm sector. The 3 percent annual growth of labour force is not matched by additional job creation; moreover, the low salary structure in the economy, insecurity in the rural areas, and higher demand for the labour in the industrialized Asian and Middle-East Countries are the other contributing factors. The government's liberal policies, accompanied by mushrooming growth of the manpower agencies have also played instrumental roles. Currently, about 1000 manpower agencies are operating in Nepal. Furthermore, food scarcity, distorted peace and social order are strong push factors for increasing out migration. The poor people from the Mid-West and Far-West are migrating to India and those who can manage the funds are migrating beyond India (Shrestha, 2008).

1.3 Statement of the Problem

Until recently, the issue of foreign employment is virtually an ignored phenomenon. The fact over the last two decades and particularly since the mid-1990s, there has been an explosion in the number of Nepalese households, volume and value of remittance sent back to Nepal, has been little considered. Foreign employment has become very popular and familiar for a long ago. Many Nepalese people have been working in the foreign countries like India, Gulf Countries, Malaysia, European and American countries and others in order to support their family and daily household expenditures. It has become a tradition as well as a matter of prestige working outside the

country in our society nowadays. The biggest contribution of remittance is responsible for the welfare and improved livelihood of the receiving households in terms of basic necessities such as food, clothing, better health and education as well as savings.

Thus, the remittance is beneficial and it can't help the long term development of the country without its careful use. The use of remittance in various fields is still not known explicitly and comprehensively. Only a little is known about the impacts of remittance in socio-economic aspects of our society. Therefore, this study is expected to answer the following questions by conducting a comprehensive survey in migrant-sending communities of Besishahar Municipality, ward no 12:

- How many people are employed in the foreign countries?
- What is the role of remittance in the rural economy of the study area?
- What are the areas in which the remittance is being used and for what purpose?
- What changes does foreign employment bring in gender role in the study area?
- What are the impacts (positive and negative) of foreign employment and remittance?

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The general objective of the study is to review the impact of remittances on socio-economic condition of households in the study area. The study aims to examine the role of remittance to strengthen the local areas and to give suggestions for improvement. The specific objectives are:

- i. to determine the nature of people who are employed in foreign countries.
- ii. to identify the role of socio-economic status of the study area.
- iii. to analyze the changes in the gender role.
- iv. to study the socio-economic empowerment of the migrant's wives.

1.5 Significance of the Study

Foreign employment and remittance is one of the significant issues in the national economy of Nepal. It has been emerging as an alternative source to sustain agricultural activities for the increasing number of households. The detail and analytical study made by using facts and figures can be useful to understand the nature and the role of

remittance in the rural context. This study would also be beneficial for formulating policy and plans for rural development.

1.6 Limitations of the Study

This study is undertaken as a part of academic course for partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Masters of Arts in Economics. This study only analyzes the direct effect of remittance income on the development of rural areas.

- i. This study will give emphasis on comparing income and expenditure pattern of Besishahar Municipality, ward no 12 only.
- ii. This study will use some primary data through random sampling method.
- iii. Unlike seasonal variation only annual data in remittance income will be collected and analyzed.
- iv. Only 10% households will be taken to study and analyze the impact of remittance in remittance receiving households and remittance non-receiving households.
- v. This study will cover the workers employed at least one year in the foreign countries.

1.7 Organization of the Study

This study contains five chapters. The first chapter is Introduction. This chapter contains brief introduction of labour migration and foreign employment and driving factors for migration. Historical background of Nepalese labour force migration and present migration scenario is also described in this chapter. Besides that, statement of problem, objectives, justification and limitations of the study are also included.

The second chapter of this study deals with the review of reference materials. Brief summary of reviewed articles, books, journals, research works and thesis are presented. Beside this, review of present legal frame regarding foreign employment of Nepal is also presented in brief. The literature review works are presented in three different categories - the global, regional, and national context for providing different perspectives. The third chapter on research methodology contains the techniques adopted for the study. It includes research design, data collection, data analysis and methods of study.

The fourth chapter is an analytical chapter to identify the overall contribution of foreign employment in national economy based on available secondary information. Presentation in this chapter starts with presenting situation of world economy and impact

of foreign employment. Later description on macro-economic situation of Nepal and contribution of foreign employment is described. It deals with the analysis of socio economic contributions of foreign employment on household income of Besishahar Municipality ward no 12. It also highlights the changes observed in the living pattern of dependent of the foreign employees due the increased income through the foreign employment. It also deals with the foreign employment and its direct and indirect impact on the population at the origin and destination. As a direct impact, it changes the life pattern of the dependents of the foreign employee. But as a result of indirect impact individual behaviour of the dependent (wife) starts changing. This chapter examines the changes in the role of the dependents of the foreign employee.

The fifth chapter highlights the major findings, conclusions of the study and the recommendations provided to the concerned stakeholders.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Today the term remittance has taken a central place in debates among development experts all over the world owing partly to the fact that its volume is growing at an exponential rate in recent years. Remittance holds great significance in Nepal where one-fourth of the population lives below the poverty line. According to World Bank, Nepal is among the top five countries in the world with remitted income amounting to 23 per cent of the national GDP. Statistics show that remittances bring in one hundred billion rupees each year to Nepal. In 2010, Nepal received \$3,507 million (The World Bank, p. 15). According to World Bank, remittance has definitely reduced headcount poverty rate in the country. It has been stimulating much needed economic development.

Along with this, investment in the foreign employment business has also increased to a significant extent with many overseas agencies mushrooming. Nepal Demographic and Health survey 2011 shows more than 400,000 youth have left Nepal in 10 months of the last fiscal year in search of employment abroad. The same survey depicts that net migration rate stands at 0.61 migrant(s)/1,000 populations. At present, Nepal sends one per cent skilled and 29 per cent semi skilled workers to about 108 destinations. The remaining 70 per cent workers are unskilled. This shows there is a high demand for unskilled labor abroad (Bhattarai, pp. 49-52).

Pant (2008) argues that the remittances can generate a positive effect on the economy through various channels such as savings, investment, growth, consumption, and poverty and income distribution. Similarly, remittances also contribute significantly to GDP and to stability of the economy by lowering the probability of current account reversals.

Banking Development and Research Unit, Janakpur (2012) points out that Nepal is facing pressing problem of widespread unemployment among youth. The employment opportunities are virtually nonexistent in rural areas, yet still predominant in city areas as well. This situation led many youngsters to leave Nepal seeking employment in foreign countries with an expectation to make their life better. Literally speaking, Nepal is exporting unemployment by just allowing people to leave the country and seek employment opportunities abroad instead of trying to create employment opportunities for them. Even if this is the case, the irony is that the living standard of migrant workers

has not improved as expected due to the fact that Nepal is sending mostly unskilled workers. While the national figure of remittance is enormously high, the survey revealed that per household remittance earning is trivial owing to this fact. The households were found to be saying that they were sending their beloved ones to foreign employment because no other option is available for them to stay within the country. The government, on the other hand, becomes reluctant to hold workforce within the country because the remittance earnings help achieve stable BOP on one hand and it relieves burden of mass unemployment on the other. In this regard, it looks urgent to take concrete measures to retain most productive workforce within the country.

In order to gather fair and precise knowledge about the foreign employment in Nepal, the following literatures on global, regional, and national context and legal provisions for foreign employment has been studied and reviewed. Literatures of following categories, relevant to foreign employment/migration have been reviewed.

2.1 Regional Context of Migration and Foreign Employment

In the Asian context of migration Maruja M.B. Asis, (2003) of Scalabrini Migration Centre in Manila, in the article "Asian Women Migrants: Going theDistance, But Not Far Enough" has mentioned that, in recent times, particularly in the last 30 years, journeying in Asia has meant international labour migration, initially to the Gulf countries in the 1970s, and to the dragon economies in Asia from the 1980s. And men are not the only ones engaged in it. In the beginning, labour migration involved mostly men from South, East, and Southeast Asia availing themselves of job opportunities in the Gulf countries. The slowing down of infrastructure projects, the second oil crisis in 1979, and the changing labour needs of the Gulf countries resulted in a lower demand for male workers and an emerging need for female workers to fill the demand for medical personnel, maintenance workers, and domestic workers.

At about the same time, the expanding economies of Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Malaysia, and Thailand became new destinations for migrant workers in the region. Since then, labour migration within the region has increased tremendously. The number has climbed from about a million migrant workers in the major receiving countries at the start of the 1980s to at least 6.5 million at this time, including both formal and unauthorized migrant workers.

What unfolded in the Asian region is a gendered migration process: male migration in response to the requirements of industrialization (construction and manufacturing;

plantation work in Malaysia), and female migration in response to the shortage of domestic and childcare workers (with Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, and Taiwan as major destinations in East and Southeast Asia). In the past 30 years, most female migrants have come from three countries: the Philippines, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka. In these three countries, women comprise some 60 to 80 percent of migrants legally deployed every year. Legal migration from Indonesia and Sri Lanka is dominated by women who take up domestic work in Middle Eastern countries, with Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Taiwan as other secondary destinations.

On International labour migration from Kerala State in India, KC Zachariah, K.P. Kannan and S. Irudaya Rajan has compiled the following five study reports which describe various aspects impacts, potentialities, problems in Kerala state.

- Migration Pattern and their Socio-economics;
- Consequences of Migration: Socio-economics and Demographic Dimension;
- Returning home: Problems and potentialities;
- Working in Gulf: Employment, Wages and Working conditions; and
- Kerala's Gulf Connection: Remittances and their Macroeconomic Impact

"Labour Migration, Employment and Poverty Alleviation in South Asia" is a report of updated summary about the proceedings of the Regional Seminar jointly organized by South Asia Centre for Policy Studies (SACEPS) and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES), Kathmandu, Nepal, August 9-10, 2007. The report was compiled by Sridhar K. Khatri, Executive Director South Asia Centre for Policy Studies (SACEPS).

This report is divided into following eight parts. The first two sections look at how international migration has emerged as a global agenda and its growing importance to South Asian Region.

The third section of the paper examines some of the key issues facing labour migration from the region, particularly the vast inflow of remittances through unofficial channel, problems faced by women migrant workers and the challenging nature of the international labour market.

The next section looks at some of the problems that are often faced by the migrant workers, including how the 'mindset' of governments in the region and the absence of adequate institutional mechanisms to promote and protect workers' interests has led to violations of their rights.

The fifth section examines the contribution of remittances in poverty alleviation and employment in the region. In particular, this portion of the paper looks at how

migration has provided access and opportunities to many people from South Asia to make a better living by taking advantage of the international labour market and the difference remittances has made in uplifting the economic status of the poor by generating income in the country of origin. The level of legal protection provided to the migrant workers through national regulations, and regional and international conventions are examined in the next section.

The remaining two portions of the paper looks at measures that need to be taken in South Asia to further promote migration and protect the rights of the migrant workers.

The final section deals with the desired goals that must be achieved by sending countries in South Asia, while the concluding section includes specific recommendations as to what South Asian countries can do collectively to promote migration through the SAARC process.

2.2 National Context of Migration and Foreign Employment

Bijaya Shrestha in her article on "Contribution of Foreign Employment and Remittances to Nepalese Economy" (NRB, 2008) has assessed the contribution of foreign employment and remittances to Nepalese economy and also identifies the information needs and gaps. It is an attempt to assess the role of remittances in poverty reduction. She further admits that, though remittances sent home by migrant workers is a boon to the economy, the facilities are inadequate to back up the increasing trend of migration. Inadequate information on foreign employment, lack of skill training and lack of assurance of safe working environment and rights of the migrant workers has obstructed foreign employment.

She also suggested that, the government should play a proactive role to promote foreign employment by inducting and adhering to the policy of economic diplomacy. Further to that, formulation and effective implementation of pro poor migration policy is the need of today. Replicating the best practice of the region has to be endorsed in our national context for promotion and regularization of foreign employment, to encourage official transfer of remittance and to streamline the asset and skill of the returnees for the economic development of the country.

She concluded her article that, in Nepal, remittances have emerged as one of the premier sources of foreign exchange, and in recent years they have been an important avenue of support for family members remaining at home. It has been already demonstrated that remittances sent by the migrant workers is an effective tool for poverty

reduction.

New Era, has conducted a "Study on Inter Regional Migration in Nepal" in October 1981. In the study, Nepalese migration has been categorized into: i) seasonal; ii) temporary; and iii) permanent; natured. The study has also explained the causes of migration in the frame of 'push and pull' factors. High population pressure, insufficient land holdings, shortage of food grains and environmental shifts in hills are 'push' factors. Whereas, existence of land resources in tarai, government incentives, planned resettlement, availabilities of the several facilities and pressures of friends and relatives are 'pull' factors for the hill people.

Prakash Bhattarai's study regarding the "Migration of Nepalese youth for Foreign Employment: Problems and Prospects" conducted in October 2005 aims at evaluating the Nepalese government's policies and programmes related to the regulation and management of foreign employment profession in Nepal.

The study has concluded that the foreign labour migration can be regulated with the proper implementation of government policies and programmes. The foreign employment profession should also be accepted as a dignified occupation as because of its importance to strengthen the national economy and it also making our young people engage in some sorts of income generating activities even in the difficult period of the country.

Bed Nidhi Ghimire "Migration and Employment: A case study of Sandhikharka VDC of Arghakhanchi District", unpublished M.A. thesis, TU Kathmandu, 1997, has pointed out that, Population of Sandhikharka VDC has migrated not only to various parts of Nepal, but also to India, Arabian countries, Korea and UK. Employment opportunities, business facilities were the main pull factors of their out migration. The majority numbers of these out migrants are economically motivated. Economically their standard of living is raised through employment activities.

A study on "Remittance Income from India" was conducted by the Research Department of Nepal Rastra Bank. The study aimed at exploring trends and nature of remittance income, channels of remittance income from India, and analyze the existing system of adopted by SAARC countries for remittance income through formal channel.

The study observed among other that, Policies adopted by Nepal government and the Nepal Rastra Bank primarily focused on the remittance income from the third countries rather than from India. Besides that, time duration and cost implication on remittance income transfer from India is not customer friendly.

The study has also identified the following measures as for encouraging remittance through formal channels:

- Reduction of tax in Inward Remittances;
- Provide preferential treatment in custom for goods with returning migrants;
- Flexibility in foreign exchange and capital control in case of Remittance income;
- Encourage system of collective remittance and matching fund,
- Issuing of government bonds and debenture focusing Diasporas.

2.3 Legal Provisions for Foreign Employment

Followings are the legal frame works enacted by the government for the promotion of foreign employment.

- i) Constitution of Nepal, 2072
- ii) Foreign Employment Act, 2064
- iii) Foreign Employment Regulation, 2064
- iv) Policies for Foreign Employment

Constitution of Nepal, 2072

The Constitution of Nepal, 2072 has guaranteed various fundamental rights of citizens of Nepal. All the citizens are equal despite of difference in terms of sex. The constitution has guaranteed freedom of movement and freedom to adopt any kind of profession. It has also guaranteed reasonable payment for the labour and provided rights against exploitation.

Foreign Employment Act and Regulations, 2064 (2007/08)

Government of Nepal has promulgated Foreign Employment Act, 2064 for the promotion of foreign employment as a respectable profession. This act puts emphasis in preserving rights and providing necessary security for the foreign Employees. As per the clause 85 of the Foreign Employment Act, 2064, Nepal Government has endorsed Foreign Employment Regulation, 2064 which has widened the scope and simplified the procedure for implementing the Foreign Employment Act. The act consists of 12 Chapters whereas the regulation consists of 10 Chapters:

The following are the major characteristics of the act and regulations.

- Progressive system for protection of labour's right;
- Provided various facilities and made foreign employment a profession of an

honored;

- Increased provision for punishment on crime against labour, and prescribed mechanism for implementation;
- In case of emergency, the act has provisioned foreign Employment fund as a relief mechanism; and
- Act has increased the role of government in promotion of foreign employment.

Some of the weaknesses of the act and regulations:

- Lack of government contribution in Foreign Employment fund;
- Lack of real representation of organizations working for the right and welfare of the labours; and
- Lack of mediation mechanism for settlement of disputes.

Policies for Foreign Employment

Though, the government of Nepal has not developed foreign employment specific policy document, there are foreign employment related topics in various government manifestos. Followings are some of the foreign employment related policies:

Labour and Employment Policy, 2062 (2005/06)

The following policy and strategies in relation to foreign employment has been highlighted in the Labour and Employment policy, 2062.

- A distinct policy on labour migration will be formulated and enforced for the promotion of safe and decent foreign employment.
- The implementation of the global labour parameters in the informal sector will be encouraged through employers' and workers' organizations.
- The "skill for employment" programme will be implemented by coordinating the vocational and skill development training programmes conducted under different ministries and agencies and making them more effective in accordance with the changing technology and nature of demand of the labour market.
- The global standards of gender equality and promotion will be adopted and their provisions gradually implemented.

Action Plan for National Human Rights, 2061 (2004/05)

- Review the effectiveness of the implementation of the foreign employment related acts.
- Establish foreign employment information centre

The Three Year Interim Plan, 2064/65-2066/67 (2007-2010)

The three year Interim plan has jot down the following Objectives policies and

working policies relating to the foreign employment promotion in the country.

Objectives

- Strengthening and promoting foreign employment at regional and international labour markets by increasing competitive efficiency of the workers in compatible with liberalization and globalization;
- To reduce unemployment by developing skilled and competitive labour force in accordance with the demand of the domestic and international labour markets; and
- To make foreign employment safe and organized, and identify new areas of employment.

Policies and Working Policies

- Legal, technical and practical trainings will be made available in order to make the maximum use of opportunities available for employment by identifying foreign labour market.
- Women as well as worker-friendly legal and institutional reforms will be made in order to make domestic and foreign employment reliable and safe. Further, necessary skills and training will be provided to labour force.
- Dalits, AdibasiJanajatis, Muslims, Madhesis, conflict affected, disadvantaged communities and individuals will be encouraged for foreign employment by providing appropriate skills.
- Labour agreement will be made with countries having more than a stipulated number of labourers along with the development of diplomatic mechanisms for the protection and welfare of Nepalese going for foreign employment.
- Arrangements will be made for accident and life insurance for the entire work period for those going for foreign employment.
- The subject of foreign employment will be incorporated in the syllabus of training institutes of different agencies to increase awareness, knowledge and liabilities on legal, social and security aspects, for the protection and welfare of individuals going for foreign employment.
- The remittances will be used for productive purposes by inducting appropriate programs while making the remittance system simple and strengthened.

Gaps and Problems in Legislation and Implementation

Although the Foreign Employment Act (2064) is well intentioned, its implementation has not effectively promoted foreign employment and protected the

migrant workers. For the Act to be effectively implemented there must be a coordinated effort by all agencies involved in labour migration. The active participation of the police, immigration, banks, airlines and foreign missions abroad is equally important.

Licensed recruitment agencies deplore existing legal provisions relating to migration clearance. In particular, the need to receive governmental approval for job offers, for the advertising of job offers, and for the selection of applicants causes delays in sending people abroad. As a result, agents claim, the business is being retarded. Similarly, prospective migrant workers complain about the excessive cost of securing foreign employment. License holders and unauthorized recruiting agencies often charge in excess of the legally permissible service charge. Malpractices, graft, corruption and the exploitation of workers have become common phenomenon in the recruitment of workers for employment overseas.

There is a high incidence of fake employment contracts, visas, and forged documents for migration clearance and travelling. The result is that many Nepalese become stranded or get deported from countries where they have gone for work. As discussed above, a foreign worker who feels cheated can take their problem to the DLEP. After the submission of their case and with the permission of a court, offenders can be kept in police custody for up to 30 days while an investigation is conducted.

However, there is no set time limit in which cases must be submitted. Among the cases filed by the DLEP to date, a District Court has given its verdict against 'Everest Foreign Employment', 'Manakamana Manpower', and 'International Manpower Nepal'. With the support of the DLEP Rs. 24,461,640 has been paid to victims (Gurung, 2004).

2.4 Concluding Remarks

To conclude, migration has both positive and negative consequences to the country of origin. Remittances from international migrants play an extraordinary role in the current accounts of many developing countries whereas the loss of skilled people imposes several different kinds of costs on their countries of origin. There always remain gaps in our understanding of how remittances are, or can be used, to promote development. Besides that cost of sending remittances is a major loss of income for the developing world. The cost of transferring money can represent a significant loss to immigrants and their families.

In order to protect human rights of the migrants international declaration, convention, and agreements has been made to protect migrants through the whole

migration process including decision making, pre-departure, migration preparation, transit and employment at destination country, and return/reintegration. But, both the sending and receiving countries do not usually want to be bound by such obligations.

Both male and female migrants are increasing day by day. Male population are migrating in response to the requirements of industrialization (construction and manufacturing; plantation work in Malaysia), and female migration in response to the shortage of domestic and childcare workers (with Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, and Taiwan as major destinations in East and Southeast Asia). Though the numbers population migrating for foreign employment has increased and country of origin is benefiting remittance income in South Asian countries, the legal framework to protect the rights and interest of migrant workers has not yet fully developed.

Foreign employment and remittances has great contribution to the Nepalese economy. But, the magnitude of contribution is only guess works due to lack of authenticity of information.

Nepali migrant workers have been facing problems both in the origin and the country of destination. Though limited protective measures had been developed, polices and guidelines relating to the international migration are not properly implemented. Further to that, government lacks commitment in protecting the rights of the migrant workers.

2.5 Research Gap

Review of related literature tells us about various researches about foreign employment and its various impacts, prospects and remedies. It makes us identify the major changes brought in national, regional and local by foreign employment. Yet I have noticed lack of such research in my study area, which inspire me to make a thorough economical study of foreign employment (migration) in Besishahar Municipality so that I myself and the related agencies like municipality office (my workplace) are benefitted for making policies and other related works.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study is based on primary and secondary sources of information. For the purpose of studying the contribution of the out migration / foreign employment, Besishahar municipality, ward no 12 has been chosen.

Besishahar is a municipality and the district headquarters of Lamjung District in, Nepal. The Besishahar Municipality was formed by merging the existing village development committees i.e. Beshishahar, Gaunshahar, Udipur and Chandisthan on 15 May 2014 and has 18 wards. Here are different castes and religion. So they have different culture. This municipality has much natural beauty. Besishahar Municipality has a warm and sub-tropical type of climate with deciduous forest type. Annapurna II, Machhapuchhchhre and Lamjung Himal are the beautiful scenes that can be viewed from north of Besishahar Municipality.

3.1 Research Design

In order to achieve the study objectives, the descriptive and analytic research method have been adopted. To provide the direction to the study and analysis, standard questionnaire was prepared and interviews were conducted in Besishahar Municipality.

The questionnaire consists of seven different sections. The first, second and third sections includes questions for collecting personal and other general information of the migrants family and household. Specifically, it consists questions relating to the 'personnel descriptions', 'descriptions regarding foreign employment', and 'information about present social status of the migrants household'.

The fourth section of the questionnaire consists of questions to get the glimpse of the economic status of the migrant's house and the economic implication of the foreign employment.

The fifth section of the questionnaire aims at collecting changed status of empowerment level of the migrant's wife. For the purpose, the questionnaire is designed to get information regarding the following four basic indicators of empowerment.

- Access to information;
- Awareness about the basic rights;
- Capacity building efforts; and

- Decision making.

The Sixth section of the questionnaire focused in collecting information regarding changes in gender role of the migrant's wife due to her husband migration for foreign employment. And the last section of the questionnaire was for the collection of the problems (physical and mental) faced by the migrant's wife because of family burden in the absence of her husband.

The questionnaire used for collection primary information is given in Appendix 1. The study aimed at analyzing the overall contribution of foreign employment (remittance) on national economy, with the help of secondary information. For the purpose, publication, reports, research works, review, survey reports etc. were collected from the following organizations.

- Nepal Rastra Bank;
- Ministry of Finance;
- Central Bureau of Statistic;
- Department of Labour and Transport;
- Association of Foreign Employment Business, Nepal;
- International Labour Organization;
- District Development Committee Office, Lamjung;
- United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM); and
- Other non-government organizations working for foreign employment.

Data/ information regarding remittance and other related information were collected and analyzed. The relationship between the independent variables (Remittance, Gross Fixed Capital Formation, and Economically Active population), dependent variables real Gross Domestic Products (GDP) has been shown in this research work. The result of this analysis is to examine the contribution of remittance in national economic growth.

3.2 Population and Sampling

Based on the review of literature, following activities were carried out as preparation for the field survey:

- Identify Besishahar municipality ward no 12 as the targeted community for the survey work. Besishahar municipality was specially selected for the study because; this municipality is my workplace (I have been working in the same municipality as its staff for a year). There are many people who have been working in the foreign

countries for a long time. The total number of population in foreign employment jobs from Besishahar municipality ward no 12 are 541 males and 47 females. (Besishahar municipality, 2016). The detail of country-wise migration from Besishahar municipality ward no 12 is given in Appendix 2.

- For collecting primary information sample survey method was used. Information regarding the total numbers of household has been obtained from the municipality Office. There are 1108 households in this ward. The data show that, a total of 588 populations had migrated for foreign employment. Out of total population (from 588 households) 59 households (10.03 %) have been interviewed in this study for collecting primary data. For the purpose, random selection of interviewee method was used. The number of respondents per settlement (gaun) was proportionately selected, whereas the number of households per settlement was randomly selected. Settlement-wise number of household selected for interview is given in the table below:

Table 3.1: Household and Sampling Frame for the Besishahar Municipality

Settlements	Numbers of	Migrated	Number of Sampled
	Household	Population	Households
Mayum	131	27	3
Suyelthok	120	56	6
Rautgaun	70	68	7
Dihithok	78	36	4
Chandi Dada	23	15	3
Manange Chautara	210	145	14
Satbise	115	34	3
Purano Bank Chowk	157	47	5
Shanti Tole	129	37	4
Gairi Kuna	75	123	10
Total	1108	588	59
Percentage		100%	10.03%

Source: Municipality and field survey, 2072

- For analysis of socio-economic contribution of the foreign employment at the

individual and household level, through primary information a questionnaire was designed to collect the socio-economic status of each household, individual empowerment of the dependent of the foreign employee, and changes in gender role of the dependent. The interview was conducted to collect information exclusively from the women dependents (wives) of the foreign employees. (refer Appendix 1)

3.2.1 Methods and Techniques for Data Collection

A data collection technique was chosen in accordance with the level of understanding likely to arise from their use. Wherever possible, results were cross-checked by using a number of different sources and by utilizing a range of structured, semi-structured and unstructured data collection techniques. The field survey was designed in order to establish householder's views, sampling a population of potential respondents in order to generalize conclusions more widely. As well as eliciting the views of the respondents, equal importance was placed on their actions and experiences, using both a time and an incident focus. The data collection techniques were pre-tested, developed and adapted accordingly.

Two complementary data collection techniques were used during all the phases of the fieldwork survey:

Semi-structured Interview Survey

A series of semi-structured interviews were carried out with the sampled 104 households in the targeted settlements of the study area for getting information regarding changes in household income and changes in gender roles.

Observation Techniques

For collection of formal/informal nature of empowerment status due to foreign employment, observation and data collection technique was applied. The observation techniques enabled data gathering on: social and behavioral aspect of the population in the sampled settlements. The following were the dimension of community empowerment due to foreign employment.

Access to Information: information opens the doors of opportunity, access services, exercise their rights and enhance accountability;

Inclusion/participation: Inclusion of poor people and other excluded groups in decision making is critical to ensure bringing about commitment to change; and

Accountability: members of community are answerable for the action and that affects the

well-being of the community.

3.3 Method of Data Analysis

The collected data are stratified, tabulated and analyzed in an appropriate and purposive way. The analysis of data is done with the help of descriptive and statistical tools. Frequency tables are one of the tools for data presentation. Such frequency table along with diagram and graphs are used for analyzing the data.

Different statistical tools were used to show the interrelation between remittance and national economic growth. Besides, statistical tools, other simple tools using Excel Programs have also been applied.

In order to analyze data collected through questionnaires, data are uploaded in Excels Sheets and later analyzed with help of various facilities within the Excels Programs to create analytical tables. Necessary tables and descriptive statistics are presented as required in analysis and interpretation of the data.

CHAPTER IV

PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA

4.1 Socio-economic Contribution at the Household Level

There has been a great impact and influence of foreign employment in the socio-economic conditions at the national, regional and local levels of the country. For the purpose of studying the impact of the out-migration / foreign employment, Besishahar Municipality ward no 12 has been chosen. A total of 104 households have been interviewed using structured questionnaire to quantify the exact impact of foreign employment on household income, changes in the gender role, and Socio/economic empowerment. Before discussing the impact, it would be appropriate to give the general introductory note of the targeted community of the study.

4.1.1 Population Pattern of the Study Area

The total population is 5352 with 1108 households in the study area, which consists of 2659 male population and 2666 female population. The settlement-wise population of the study area is given below:

4.1.2 Occupation of the Population of the Study Area

In terms of population in the study area, agriculture is the dominant occupation (about 44%), even though the land at the bazaar area is heavily used for making houses and business complexes and the land in the hillside area is not easy for agricultural activities. 19.94% of the study area are engaged in service (government and private sector) occupation. Apart from that, 19.67% of the populations are self-employed in various businesses. The details of population according to their occupation are given in the table below:

Table 4.1: Population of the Besishahar Municipality According to their Occupation

Settlements	Number of Households	Occupations					
		Agriculture	Service	Business	Cottage Industry	Wage Workers	Others
Mayum	131	84	24	5	2	3	13
Suyelthok	120	56	17	13	8	15	11
Rautgaun	70	39	15	7	1	2	6
Dihithok	78	48	25	5	0	0	0
Chandi Dada	23	11	6	3	0	3	0
Manange Chautara	210	46	35	78	5	45	1
Satbise	115	49	22	24	0	12	8
Purano Bank Chowk	157	66	27	37	2	14	11
Shanti Tole	129	49	37	29	1	13	0
Gairi Kuna	75	39	13	17	1	4	1
Total	1108	487	221	218	20	111	51
Percent (%)	100	43.95	19.94	19.67	1.8	10.01	4.6

Source: Lamjung, DDC

4.1.3 Socio-economic Condition of the Study Area

Though, the lands of Besishahar Municipality is considered very fertile and Abbal (first grade), majority of population are medium level in terms of economic status. There are large numbers of household without land. Thus, majority of the households are tenant farmer. It is obvious that, the agriculture products are not sufficient for livelihood for the whole year. Population distribution in terms of food sufficiency is given in the table below:

Table 4.2: Population Distribution in terms of Food Sufficiency

Settlements	Number of Households	Food Sufficiency for				
		The whole year	9 months	6 months	3 months	No landholding
Suyelthok	120	22	19	50	10	19
Rautgaun	70	7	5	23	24	11
Dihithok	78	29	13	21	9	6
Chandi Dada	23	11	3	6	1	2
Manange Chautara	210	86	56	17	38	13
Satbise	115	43	27	15	22	8
Purano Bank Chowk	157	87	32	12	20	6
Shanti Tole	129	56	32	26	8	7
Gairi Kuna	75	39	6	26	0	4
TOTAL	1108	425	216	212	159	96
Percent (%)		38.35	19.49	19.13	14.35	8.66

Source: Baseline Survey, Lamjung, DDC, 2072

The table above shows that, in Besishahar Municipality only 38.35% of the households produce agricultural products sufficient for the whole year. 19.49% of the households produce agricultural products sufficient for nine months. Similarly, 19.13% and 14.35% of the households produce agricultural products sufficient for six months and 3 months respectively. It is also observed that 8.66% of the households have no land holding at all.

4.1.4 Foreign Employment in the Study Area

Before analyzing the impact of the foreign employment in the study area, it was studied regarding what actually is foreign employment to ward no 12 of Besishahar Municipality. For the purpose, Information regarding trend, cost, capacity and types of employment has been collected and analyzed.

4.1.4.1 Trend and Volume of the Foreign Employment

One of the focuses of this trend analysis is to observe the concentration of migrant

workers as per the country of destination. The following trend is observed regarding country of destination based on 104 sample study of the study area.

Table 4.3: Trend of Foreign Employment in terms of Destination

SN	Destination	Sampled Number	Percentage
1.	America	2	1.92
2.	Australia	2	1.92
3.	India	29	27.88
4.	Japan	5	4.8
5.	Britain	3	2.88
6.	Malaysia	15	14.42
7.	Qatar	21	20.19
8.	Saudi Arab	27	25.96
	Total	104	100.0

Source : Field Study of Besishahar Municipality, 2072

The above table shows the flow of the migrant workers is highly concentrated to India, Saudi Arab, Qatar and Malaysia even though other countries like Australia, Japan and America are the labour destination countries due to high expected income. The high demands of Nepalese labour in Saudi Arab, Qatar, and Dubai people of both skilled and semi-skilled qualities motivated to go to these countries. In percentage a total of 63% of the sampled population are concentrated in Arabian countries from the study area.

4.1.4.2 Cost of Foreign Employment

Manual labourers from Nepal who use recruiting agencies to go for work in the Gulf or to Malaysia have to pay between Rs 70,000-75,000. This figure includes all costs involved in the processing of documents, the medical tests, and the price of an air ticket (Gurung, 2004). The data regarding cost of going abroad for foreign employment collected from the study area is shown below:

Table 4.4: Cost of Foreign Employment

SN	Amount spent in Rs.	Sampled Number	Percentage
1.	Up to 100,000	63	60.5
2.	100,000 to 150,000	19	18.2
3.	150,000 to 250,000	13	12.5
4.	More than 250,000	9	8.8
	Total	104	100.0

Source : Field Study of Besishahar Municipality, 2072

The above table shows the lists of total costs of using formal channels to migrate for work in Gulf countries and Malaysia, and some other countries of the sampled population of the study area. The data show that, 60.5% of the sampled migrant's cost for going to the foreign employment was up to Rs. 100,000. The costs for people who use informal channels and the cost of immigrating for work to Europe or countries like Japan ranges from around Rs. 150,000 to more than Rs. 250,000.

4.1.4.3 Source of Funds for the Foreign Employment

In simple business terms, one needs to invest for future earnings. Here in foreign employment also one needs to invest in terms of money, and in terms of human resources. Information regarding source of funds for foreign employment has been collected and analyzed. The table below gives the glimpse of source of funds for going abroad as migrants of the sampled population of Besishahar Municipality.

Table 4.5: Source of Funds for the Foreign Employment

SN	Source of Fund	Number	Percentage
1.	Own money	51	49
2.	Loan from Financial Institutions	16	15.3
3.	Loan from friends	19	18.3
4	Loan from Community organizations	2	3.9
5.	Own money and financial institutions	2	3.9
6.	Loan from friends and financial institutions	10	9.6
	Total	104	100

Source : Field Study of Besishahar Municipality, 2009

The above table shows that more than 50% of the populations going abroad as migrants are using borrowed money. The survey also gives account that, the rate of borrowing ranges from 13% in the financial institution to more than 20% in case of borrowing from informal sectors.

4.1.4.4 Occupational Status of the Migrants

Occupation is another important stratum to understand the socio-economic situation of a person. The following table shows the types of jobs that the migrants are involved in the foreign country.

Table 4.6: Nature of Job in the Foreign Country

S.N.	Types of Job	Sampled Number	Percentage
1.	Watchman/Guard	6	5.8
2.	Cook/helper	17	16.3
3.	House keeping	4	3.8
4.	Waiter	12	11.5
5.	Construction Labour	19	18.3
6.	Army or Police	15	14.4
7.	Agriculture/animal caring labour	4	3.8
8.	Driver	8	7.7
9.	Other	19	18.3
	Total	104	100

Source : Field Study,2072

From the above table it could be understood that, most of the migrants work in the lower level jobs or the jobs which does not required specialized technical skills. The above table shows that, 18.3% of the sampled migrants are engaged as construction labors whereas 16.3% works as cook/helper in the restaurants. Besides that, 11.5% of the migrants are working as waiter in restaurants.

4.1.4.5 Pre-departure Training

Appropriate pre-departure training can make a lot of differences on how well migrant workers adjust to the new environment in the destination countries. A study done on Nepali migrants going to Malaysia three years ago showed that if they don't stay in dirty conditions or with friends, the workers hardly save any money after deducting the cost of migrating to the receiving countries, commission, the living expenses, etc. Skill development is important since demand for skilled workers are rising, while the demands for unskilled workers will grow at a decelerated rate. In Nepal, migrant workers association and government have opened centers to teach the skills required for the migrants.

The table below gives account of pre-departure training situation of the sampled migrant population of the study area.

Table 4.7: Pre-departure Training

S.N.	Training Received	Sampled Number	Percentage
1.	Yes	35	33.6
2.	No	59	56.6
3.	No information	10	9.8
	Total	104	100

	Skills Acquired		
1.	Cook	19	54.2
2.	Waiter	2	5.8
3.	Driver	12	34.2
4.	Builder	2	5.8
	Total	35	100

Source: Field Study of Besishahar Municipality, 2072

The table above shows that, out of 104 sampled study, only 35 migrants took pre-departure training. Out of 35 migrants participated in pre-departure training programme, 54.2% had acquired cooking skills, 34.2% are trained as vehicle drivers and 5.8% each are skilled as waiter and construction works.

4.1.5 Socio-economic Contribution of the Migration

A set of information were collected using questionnaire in the sampled household for studying socio-economic impact of foreign employment at household level in Besishahar Municipality Ward no 12.

One of the major objectives of this study is to analyze the consequences of migration on the household economy and society. This study deals with the socio-economic aspects (but not all), includes financial resources, housing and household amenities, children's educations and demographic consequences of migration. Migration (foreign employment) has been one of the positive outcomes in the physical development of the people of Besishahar Municipality. The accelerated process of migration, especially the recent trends in Arabian countries have their impact on every facet of the economy and society of the study area. Though, it will take more years to visualize the full impact of the migration. Behavioural changes are slow to come by and usually take a generation or more to become visible.

Some of the aspects of the impact of migration on the household economy and

society of the study area are discussed below.

4.1.5.1 Economic Contribution of the Migration at the Household Level

Migration has both direct and indirect impact on the demography of the population at origin and destinations. The direct effects become visible immediately and are mostly structural in nature. Indirect consequences are changes in behavioural and personal in nature of the family members of the foreign employee.

The direct impact of the foreign employment especially those taking place in the households of migrants are brought through remittances and their utilization. The sample study of Besishahar Municipality collected information on remittance received in cash, and its utilization to identify the effects. The followings are the direct effects.

Average Monthly Expenses of the Migrants Household

Foreign Employment has helped to increase the economic conditions of the people of the study area. As a result the pattern of household expenses has changed in terms of nature and amount. In order to identify the impact of received remittance, information about the household expenses have been collected and analyzed. The followings are the average household expenses of the sampled migrant's house.

Table 4.8: Household Expenses of the Migrant's House

S.N.	Expenses Headings	Monthly Average Expenses (Rs)	Percentage
1	Food	5,400	49.8
2	Cooking Fuel	445	4.3
3	Electricity	207	1.9
4	Water	216	2.1
5	School Fee	1,600	14.7
6	Clothing	1700	15.6
7	Other expenses	1,265	11.6
Total Average Expenses per Household		10,833	100.0

Source : Field Study of Besishahar Municipality, 2072

The table above shows the monthly household expenses of migrant's house. The data show that, average monthly expenses of migrant's house are Rs.10, 833. Out of which 49.8% (Rs5400) is spent on food, 14.7% (Rs1600) on education and 15.6% (Rs 1700) in clothing. Though, the family members claim that, their children are sent to private schools and their major portion of expenditure is on education, the comparison

with non migrant household shows no significant difference in terms of school fees.

Source of Income

In order to analyze the impact of remittance, the study also collected the information regarding sources of household income of the migrant's house. The table below shows the sources of household income of the following migrant's house.

Table 4.9: Source of Household Income of the Migrants

S.N.	Income Sources	Sampled Number	Percentage
1	Agricultural Products	37	35.57
2	Daily Wage Labour	18	17.3
3	Government service	2	1.9
4	Foreign employment	104	100.00
5	service in Private sector	4	3.8
6	Industry and trade	4	3.8

Source: Field Study of the Besishahar Municipality, 2072

Traditionally, people of Besishahar are farmers. As discussed above agriculture is their major occupation. It was also observed that, only agriculture products are not sufficient for the whole year. Thus, dependency on agriculture is decreasing day by day. The table above shows that, only 35.57% of the migrant's household depends on agriculture products. Since agriculture alone is not sufficient for livelihood, they need to depend on other income sources, too. The data also show that, 100% of the sampled household depends on remittance, along with their occupational jobs.

Average Income from Remittance

The sample household survey also collected information of remittance (in cash) received by households through private or through public channels such as banks and financial institutions. It was observed that, remittance received varies according to the education level and/or skills of the migrants. The table below shows the average monthly income received by migrant's house as remittance.

Table 4.10: Average Monthly Remittance Received

S.N.	Average Income from Remittance	Number	Percentage
1	Up to Rs 20,000/month	41	39.5
2	Rs. 20,000 - 25, 000/month	28	26.9
3	Rs. 25,000 - 35, 000/month	20	19.3
4	Rs. 35,000 - 60, 000/month	8	7.7
5	Rs.60,000 -Rs.100,000/month	4	3.8
6	More than Rs 100,000/month	3	2.8
	Total	104	100.00

Source : Field Study of Besishahar Municipality, 2072

The above table shows that, out of 104 sample study 89 households receive less than Rs. 35,000 per month as remittance from foreign employment. This shows that, most of the migrants are working as low class workers. About 14% of the migrants from Besishahar Municipality are educated or skilled in their profession sending more than Rs. 60,000 per month as remittance. The data is also shown in the figure below.

Utilization of the Remittance

In Nepal, the major portion of the remittance is used for meeting household use and to payback loans borrowed earlier to go abroad (Seddon and et al 1999 and NRB, 2001). They spent their remittance money on land and housing. These are safe investment for the households, but in macroeconomic terms, they are non-productive assets, with no lasting impact on the country's real income. Only the small proportion of the migrants uses the remittance directly for productive investment like agriculture, manufacturing and trade. The major forms of investments are on education of the children, reinvestment of the remittance for further migration and for lending money (Shrestha, 2008).

A survey of 104 households of Besishahar Municipality found that the entire families were dependent on remittance money. The table below shows utilization of remittance in Besishahar Municipality.

Table 4.11: Use of Remittance by the Migrants

S.N	Utilization of Remittance	Sampled Number	Percentage
1	Repay the loan	47	45.19
2	Maintenance of house	47	45.19
3	Purchase land	19	18.26
4	Construct Building	43	41.34
5	Invest in Business	8	7.69

Source : Field Study of Besishahar Municipality, 2072

The above table shows that, out of 104 sample surveyed households of Besishahar Municipality, 47 migrants have loan repayment as priority of their spending. 53 migrants have taken loan to go abroad. Besides this, money is spent in maintenance of house, construction of new building and purchase of land. The proportions are 45.19%, 41.34% and 18.26% respectively. All these investments are considered unproductive investment in economic terms.

The survey also found that certain portions (7.69%) of migrants are spending remittance in productive investment like business. This shows that, the remittances for the Besishahar Municipality is beneficial only at household and community level; they cannot help long term development of their settlements and the country without its strategic management.

4.1.5.2 Social Impact of Migration at the Household Level

Social impact of migration could be considered indirect impact of migration. Such impact can be seen in the women groups of the family. The wife of a migrant though they are not migrant themselves, they are deeply affected by migration. As a social impact of migration the study also tried to collect data regarding problems of the wives of the migrants. The absence of husband, not only cause hardship to the women, but also brings opportunities for example development of talents, various expertise, etc. which will be discussed in detail later.

This section of the chapter highlights the problems to the wives of the family due to husband's migration. For this, opinions of the wives of the migrant husbands were collected. The followings are the responses.

Table 4.12: Problems of the Migrant's Wife

S.N.	Problems	Sampled Number	Percentage
1	Loneliness	67	64.4%
2	Adverse effect on children's Education	55	52.8%
3	Added responsibilities (including occupational)	92	88.46%
4	Financial gain not up to Expectation	94	90.38%
5	Insecurity feeling	78	75.0%
6	Increase anxiety	57	54.8%

Source : Field Study of Besishahar Municipality, 2072

Loneliness: As a problem among the migrant's wife, loneliness was more serious than anything else. Though, majority of migrant's wives are living in joint family, more than 64% young wives considered loneliness as their major problem arising from their husband's migration. Loneliness was measured quantitatively by i) the length of the period of separation; and ii) the frequency of communication between the migrant's wife and her husband. The longer the average period of separation, the higher would be the degree of loneliness. Similarly, the less frequent the communication between the husband and wife, the higher would be degree of loneliness.

Adverse effect on children's education: Most of the migrant's wives had children. Taking care of children's education is found to be one of the major problems of the migrant's wife. 52.8% of the sampled studied migrant's wife had one child or more in school. As the father is not in station, the mother is responsible to get them admission to school, to arrange for their transport to school, to arrange tuition and to help the children with their home works.

Added responsibilities: After the husband's migration, the responsibility of taking care of sickness in the fell on the shoulders of the migrant's wife. About 88.46% of the migrant's wives reported that, if any member in the households needed medical care, it was the migrants' wife who arrange for consultation with physicians and took care of the medical treatments.

Financial gain not up to expectation: In almost more than 50 families, migration brought much debt at the time of going abroad for foreign employment, and this had to be repaid. More than 90% of the respondents claimed that, the remittances were not

sufficient to meet all the expenses.

Insecurity feeling and Increase anxiety: Other adverse consequences arising from the husband' migration were, feeling of insecurity, increased anxieties, problems with in-laws and misunderstanding with the husband abroad. About 75.0% respondents feel insecure in absence of husband at home; while more than half of the migrant's wives had problems with in-laws, mostly related to the financial matters. But the respondents also claim that, mental disturbance due to misunderstanding with husbands abroad were not so frequent.

Besishahar Municipality ward no 12 has been chosen for studying the impact of the out migration / foreign employment. A total of 104 households have been interviewed using structured questionnaire.

Physical Development has been one of the positive outcomes of the Migration (foreign employment) in Besishahar Municipality. Behavioral changes are slow to come by and usually take a generation or more to become visible. Foreign Employment has helped to increase the economic conditions of the people of the village. As a result the pattern of household expenses has changed in terms of nature and amount.

Traditionally, people of the Besishahar are the farmers. Since agriculture alone is not sufficient for livelihood, it was observed that, remittance income has become major source of their livelihood, along with their occupational jobs. In an average majority of the migrants' household receives less than Rs. 25,000 per month as remittance from foreign employment and only few migrants are educated or skilled in their profession.

Usually Remittance money is spent in maintenance of house, construction of new building and purchase of land. All these investment are considered unproductive investment in economic terms.

Social impact of migration could be considered indirect impact of migration. Such impact can be seen in the women groups of the family. The absence of husband, not only cause hardship to the women, it had also brought opportunities. Feeling of loneliness is seen as the serious problem expressed by the migrant's wives. And usually migrant's wives had problems with in-laws, mostly related to the financial matters.

4.2 Contribution In the Household Roles of the Migrant's Wives

Another objective of the study is to examine the changes in the gender role of the migrant's households in Besishahar Municipality, ward no 12. The information regarding gender role has been collected from the sampled migrant's houses. Before, analyzing the collected data, it would be appropriate to define some basic terms regarding gender

concept.

Gender refers to the socioeconomic differences between man and woman. Gender concerns men's and women's participation in the determination of their lives including access to rights, power and control over resources. In most countries men's and women's gender roles determine their access to, power and control over household assets and decision making (Musa, 2000).

Gender is the social differences or roles allotted to women and to men, roles that are learned as we are growing up, change over time, and depend on our culture, ethnic origin, religion, education, class and the geographical, economic and political environment we live in. These models of behaviour set the standard and influence who we are apart from our sex. For example, only women can give birth (biologically determined), biology does not determine who will raise the children (gendered behaviour) nor do the domestic chores. So gender describes the set of qualities and behaviours expected from men and women by their societies and from their social identity. Thus, gender is an identity that differs from culture to culture, and at different periods in the history.

In the social sciences, the term 'gender' has been introduced to refer to differences between women and men without strictly biological connotations – socially constructed differences that correspond to the two sexes although they are not caused by biological sexual differences.

Gender equality explains the different behaviours, aspirations and needs of women and men are equally valued and favoured and do not give rise to different consequences that reinforce inequalities.

Gender relations are the rules, traditions and social relationships in societies and cultures that determine what is considered 'feminine' and 'masculine' and how power is allocated between, and used differently by, women and men. Gender refers to a social construction of femininity and masculinity that varies over time and place and is enacted through learned, rather than innate, behavior. It is the interdependent relations between women and men. This implies that changes for women will require changes for men and vice versa (European Commission, 2004).

A 'gender' as an analytical concept is that, it directs attention towards social and cultural processes and interventions in terms of their differential effects on women and men, and the relationships between women and men. In this context, gender does not look at women in isolation, and enables differences between women and men, and between

different 'identities' and groups of women (due, for example, to class, race, ethnicity, age, ability and sexuality) to become visible.

A gender analysis therefore, is not just a question of identifying difference (between men and women), but of analyzing how these differences have led to inequalities in power between women and men. Nonetheless, in foregrounding the interdependence of women and men in society, the approach leads to the crucial recognition that no problem or issue is gender-neutral.

Most of the people of Besishahar Municipality live in traditional joint family or extended family. Joint family in Brahmins community is such that at least three or more generation people live and eat in the same kitchen.

Families are factories which produce human personalities, through warmth, security and mutual support. The culture is the outcome of the individual belief that something is good and desirable for him, which of course is learned from the society, based on numbers of specific and general guidelines. These norms and value of the society forces the individual to behave in a particular way/manner acceptable to the particular society. Thus, culture basically is the combination of two aspects of persons behaviour— i) individual's behaviour in his/her daily life; and ii) individual's behaviour as an acceptable ways for the members of a particular society.

In Brahmins community of Besishahar Municipality, it was observed that, there is difference in role for male and female members of the family. Male members of the family are expected to perform more leading role, whereas female members are expected to assist them. In terms involvement in the occupational works women folks are involved more compared to male members of the family but, their contribution is not counted and are not given appropriate status. In terms of taking economic decisions male members of the family are responsible regarding money matters. Women are excluded from the high status in the family occupation.

4.2.1 Changes in Gender Role in the Migrant's House

This part of the study focuses in exploring the changes in role of women folks in the country of origin due to husband going abroad for foreign employment. The focus is on examining the role that the society has exclusively allocated for male members of the family, namely;

- Purchase of Daily Necessities;
- Helping in children's school works;
- Agriculture and other occupational works;

- Managing Income and expenditures;
- Representing Community and social works;
- Health and Securities; and
- Small maintenance in the house.

Followings are the changes in gender role of the migrant's wife based on the study of 104 migrant's households in the study area.

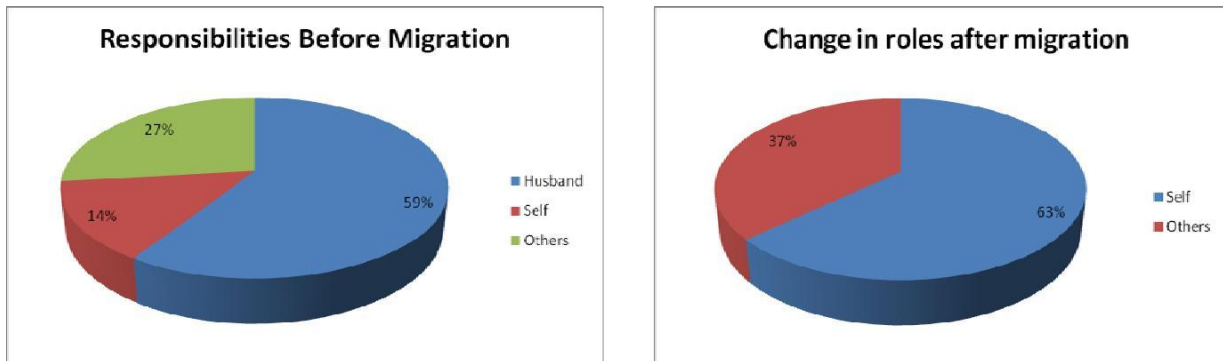
Table 4.13: Changes in Gender Roles in the Migrant's Household

S.N.	Major Works	Responsibilities Before Migration (in Percentage)				Change in Roles After Migration(in Percentage)		
		Husband	Self	Others	Total	Self	Others	Total
1	Purchase of Daily Necessities	52.8	41.6	9.6	100	74	26	100
2	Helping in children's school works	84.6	5.8	9.6	100	90.4	9.6	100
3	Agriculture and other occupational works							
3.1	Harvesting and storing of agro-products	41.3	19.2	39.5	100	71.1	29.9	100
3.2	Sales of Straw Mats	41.3	19.2	39.5	100	43.3	56.7	100
4	Managing Income and Expenditures	45.2	15.3	39.5	100	65.3	34.7	100
5	Representing Community and social Works	69.2	2.0	27.8	100	51	49	100
6	Health and Securities	60.5	10.5	29.0	100	76.9	23.1	100
7	Small Maintenance in the house	69.2	0	30.8	100	33.7	66.3	100
	Average	59.0	14.2	26.8	100	63.2	36.8	100

Source: Field Study of Besishahar Municipality, 2072

The above table could be shown in pie-chart as shown below:

Figure 4.1: Changes in Gender Roles in the Migrant's Household



The table above shows the opinions regarding changes in gender role before and after the migration. Usually purchasing daily necessary goods are the responsibilities of male members of the family. In terms of changed role in the migrant's household, there is a mixed response regarding this matter. Joint family and nuclear family have different responses. The data show that, before migration, respondent's husband was responsible for purchasing daily necessary goods. 74% of the respondents claim that, this role has shifted to the wife of the migrants after husband went abroad. The intensity of change in the role is more in nuclear family. In case of Joint family, it was observed that, 26% of the responsibility is shared by other members of the family.

Regarding assisting in children's study, the father is helping hand for his children's school works. The above table shows that 84.6% of the respondents claim that her husband was responsible for guiding her children with their school works at home. The data shows that after husband's migration, almost entire responsibility (more than 90% claims) in this regard is shifted to the migrant's wife. In joint family, the respondents claim that, this responsibility is shared by sisters-in-law.

Agriculture is the major source of income of rural communities of Besishahar Municipality. The agriculture works start with ploughing the land till harvesting of the crops and storing. In agricultural works involvement of men is basically in the works which need physical strength like ploughing of land, carrying fertilizer and harvesting crops, etc. Women folks are involved in rest of the plantation works. Besides, it is the responsibility of the women folks to prepare and feed mid-day snacks to the workers. Besides that, women are the helping hand at the time of Harvesting of the crops. Major responsibility of women starts during Sun drying of the crops and storing it safely.

More than 71% of the respondents claim that, before husband's migration women's responsibility is just assisting in harvesting and storing works. But, after husband's migration, the responsibility has shifted to the women.

In rural area of Besishahar Municipality, weaving straw mats (Gundri) is common at leisure time especially in the rural settlements. These mats are then sold in the market place of the bazaar of Besishahar and nearby places. Though, straw mat weaving is not done commercially, it added in the household income of the Besishahar Municipality. Formerly, husband used to bring it to the market. 43% of the nuclear family claims that, this responsibility has been shifted to them. But, in the case of joint family, the responsibility of selling straw mats has shifted to brother-in-law, which is more than 56%.

Similarly, with regards to the management of household income and expenditure, it was observed that, a traditional norm was that, male folks were responsible, though cash is stored in the cub-board by women folks. Previously, management of cash was the responsibility of the husband and father-in-law. After migration, 65.3% of the respondents claimed that, the cash managing role has been shifted to the women folks. This is also true for the joint family, because, majority of the remittance is sent in the name of migrant's wife.

Some of the social works have been successfully completed. This shows that women are as capable as men. Various social and cultural organizations are led by women and that becomes an integral part of social life of the Brahmins community. Representing in social and religious functions is crucial because, defaulting person or household may result in complete social boycott, through the denial of participation in the group events and feasts, and services to be rendered by these organizations. Representing these organizations is the responsibility of male folks, usually the head of the family. Responsibility of representing these kinds of organization has shifted to the wives of the migrants especially in the nuclearfamily. 51% of the respondents claim that, they have to represent in the religious and cultural functions like "KulPooja" and many other kinds of social gatherings and works.

Regarding Health and Securities of the family members, obviously, it is the responsibility of head of the family and other male members of the family. Maintenance of family health and security of the family members especially, in nuclear family is the responsibility of a husband. After husband's migration, 76.9% of the respondents claimed that, the responsibility has shifted to the wives.

Small maintenance in the house are considered men's job. Obviously in joint family, women folk are free for such responsibilities. This responsibility of having maintenance job done in house has become also the works of migrant's wife in nuclear family. 33.7% of the migrant's wives claim that, they often have to seek help of the

technician in the village for small maintenance in the house.

It was observed during the study of changes in gender role of the migrant's family that, migration to some extent has changed and gradually changing the family composition of many household in Besishahar Municipality. Migration has increased the numbers of women-headed households, which affected directly in the changes in gender role of the family. The pie-chart clearly shows that, after migration in an average more than 60% of the migrant's wives claimed that, the husband's responsibility has been shifted to their shoulders compared to only 14% before foreign employment.

Gender is the social differences or roles allotted to women and to men, roles that are learned as we are growing up, change over time, and depend on our culture, ethnicorigin, religion, education, class and the geographical, economic and political environment we live in.

This part of the study focuses in exploring the changes in role of women folks in the country of origin due to husband going abroad for foreign employment. Seven dimensions of the social responsibilities were assessed.

It was observed that, majorities of migrant's social responsibilities have been shifted to the migrant's wives after his migration for foreign employment. Responsibilities like purchasing daily necessary goods; harvesting and storing of agriculture products; managing of household financing and representing in social organizations are found to be handled by the migrant's wives especially in the nuclear families. Thus, it could be concluded that husband's migration has increased the numbers of women-headed households, which affected directly in the changes in gender role of the family.

4.3 Empowerment of the Migrant's Wives

Empowerment refers broadly to the expansion of freedom of choice and action to shape one's life. It implies control over resources and decision. For poor people, that freedom is severely curtailed by their voicelessness and powerlessness in relation particularly to the state and markets.

There are important gender inequalities, including within the household. Since powerlessness is embedded in a culture of unequal institutional relations. According to the World Bank's definition "Empowerment is the expansion of assets and capabilities of poor people to participate in, negotiate with, influence, control and hold accountable institutions that affects their lives".

Since, social, cultural, political and economic conditions vary and institutions are

context specific, reform strategies must vary as well. Although there is no single institutional model for empowerment, experience shows that certain elements are almost always present when empowerment efforts are successful.

4.3.1 Analysis of Empowerment of the Migrant's Wives

Another main objective of this study was to examine the socio-economic empowerment of the migrant's wives in the study area. Information regarding empowerment level was collected from 104 sampled migrant's houses. Empowerment in this study means having choice, and ability to make choices. It means the exercise of informed choice within an expanding framework of information, knowledge and analysis of available option. Before, analyzing the collected data, it would be appropriate to define the following four empowerment components that have been analyzed in the study.

- i) Access to information;
- ii) Awareness about the Basic Rights;
- iii) Efforts made for capacity building; and
- iv) Decision making

4.3.1.1 Access to Information

The right information through independent sources is fundamental to improving the situation of the migrant's wives. If the migrant's wife cannot find what changes has occurred in the neighbourhood and environment after husband's migration, she would not be able to make the right decision while assuming the changed role. Thus, during the study questions were asked with the sampled migrant's wives regarding their knowledge about changes/events in the neighbourhood and sources of such information; information regarding changes in agricultural /occupational environment and sources of information and so on. The following results were observed.

Regarding information on environmental changes in the neighbourhood, the result of sample study and analysis is shown in the table below:

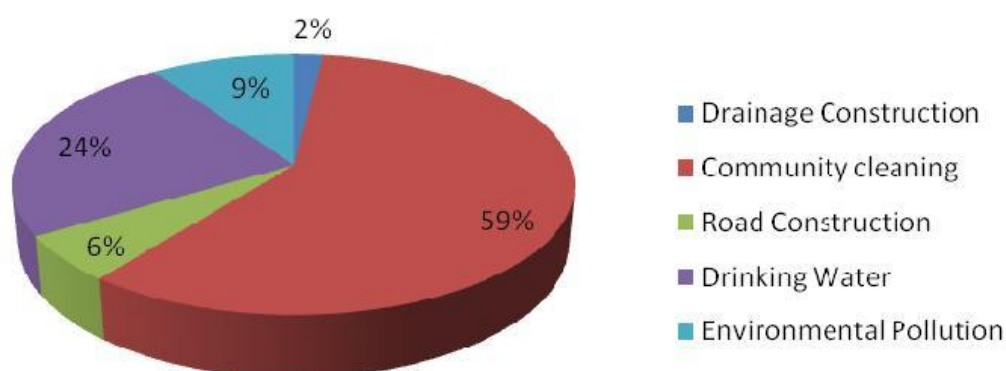
Table 4.14: Information Regarding Changes in Environment in the Neighbourhood

S.N.	Description Information	Sampled Number	Percentage	Source of Information
1	Drainage Construction	2	1.92	Municipality Office
2	Community cleaning	61	58.65	Neighbours
3	Road Construction	6	5.76	Municipality Office
4	Drinking Water	25	24.03	Neighbours
5	Environmental Pollution	10	9.64	Neighbours/Municipality Office
	Total	104	100.00	

Source: Field Study of the Besishahar Municipality, 2072

The above table shows that, respondent migrant's wives gets information regarding recent environmental changes in the neighbourhoods of Besishahar Municipality are i) Construction of drainage; ii) Awareness programme about community cleaning, iii) construction of roads; iv) drinking water supply programmes; and v) Environmental pollution. More than 58% of the respondents claim that they are aware about the community cleaning programme going on in the municipality. About 24% of the respondents claim that, information regarding drinking water supply system is important for them. Major source of information were neighbours and municipality office. 22 respondents claim that they have started collecting such information only after their husband's migration.

Figure 4.2: Information regarding changes in environment in the Neighbourhood



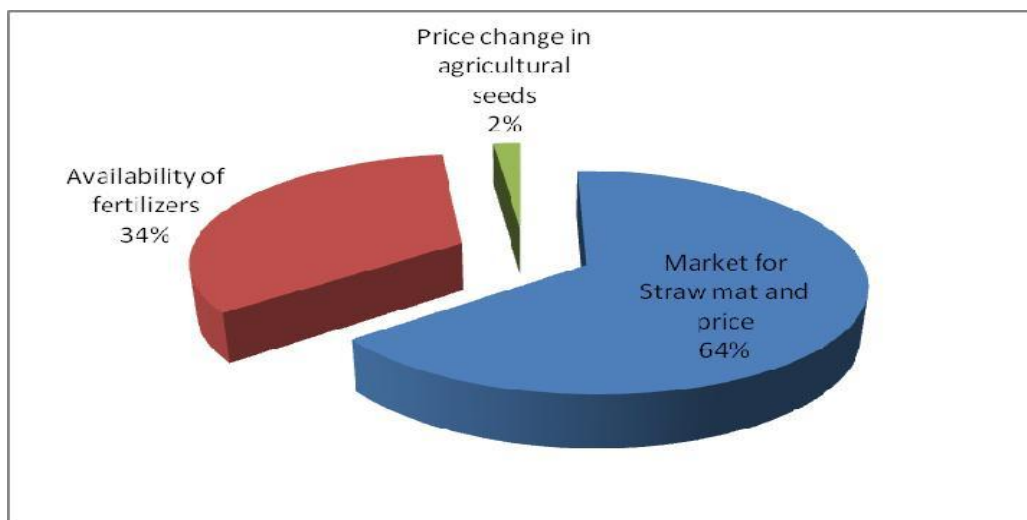
Regarding information on changes in Agriculture/ occupational environment respondent migrant's wives claim that they have started receiving information on Price change in agricultural seeds; Availability of fertilizers in the market and Straw mat's Market and price only after husbands migration. Before, it was their husband's responsibility. 64.41 percent of the respondents claim that, it is important to know about the selling places of straw Mats and its price after husband has migrated. 33.67 percent of the respondents were of the opinion that, information regarding fertilizer is important for them. Table below gives the detail.

Table 4.15: Information Regarding Changes in the Occupational Environment

S.N.	Source of Information	Sampled Number	Percentage	Source of Information
1	Price change in agricultural seeds	2	1.92	Friends/Municipality Office
2	Availability of fertilizers	35	33.67	Neighbours
3	Market for Straw mat and price	67	64.41	Neighbours
	Total	104	100.00	

Source : Field Study of Besishahar Municipality, 2072

Figure 4.3: Information Regarding Changes in the Occupational Environment



4.3.1.2 Awareness about the Basic Rights

Usually the process of Empowerment starts with awareness about the rights of individuals and ends with an action phase that is, decision making. The awareness phase is often generated by a crisis or contextual change. It is important for expression of the

rights for achieving the desired output in the life. During the study questions were asked with the sampled migrant's wives regarding their awareness level about the basic rights. The results observed are given in the table below.

Table 4.16: Awareness about the Rights

S.N.	Awareness about Basic Rights	Sampled Number	Source of Information
1	Yes	43	Municipality office and Neighbours
2	No	61	
	Total	104	
	Types of Rights		Percentage
	Women's Right	12	27.9
	Right to speak	16	37.2
	Right to own Assets	15	34.9
	Total	43	100.0

Source: Field Study of Besishahar Municipality, 2072

The table above shows that, out of 104 migrant's wives interviewed, 43 responded that they are aware about their basic rights. And, out of 43 respondents 26 claim that, they have started exploring about the rights after husband's migration. Regarding the types of rights they claimed that, they have been aware about the women's right, Right to speak and Right to own Assets.

4.3.1.3 Capacity Building Efforts

Capacity is defined as the ability of individuals and organizations to perform functions effectively, efficiently and sustainably. Capacity is not a passive state but part of a continuing process and that human resources are central to capacity development.

Capacity development in the context of individuals is utilize and strengthen existing capacities, rather than to start from scratch. It includes a consideration of all key factors which impact upon its ability to be developed, implemented and the results to be sustained (UNDP, 1998).

Capacity development is essential for a new way of 'doing business'. After husband's migration new responsibilities are shifted on the shoulders of the migrant's wives. These responsibilities need to be discharged effectively and efficiently in order to manage new circumstances created by the husband's migration. For the purpose,

migrant's wives need to acquire new skills and knowledge. Thus, during impact study of migration in Besishahar Municipality, questions regarding their efforts for capacity development (their awareness about the capacity development activities in the neighbourhood and their involvement) were asked with the sampled migrant's wives. The results observed are given in the table below.

Table 4.17: Capacity Building Activities in the Neighbourhood

S.N.	Aware about the capacity development activities	Sampled Number	Percentage
1	Yes	84	80.7
2	No	20	19.3
	Total	104	100.0
S N	Types of Capacity Building Activities	Count	%
1	Candle making training	28	33.3
2	Adult education	15	17.8
3	Solid waste management training	32	38.09
4	Knitting Training	28	33.3
5	Dalthoth Making	9	10.7
6	Straw mat Weaving training	2	2.3

Source : Field Study of the Besishahar Municipality, 2072

The above table shows that, there are various kinds of skills development training conducted in the study area. Usually these trainings are conducted as income generating activities, focused on the women folks of the study area. Out of 104 respondents migrant's wives 80.7 % claimed that they are aware of the income generating training programmes conducted by the municipality, focusing women population. The respondents listed the following training programmes conducted in the study area.

- Candle making training;
- Adult education;
- Solid waste management training;
- Knitting Training;
- Dalthoth Making; and
- Straw mat weaving training

38.09% of the respondents claimed that, Solid waste management training was important for clean environment of the municipality.

During interview with the migrant's wives, question was put regarding their participations in the training programme, 55.7% of the interviewee respondent that they have participated in the training program. The table below gives the details of training and their participation.

Table 4.18: Participation of Migrants Wives in the Training Programmes

S.N.	Participated in Training Programme	Sampled Number	Percentage
1	Yes	58	55.7
2	No	46	44.3
	Total	104	100.0
	Involved in Training Programmes	No.	%
1	Candle making training	14	24.1
2	Adult education	3	3.1
3	Solid waste management training	15	25.8
4	Knitting Training	13	22.4
5	Dalthoth Making	5	8.6
6	Straw mat Weaving training	2	3.4
	Total	58	100.0

Source : Field Study of the Besishahar Municipality, 2072

The above table and figure shows that, out of 58 migrant's wives participated in the training programmes, 25.8% have participated in Solid waste management training; 24.1% candle making and 22.4% in knitting training. This shows that, majority of the migrant's wives are conscious about the environmental cleanliness and they also give importance to their skill development and income generation activities.

Another component for individual capacity development initiatives assessed was their awareness and participation in various kinds of awareness programmes exclusively focused on building awareness level of the women folks. Out of 104 respondents interviewed 42 responded that, they were aware and have participated in the awareness programmes conducted by the municipality. More than 42% of the migrant's wives have participated in Health related awareness programmes. Similarly 30.9% of the interviewees claim that, they have participated in Education awareness programmes. The table below gives the details of awareness programmes and numbers of migrant's wives participated.

Table 4.19: Awareness Programmes and Migrant's Wives Participation

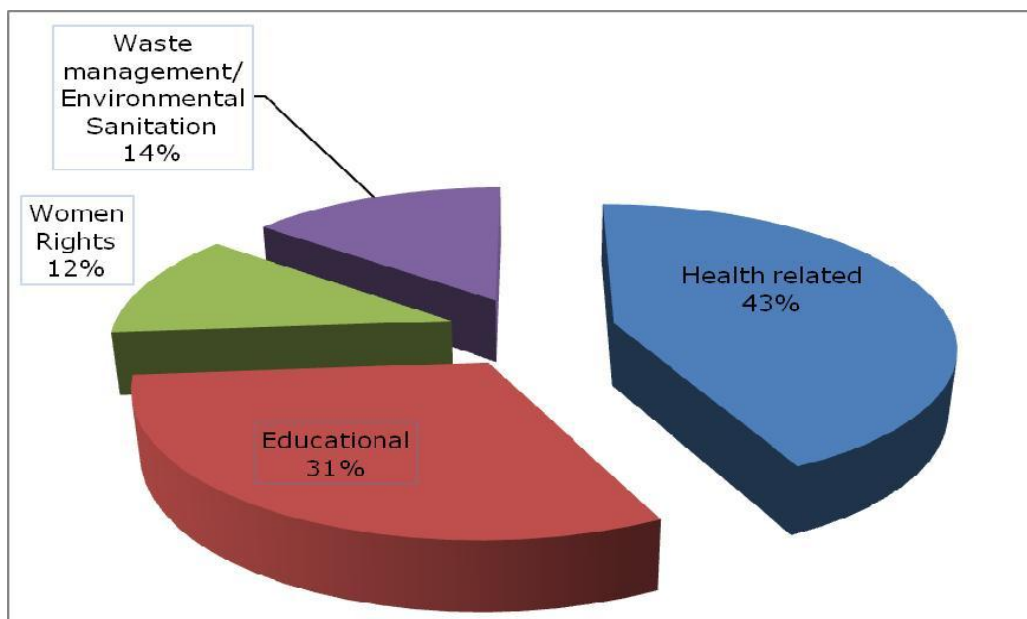
S.N.	Participated in Awareness Programme	No.	Percentage
1	Yes	42	40.3
2	No	62	56.7
	Total	104	100.00
	Types of awareness Programme		
1	Health related	18	42.8
2	Educational	13	30.9
3	Women Rights	5	11.9
4	Waste management/ Environmental Sanitation	6	14.4
	Total	42	100.0

Source : Field Study of the Besishahar Municipality, 2072

The respondent participants also claimed that, they have been able to reap the following benefits out of their participation in the training programmes and the awareness programmes.

1. Domestic Cleanliness
2. Able to read and write
3. Clean neighbourhood; and
4. Washing hands before meal and after toilet

Figure 4.4: Migrant's Wives Participation in Awareness Programmes



4.3.1.4 Decision Making

Success in empowerment process is the enhancement of ability to achieve the target that is to control their lives; to participate in decision making; to influence the environment; and tackle the changed circumstances created by the husband's migration. Decision making of an individual is influenced highly by the nature of family he/she is living in. Before discussing about the decision making capacity as a contribution of migration, it would be appropriate to observe the family pattern of Besishahar Municipality.

The family system of the study area is characterized by Patriarchal norms. Most of the people lived on traditional joint family or extended family. It was observed that, one of the impacts of foreign employment is the development of nuclear family system.

Out of 104 respondent households of the survey 40 household are joint family and the rest 64 households are nuclear family system. Thus, during impact study of migration in Besishahar Municipality, questions regarding their decision making capacity in various field (especially in financial matters) were asked with the sampled migrant's wives. The results observed are given in the table below.

Table 4.20: Decision Making Capabilities

S.N.	Delivery of Remittance to	Sampled Number	Percentage
1	Self	67	64.4
2	Other member of the family	37	35.6
	Total	104	100.0
Financial Decision			
1	Self	67	64.4
2	Other member of the family	37	35.6
	Total	104	100.0
Decisions Regarding Children's School Admission			
1	Self	70	67.3
2	Other member of the family	34	32.7
	Total	104	100.0
Decisions in case of child's sickness			
1	Self	74	71.1
2	Other member of the family	30	29.9
	Total	104	100.0

Source : Field Study of the Besishahar Municipality, 2072

Regarding decision making capability enhancement, respondent migrant's wives are

asked questions regarding i) Delivery of Remittance; ii) decisions regarding spending remittance money; iii) Decisions regarding Children's school admission; and iv) Decisions in case of child's sickness. The following were the observation.

Regarding delivery of remittance, 64.4% of the respondents claimed that their husbands send remittance money in their name. This is usually true in nuclear family household. But in majority joint family household, it was observed that, their remittance money was sent in the name of the head of the family usually father-in law of the migrant's wife.

Similarly, decisions regarding spending of remittance money mixed responses were observed in joint family and nuclear family. Though more than 64.4% of the respondents (remittance money received in their names) claim that, they are the one to make decision in financial matter, in majority of joint family household, the decisions are influenced by the members of the family in case of spending in capital goods. In nuclear family even the decision for purchasing durable goods is made by the migrant's wives.

Decisions regarding children's school admission; and in the case of child's sickness, migrant's wives decision are considered final. More than 67.3% claim that, they make decision regarding which school is suitable for their children. Similarly, in case of child's sickness 71.1% of the respondent migrant's wives are responsible for taking the child to the medical doctors.

4.4 Major Findings

- Present scenario of People's migration pattern found in Nepal in search of better opportunities include: permanent migration to Europe, Australia and North America; contract labour migration to the Gulf and Southeast Asia; and cross border/seasonal migration within the region.
- There is a high incidence of fake employment contracts, visas, and forged documents for migration clearance and travelling. The result is that many Nepalese become stranded or get deported from countries where they have gone for work.
- Remittance income and Economically Active Population appear to be the most relevant variables to raise real GDP in Nepal.
- Remittance has positive impact in the society in terms of increased personal income and social prestige but hampered agricultural productivity.

- In Nepal, remittance is spent on land and housing. But in macroeconomic terms, they are unproductive assets, with no lasting impact on the country's real income.
- There is lack of strategic planning for the utilization of remittance.
- Major reasons of migration in the Besishahar Municipality ward no 12 are:
 - Coping with social changes;
 - Unsatisfactory economic condition and occupation status; and
 - Seeking of opportunities to match education level
- In percentage a total of 63% of the sampled population are concentrated in Arabian countries from Beshishahar. For the purpose cost for going to the foreign employment was up to Rs. 100,000. And 50% of the populations borrow money either from the financial institutions or from friends to meet the cost.
- Most of the migrants are involved in the lower level jobs. 18.3% of the sampled migrants are engaged as construction labors.
- Migration (foreign employment) has been one of the positive outcomes in the physical development of the study area. Behavioural changes are not yet substantially visible at present.
- About 86% household receives less than Rs. 60,000 per month as remittance from foreign employment. The major portion of the remittance is used for meeting household use and to payback loans. Only the small proportion (7.69%) of the migrants uses the remittance directly for productive investment like agriculture, manufacturing and trade in the study area.
- It was observed that, absence of husband, not only cause hardship to the women; it also brings opportunities for example development of talents and various expertises. But, Loneliness; Adverse effect on children's education; Added responsibilities; financial gains not up to expectation; Insecurity feeling and anxiety are the major challenges for the migrant's wives.
- Before migration, husband was responsible for purchasing daily necessary goods. The responsibility of purchasing daily necessary goods was shifted to the migrant's wives after migration.
- Assisting in children's study was father's responsibility, which have been shifted to the migrant's wives after migration in nuclear family. In joint family, it was observed that, this responsibility was shared by sisters-in-laws.
- Women folks are involved in major activities in plantation works whereas male

members are involved in the works which need physical strength like ploughing of land, carrying fertilizer and harvested crops etc. After migration, responsibility of harvesting and storing of agriculture product had shifted to the migrant's wife.

- Weaving straw mats is leisure time jobs of women. Selling straw mats is the responsibility of men. In the household where husband migrated abroad for foreign employment, it was observed that, this has been shifted to the migrant's wives.
- Traditional norm of the study area was that men were responsible decision making in financial matters. It was observed that migration has changed this role and increased migrant's wives capabilities of cash managing. In more than 60% migrant's household this role has been shifted to the women.
- In Besishahar migration has increased the numbers of women-headed households, which affected directly in the changes in gender role of the family. After migration in an average more than 60% of the migrant's wives claimed the husband's responsibility has been shifted to their shoulders.
- Regarding Decision making, delivery of remittance, 52.8% of the respondents claimed that their husbands send remittance money in their name. This is usually true in nuclear family household. But in majority joint family household, it was observed that, the remittance money was send in the name of the head of the family usually father-in law of the migrant's wife.
- Though migrant's wives have been involved in training and awareness programmes, the utilization of the inputs are not substantially visible.
- Decisions regarding spending of remittance money mixed responses were observed in joint family and nuclear family. More than 64.4% of the migrant's wives are found taking decision in financial matter, in majority of nuclear family.

CHAPTER V

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter presents summary, conclusions and recommendations of the study.

5.1 Summary

Firstly, this study begins with the brief introduction of labour migration and foreign employment and driving factors for migration. Historical background of Nepalese labour force migration and present migration scenario is also described.

Secondly, this study deals with the review of reference materials. Brief summary of reviewed articles, books, journals, research works and thesis are presented. Beside this, review of present legal frame regarding foreign employment of Nepal is also presented in brief. The literature review works are presented in three different categories - the global, regional, and national context for providing different perspectives.

Thirdly, the research methodology chapter contains the techniques adopted for the study. To collect data different methods like questionnaire, data from municipality office and district development office, field visit and interview of the concerned people have been used. This data have been analyzed manually by tabulation and graphical presentation with analytical description.

Fourthly, it is an analytical chapter to identify the overall contribution of foreign employment in national economy based on available secondary information. Presentation in this chapter starts with presenting situation of world economy and impact of foreign employment. Later description on macro-economic situation of Nepal and contribution of foreign employment is described. It deals with the analysis of socio economic contributions of foreign employment on household income of Besishahar Municipality ward no 12. It also highlights the changes observed in the living pattern of dependent of the foreign employees due the increased income through the foreign employment. It also deals with the foreign employment and its direct and indirect impact on the population at the origin and destination. As a direct impact, it changes the life pattern of the dependents of the foreign employee. But as a result of indirect impact individual behaviour of the dependent (wife) starts changing. This chapter examines the changes in the role of the dependents of the foreign employee.

Finally the major findings, conclusions of the study and the recommendations provided to the concerned stakeholders have been mentioned.

5.2 Conclusion

Migration of people from one place to another is a usual phenomenon since the beginning of human civilization. The migration in the beginning was for the sake of food and exploring new places for security purpose. But gradually the migration took the shape in diverse form and now has become a very essential and common in each and every corner of the world.

Three key factors driving migration are:

- Increasing labour market needs in many industrialized countries.
- Unemployment and crisis pressures in less developed countries.
- Established inter-country networks based on family, culture and history.

In addition to financial benefits to the sending countries, migration provides opportunities to build their human, capital and social assets. Returning migrants usually bring new skills during employment abroad through what is today recognized as beneficial transfer of know-how and competencies called 'brain gain'.

Government of Nepal has promulgated Foreign Employment Act, 2064 and Foreign Employment Regulation, 2064 for the promotion of foreign employment but effective implementation is lacking.

Though, the remittances have positive impact at household and community level only, it has not created socio-economic impact and long term development of the country due to lack of strategic planning for the utilization of remittance. For the purpose, policies and plans based on updated information on migration are required. Migration has both direct and indirect impact on the demography of the population at origin and destinations. The direct effects become visible immediately and are mostly structural in nature. Indirect consequences are changes in behavioural and personal in nature of the family members of the foreign employee.

The direct impact of the foreign employment especially those taking place in the households of migrants are brought through remittances and their utilization. The sample study of Besishahar collected information on remittance received in cash, and its utilization to identify the effects.

Social impact of migration is considered indirect impact of migration. Such impact can be seen in the women groups of the family. The wife of a migrant though they are not migrant themselves, they are deeply affected by migration.

In Besishahar Municipality, Migration has positive impact of the economic life of the population in terms of physical development. Social impacts demands for changes in

behaviour, which needs long time duration to be visualized. The changes in behavior are not reflected yet. As a change in social norms and belief, migrant's wives developed certain skills to adjust one's self with the changed circumstance after husband's migration.

5.3 Recommendations

The following are the recommendations based on the study:

- For effective implementation of Foreign Employment, coordinated effort by all agencies involved in labour migration should be initiated.
- The government should formulate proactive policy for the migrants to protect and promote their interests abroad.
- Recruitment agencies should be made more accountable by effectively implementing the system of reward and punishment.
- The government should conduct promotional activities like integrated farming system, development of agro market for enhancing agricultural productivities because foreign employment has hampered agricultural productivity.
- The government should develop plans and strategies for utilizing remittance in productive sectors.
- Technical and vocational trainings for the youths willing to go abroad should be provided for better jobs and higher remunerations.

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- <http://www.lexaden.np> (Legislation Nepal)
- <http://www.dolep.gov.np>
- <http://www.cbs.gov.np>
- <http://www.undp.org.np>
- <http://www.doaj.org> (directory of open access journal)
- <http://womensissues.about.com>

APPENDIX

Questionnaire Schedule for Data Collection

Form for the Survey of the Foreign Employment, 2072

a) Municipality:

b) Ward No: Tole / Village

c) Information about the Interviewee

Name Age Occupation

Date

1. Personal Details

S. N.	Name	Relation with the head of the family	Age	Education	Main Occupation /Business	Skill	Income
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							

2. Details of Foreign Employment

2.1 Name of the employer

2.2 Name of the country

2.3 Relation

2.4 How Long has he or she been working in the foreign country?

a) 1 year b) 1-3 years c) More than 3 years

2.5 What is the total cost to go abroad?

a) Rs. 60000 b) Rs 60000 to 100000 c) More than Rs.100000

2.6 How did you manage the expenditure to go abroad?

a) own b) loan from bank / finance c) loan from friends d) Other

2.7 What did you do abroad?

- a) Security guard b) Cook / Helper c) House Keeping d) Waiter
- e) Construction Labour f) Room boy g) Agriculture/animal husbandry
- h) Other

2.8 Did you take any training for that work? If yes, from where, for what and how long?

.....

2.9 Through which organization did you process to go abroad?

Name of the Institution

3. Details about Social Condition

3.1 Shelter / House

- a) RCC b) Tin roofed c) cottage (Jhupadi)

3.2 Land

- a) own b) rent c) other

3.3 Road accessibility

- a) black topped b) gravel c) trail

3.4 Electricity

- a) Yes b) No

3.5 Drinking water

- a) private tap b) public tap c) private tube well
- d) public tube well e) other

3.6 Communication

- a) Landline telephone b) Cell phone c) Television
- d) Radio e) Other

3.7 Fuel to cook food

- a) Gas b) Kerosene c) Firewood d) Other

3.8 Toilet

- a) Permanent b) temporary c) other

3.9 Drainage Facility

- a) Yes b) No

3.10 Solid waste management by

- a) Municipality b) NGO c) Private sector

3.11 Health facility from

- a) Government office b) Health post c) Private clinic
- d) Witch doctor e) Homeopathic doctor f) Other

4. Economic Status

4.1 What is the main occupation for your livelihood?

- a) Agriculture b) Daily wage c) Govt. job d) Foreign employment
- e) Job in private sector f) business g) Other

4.2 In which sector did you spend money in your family?

- a) Food b) Fuel c) Electricity d) Drinking water
- e) School expenditure f) Other

4.3 What is the source of income for the above expenditure?

- a) Occupation/business b) Remittance c) Loan d) Other

4.4 How much money did you get from the remittance in a year?

- a) Rs. 60000 b) Rs. 60000 to 100000 c) more than Rs. 100000

5. About Empowerment

5.1 How did you get money from abroad?

- a) from bank b) from person c) Other

5.2 Who makes decision about family expenditure?

- a) own self b) other member of the family

5.3 For what purpose did you spend the remittance?

- a) to pay loan b) to maintain house c) to buy land
- d) to run shop/business e) other

5.4 How did you get information about social happenings?

.....

5.5 Do you know about your rights and responsibilities as mentioned in the law of your country? How?

.....

5.6 Do you know about the training programs going in your community?

.....

If yes, specify the programs

5.7 What are the benefits you have taken from such programs?

.....

The End