

# CHAPTER-I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

Migration is a shift of people from one place of residence to another; and it is most fundamental to the understanding of continuously changing space and space relationships of an area. Migration has been the central interest of geography which is spatially oriented and which lays its emphasis upon the understanding of spatial processes and spatial interaction. So whenever migration takes place in whatever form it modifies the area of origin the area of destination as well as the way of life of the migrants (Beaujeu-Garnier, 1966).

The migration of people from one place to another in search of better opportunities in employment, education and higher living standard has started since time immemorial. But some people may have been pressurized to leave the original place of residence. Factors like war, inter-conflicts, famine, poverty for survival and ultimately comfortable and peaceful living are some of the push reasons for the people to migrate. Before the World War II, the major migration distance used to be limited within a country or region unless they were arranged for labor transfer to cater need of the colonial power countries. Now, 'People from developing countries are moving towards the developed countries as migrant workers. The flow of information, skills, and remittances has dramatically changed the nature and scope of international migration today. International labor migration has become a survival strategy for men and women of many least developed and developing countries (Nepal Migration Year Book -2006, page 1).

Migration is diverse in nature in fact it may be international, inter-regional, inter-urban, rural-urban on intra-urban. On the basis of time criterion, migration may be temporary or permanent. If we take into consideration the distance, migration may be long or short. On the basis of number, migration may be individual or mass. On the basis of causes, migration may range from natural calamities to socio economic cultural and political. The population census of Nepal defined migration as "a change

of residence for six months or more either within the country or outside the country” (CBS, 2001).

Nepal has a long history of international labour migration. The scarcity of nonfarm employment opportunities in the hills was the drawing force for labour migration. In many areas of North and Northeast India a big number of Nepali laborers were employed in tea plantations, border security, oil fields, and timber work and road construction. Employment in the British and the Indian Army acted as an incentive for Nepali emigrants. From the early 19th century, the British Government in India recruited the "Gurkhas" in their army. This avenue for employment encouraged many young adults from the hills to join the British or Indian army (Sharma, 1985).

Overwhelming majority of emigrants go to India. However the proportional share of India as prime destination of Nepalese emigrants is decreasing. In 1991 census the number of emigrants going to India was 89.2 percent and in 2001 census it was 77.3 percent. This is mainly because due to the increase in the number of people going to west and south East Asia with the initiation of foreign Employment promotion program of His Majesty's government of Nepal since the late 1980's.

In case of labor migration, skilled as well as unskilled manpower is flying away from developing countries to developed countries. In recent days, from Nepal, unemployment youths are going to foreign countries to seek jobs. From 1990's after the country adopted the policies of liberalization and globalization, policy makers and academicians began to fully acknowledge the importance of remittances sent by Nepalese employed from abroad for enhancing the livelihoods of the households, including the rural areas. Nowadays the number of job seekers to abroad is increasing day by day because of political conflict, unemployment and so on.

Labour migration has, in the 21st century, moved to the top of the policy agendas of many countries - countries of origin, transit and destination. Most of the world's estimated 150 million migrants are people searching for improved economic opportunities abroad.

Labor of Employment Promotion Department has recognized 107 countries where Nepalese have gone for employment purpose by official channel and most of the

countries have been recorded only after 97/98. Record shows Nepalese people have speared all over the world but the flow of emigrants is mainly directed to the gulf countries, East Asian countries, India, European countries etc.

**Table 1.1: Nepalese Trend of Foreign Employment**

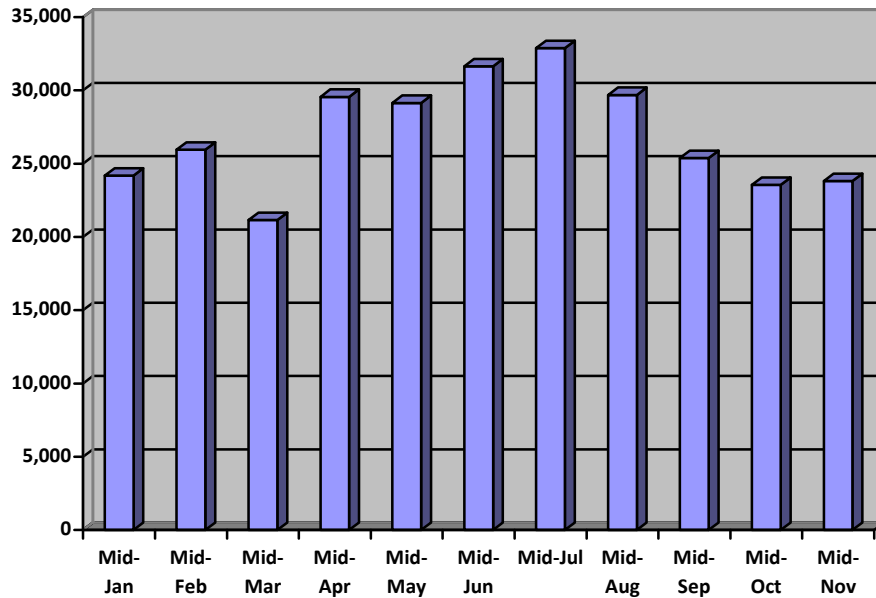
Serial no.	Fiscal year	Total no. of Intl' Labour Migration
1	1999/00	35,543
2	2000/01	55,025
3	2001/02	104,739
4	2002/03	105,055
5	2003/04	106,660
6	2004/05	135,992
7	2005/06	177,506
8	2007/08	204,533
9	2008/09	219,965
10	2009/10 until mid Feb.	173,239

*Source: Economic Survey, 2009/2010, MOF, GON, 2010*

The above table gives a clear picture of increasing trend of international labour migration from Nepal, i.e. in 1999/00; the number of migrants was 35,543 whereas the number of the migrants in 2008/09 was 219,965 which is over six times more than the former.

Even if we see the data of eleven months in 2010 only, this trend of international labour migration from Nepal is more rapidly increasing until Mid-July reaching the highest number 32,876 whereas this trend seems to be decreasing but almost constant till Mid-November. (See figure 1.1 below)

*Figure 1.1: Nepalese Trend of Foreign Employment in 2010*



*Source: The Himalayan Times- 2010 in Retrospect, December 03, 2010*

Three key factors drive migration and will continue to fuel this kind of movement for many years. They are:

- The "pull" of changing demographics and labour market needs in many industrialized countries.
- The "push" of population, unemployment and crisis pressures in less developed countries.
- Established inter-country networks based on family, culture and history.

International labour migration is one of the integral components while talking about international migration 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 food for their dependents. Globalization and integration of regional economics have added impetus to the growing mobility of workers across borders (ILO, 2003). Poverty and the inability to earn enough or produce enough to support oneself or a family are major reasons behind the movement of work seekers from one place to another. These are not only characteristics of migration from poor to rich states; poverty also fuels movement

from one developing country to others where work prospects seem-at a distance, at least-to be better (*OHCHR, 2004*).

**Table 1.2: Major Destination of Nepalese Emigrant (worker)**

Serial No.	Country/Area	Total No. by FY 2007/08	Total No. in FY 2008/09	The Number by First eight months FY	Total
1	Malaysia	429,240	35,070	44,835	519,145
2	Qatar	351,536	76,175	37,578	465,289
3	Saudi Arabia	232,863	48,749	39,451	321,063
4	U.A.E	151,283	31,688	22,566	205,537
5	Kuwait	13,906	2,291	6,179	22,376
6	Bahrain	11,682	6,360	2,892	20,934
7	South Korea	6,587	2,888	986	10,461
8	Oman	3,970	4,247	2,239	10,456
9	Hong Kong	3,903	65	82	4,050
10	Others	22,196	12,432	6,431	41,059
Total		1,227,166	219,965	173,239	1,620,370

*Source: Economic Survey, MOF, GON, 2009/10*

The above table indicates that the main destination of Nepalese emigrant is Malaysia, Qatar, U.A.E, and Saudi Arabia.

The international labor migration is one of the main sources of employment to the young Nepali work force. The migration is growing in various forms. The populations who can afford to stand for education fee of colleges in the developed countries, at least to show their financial strengths, directly go the selected country as students. Majority of students who are with academic excellence are also in moving trend in the developed countries on their academic strengths having full or partial scholarship. The youths in mass who are in prime working age are seeking employment opportunities in Middle East and Far East region. Though, their priority remains or dream to be in the countries like the USA, European countries, Japan and Australia. Recently, Afghanistan and Iraq are also countries of attraction to young and professionals via other countries because of lack of permission/restrictions mechanism from the government system (Sharma, 2008).

**Table 1.3: Remittance income till fiscal year 2008/09**

S.N.	Description	2001/ 02	2002/ 03	2003/ 04	2004/ 05	2005/ 06	2006/ 07	2007/ 08	2008/ 09
1	Remittance Income (Billion Rs.)	47.22	47.54	54.20	58.59	65.54	97.69	142.68	209.7
2	Change per Year (in %)	0.7	14	8.1	11.9	49	25	42.5	47
3	GDP Contribution	10.3	11	10.9	11.1	14.9	13.8	17.5	21.2

Source: *Economic Survey, MOF, GON, 2009/10*

The remittance that country receives each year is not used in productive and income generating sectors. Most of the amounts are being spent on household expenditure, health services, education for the children and constructing new houses, other essential reconstruction work and to pay back loan borrowed by the migrant workers. It is seen that neither our government nor the migrants have appropriate vision to invest their earning in the productive work (Bhattarai, 2005).

A phenomenal rise in the migration has taken place globally in recent years. The development of information technology and increased connectivity has contributed to this to a greater extent. Consequently, remittances from emigrant workers have become one of the principle sources of income of the people living in the developing countries. Millions of people from the developing world leave their native place for seeking employment opportunities abroad. Emigration generally provides relatively well-paid employment for those who are unable to get jobs in their active place. Apart from improving the livelihood, remittance of migrant workers also enhances the ability of their families to invest in education and health care. At a time when foreign aid and foreign direct investment are declining, remittances have evolved as the important sources of foreign exchange for the developing countries (Hunte, 2004).

One cause of poverty is linked to Nepal's rain-fated subsistence agricultural economy, which accommodates about 80% of households and occupies about a 32% share of GDP (in 2006-07). Ironically, the agricultural production is mostly in subsistence level and Nepal depends on imports of foods to feed its population. On the other hand,

the modern sector is far smaller in size and development to provide enough economic opportunities within the country for the huge mass of the ever increasingly economically active population. Thus, the work-migration inside and outside the country for economic opportunities is a normal phenomenon in Nepal, as in many other developing countries.

In Nepal out migration has increased rapidly in recent years. Although Nepalese citizens going to India for employment began in the beginning of 19th century, out migration to Malaysia and Gulf countries has increased massively for last few years. The tendency of Nepalese seeking foreign employment shows that, outside India, the highest number of Nepalese have gone to Malaysia followed by Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates (MOF, 2008). Nepalese people are now working in 39 different countries of the world (NRB, 2008). With increased out-migration, remittances have also increased substantially in Nepal.

A policy of promoting labour migration has contributed markedly to this. The rising unemployment and widening resources gaps have motivated the government to pursue such a policy. The rise in out migration has also compelled government to initiate various measures that could safeguard the interest and welfare of migrants. Some bilateral agreements with countries like Qatar and UAE have been made for this purpose. The government is also attempting at regulating the recruitment procedures through new foreign employment rules and regulations. The institutional reforms are also underway to facilitate the foreign employment to the Nepalese workers. Despite some new initiatives, a number of problems or complexities have come to the forefront. The ill-conceived or inadequate policies and administrative mechanism have contributed to this. Workers working in foreign land entail a number of risks from the beginning of searching jobs such as trafficking, recruitment malpractices, high placement fees, debt bondage, sexual and physical harassment, employment in hazardous jobs, and under or non-payment of wages. Recruitment malpractices, fraud and abuses are said to be widespread in Nepal. Emigrant workers face many problems before and after their departure for foreign employment. Different standards are often applied to nationals and migrants for job tenure and contracts, depriving migrants of certain advantages. Recruiting system has not been scientific and transparent- lacking

information for emigrant workers. Most of them are not aware and properly informed about their destination, nature of work, costs and other social and cultural matter of destination country. As a result, most of the migrant workers in aboard are working in a vulnerable situation without any effective legal protections. Migrant labour recruitment is mainly handled by commercial motivated agencies, sometimes using brokers with number of layers and channels. The protection of migrant workers rest on the contracts signed between the workers and their employees through employment agencies. This arrangement has given rise to irregularities and abuses at the all stages of the migrant process. In many instances, migrant workers due to inability to take loan from banking system either pay high interest rate to the money lenders or sell properties in the hope of earning sufficient money abroad. Under such circumferences, the remittances could be barely sufficient to repay loans or recover the lost properties with least possibilities of improving livelihood and investing in human capital leading to no or limited welfare gains. The cost and return of emigrant is still unclear and remains far outside the public policy realm (Mariapia, 2006). The likely welfare gains to the households of the migrant workers may be difficult to realize unless problems in these areas are delineated and addressed in a proper way. In view of Malaysia and Gulf countries being major destinations of migrant workers, case studies of these counties is critically important from policy point of view.

In early 1990s, when foreign employment especially in Saudi Arabia had just begun some entrepreneurs entered Prithvinagar VDC (Village Development Committee) in search of suitable land for tea cultivation. The most important and attractive object for the investors was land, which was reasonably cheap during that time compared to other surrounding places. Secondly, The VDC was connected with the district headquarter by satisfactory gravel road and at that time it had communication facilities as well. Lastly, the land was reasonably suitable for tea cultivation. According to the local tea farmers, tea needs temperature around 20-30 cc, regular rainfall/irrigation and good drainage system. These sorts of things are available in this village because of monsoon rainfall and its slanting topography.



## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

International labor migration has become important among other sectors at present in Nepal. Nepalese foreign migrants have rapidly increased. Due to the unemployment situation caused by recent political unrest such as insurgency, numbers of households from rural village have compelled to go for foreign employment. Similarly, the households collect the money for this purpose by mortgaging and selling their land, properties and taking loan at high interest rate.

International labour migration is gaining momentum and will continue to do so in the years to come. Looking at the present scenario excluding India, around 500 Nepali youths are leaving Nepal by air daily. The destination mostly is West Asia and South East Asia. No doubt numerous causes are responsible for the external movement of people. The reasons may vary from political instability, lack of employment opportunities, population pressure and so on. With the passage of time the cost of living has really gone up everything is expensive namely education, housing, food and fuel. Survival and maintaining a decent lifestyle is a big challenge in the present age. Everybody is on the lookout for golden opportunities in order to earn the extra income. Moreover the salary in foreign currency is perceived as a healthy reward, which in turn attracts attention. Foreign employment is not that easy it is associated with procedure and sometimes it can be a misery. Numerous manpower agencies are entrusted with the responsibility to supply labourers to the respective countries. Sometimes these agencies, charge high amount or by provide wrong information to the emigrants, which adds up to the sorrow and hardships. There are numerous cases where emigrants have ended bankrupt because of brokers/agents.

The migrant worker is not a product of the twentieth century. Men and women have been leaving their homelands in search of work elsewhere ever since payment in return for labour was introduced. The difference today is that there are far more migrant workers than any period of human history. Millions of people are now earning their living--or looking for paid employment--came as strangers to the States where they reside. There is no continent, no region of the world, which does not have its contingent of migrant workers (*OHCHR, 2004*).

Migrant workers are aliens. This may, on this account alone, be the targets of suspicion or hostility in the communities where they live and work. In most cases, financially poor, they share the handicapped economy, society and culture of the least-favoured groups in the society of the host state. Discrimination against migrant workers in the field of employment takes many forms. These include exclusions or preferences as regard the types of jobs which are open to migrants, and difficulty to access to vocational training. Different standards are often applied to nationals, on the one hand, and migrants, on the other, as regards job tenure, and contracts may deprive migrants of certain advantages (Bhattarai: 2005).

Although Nepal has a very long history of labour migration and foreign employment, recently it has become one of the major phenomena among Nepalese youngsters. Several hundred thousand Nepalese are working abroad as skilled, semi skilled and largely as unskilled labourers in India, Gulf States, East Asian countries, and even in Europe, USA and Australia. One hundred and seven states have been declared open by Government of Nepal to send Nepali workers institutionally for foreign employment, and Russia has been a new destination among them (MOLT, 2006:6).

The Nepal Living Standard Survey in nominal terms, average household income has grown by more than 80% from 1995/96 to 2003/04 due to foreign employment and remittances (CBS et al., 2000). Now, the amount of remittances has been more than 1.20 billion US\$ per year and it constitutes 18% of the total GDP of Nepal (Nepal Samacharpatra, December 9th, 2005). Therefore, now it is believed that the national economy of the country is enormously dependent upon remittances sent by Nepalese young people from abroad and the amount could be more than one year budget of Nepalese government (Bhandari, 2007).

The remittance that country receives each year is not used in productive work. Most of the amounts are being spent on household expenditure, health services, education for the children and constructing new houses, other essential reconstruction work and pay back lone taken by the migrant workers. It is seen that neither our government nor the migrants have appropriate vision to invest their earning in the productive work (Bhattarai: 2005).

No doubt a big number of people from Nepal are migrating abroad in search of opportunities. As time elapsed by the quantity of emigrants is also rising. Prithvinagar VDC, of course, is not an exceptional case taking this trend. Adults of this VDC are going abroad in order to accomplish their wants, dreams and desire. Remittance from abroad plays a crucial role for the households and society in general.

This research under the title “International Labour Migration and Its Impact on Livelihood: A Study of Prithvinagar VDC” will try to evaluate the existing opportunities and challenges of the international labour migration in Prithvinagar VDC of Jhapa district. This research will also focus on identification of socio-economic and demographic impact of international labour in the Nepalese context.

### **1.3 Objectives of the study**

The overall objective of this study is to analyse the overall impact seen on livelihood pattern of the habitants of Prithvinagar due to the international labour migration. The Specific objectives are:

- To analyse the causes of international labour migration from Prithvinagar
- To examine the remittance flow and its use in the study area
- To examine the impact of labour migration on livelihood
- To explore the socio-economic characteristics of migrants and their families

### **1.4 Significance of the study**

The findings of this study will be helpful to the planners, policy makers and the later researchers on this issue. The study will provide a glimpse of the situation of international labour migration and its impact on Prithvinagar. It will be like a mirror to observe the opportunities and challenges, cause and consequences in Prithvinagar. It could be said that it will be an in-depth study of foreign labour migration from Prithvinagar, but also the recommendation of this study will be useful for the concerned authority to make better policies and programmes to manage and regulate

the international labour migration of Nepal. The study will address the factors motivating people to migrate. In a nutshell, the findings of the study will be helpful to develop a new strategy to control the brain drain of the youth, optimum utilization of the remittance and the sustainable plan for future.

Foreign employment has reduced the state of poverty and unemployment to a certain extent. The life style of the households that succeeded in going for foreign employment has changed. But they have not been able to utilize and invest the whole remittances in a good way in a productive sector. Therefore, how to invest and utilize the remittance has emerged as a major problem in the fields of foreign employment and the government also encourages the private institute to run skill development programmers to increase the demand of Nepalese workers in foreign countries as well as to make them capable to increase their salary and wages. Considering the huge amount of remittance coming into Nepal from foreign labor migration and its important role in Nepalese economy, it is hoped that this study will provide some understanding to the factors contributing to the prospects, potentialities and promises from the foreign labor migration and the problems and issues constraining the effective management monitoring the labor migration for as the nation.

Its aim is to study the institutional regulation of labor migration in the study region of origin with special attention to livelihood strategies. As a basis for understanding international labour migration, it is crucial to know what motives people to migrate. The question *why* people migrate is therefore included in this study. The hypothesis is that the decision to migrate and the choice of destination are strongly influenced by the rules and regulations structuring the process in the early phase of migration, the time from the destination to leave until the arrival in the receiving country. This study addresses the factors motivating people to migrate. Migration is seen as an important livelihood strategy, that is, an action which people undertake to secured the livelihood of their households. So, the study deals with finding out what goals people want to achieve with migration and why they choose this strategy and not another.

This study trends to provide an insight in the understanding of the international labour migration particularly concerning Prithvinagar VDC of Jhapa district. This study is focused on actual works done in the source region. Its aim is to study the labour

migration in the study area with special attention to livelihood strategy. It is crucial to be aware of what motivate people to move abroad and as to how people manage the required procedures. Outcomes will not be limited just to the study area. Labour migration from Prithvinagar VDC is associated to certain extent with other parts of Jhapa and also the rest of Nepal. This study is important for those policy makers and planners with reference to the remittances for better utilization. It has been a trend that most of the migrant workers spend their earnings either on the foreign goods at the destination or on unproductive sectors like house, land in the place of origin. This study is equally significant for those migrant workers since it gives an insight to them for proper investment of their earnings.

### **1.5 Limitations of the Study**

The study is not free from some limitations and constraints. The respondents do not keep the actual records in written documents of the daily activities. Hence the data obtained from field survey is subject to memory. Some other limitations are:

- a. Because of the concentration of emigrants only on Gulf countries, its generalization may not be applicable to the emigrants in other countries.
- b. This study is only the case study of Prithvinagar VDC of Jhapa District. So, it cannot be generalized for other parts of the country.

### **1.6 Organization of the Study**

The research is organized as a case study of Prithvinagar VDC in six chapters followed by references, figures, tables, graphic representation and table of contents. The first chapter is the introductory chapter which contains the general background, statement of research problem, objectives, significance and limitations of the study. The study of the literature on international migration has been reviewed in the second chapter. The third chapter includes research methodology. The fourth chapter describes the study area. The fifth chapter deals with the quantitative analysis of the findings through data tabulation and analysis which shows the socio-economic status, causes, remittance flow, impact and attitude of labor migration. This chapter also

gives the qualitative analysis of the results and findings derived from the individual and group discussion with those respondents who have returned from foreign countries after some years of the service as the emigrant workers. The last chapter is about the summary, conclusions and recommendations of the study.

## Chapter-II

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.1 An Overview of International Labour Migration and Remittance:

Over the past three decades, policies in the area of labour migration have developed along four major paths: growing restrictiveness and selectiveness in the admission of labour migrants in developed countries; a significant increase in the number of countries, particularly developing countries that have become host to foreign workers; the rising recognition that the rights of migrant workers and their families need to be protected and; the adoption of regional agreements on the free movement of persons (UN, 2002).

Migration is very complex phenomenon. It is very difficult to show the relation of migration between socio-economic variables. No certain and exact rule can be formulated about migration. One rule or formula may be unfit for another case. The labor migration is a world-wide phenomenon, 'there are 191 million migrants worldwide, up from 176 million in 2000. Migrants today compromise 3.0 per cent of the global population. The total number of migrant population, if put in one place it will constitute 'the most populous country in the world' ([www.iom.int/Jahia/Jahia/pid/254](http://www.iom.int/Jahia/Jahia/pid/254), 31 August 2008). The status of migrants who are contributing to create wealth in the migrated country is in such state that 'there around 30 and 40 per million undocumented migrants worldwide, comprising around 15 to 20 per cent of the world's immigrant stocks' (Sharma: 2008).

Globalization of integration of regional economies has added impetus to the growing mobility of workers across abroad. In Asia the movement of labour is becoming an important and enduring phenomenon associated with economic growth and development since it eases skill imbalances in labour markets and provide broad cultural and economic benefits for sending and receiving countries. Migrants' remittances, for example, are now a valuable and stable source of foreign exchange to many origin countries. At the global level, the importance of migration to development is now reflected in the fact that it has become the part of agenda of

multilateral institutions, as for example in the trade negotiations within the framework of General Agreement on Trade and Services (GATS).

At the beginning of the twenty-first century, the total number of persons living outside their countries of origin worldwide was 175 million including 120 million migrant workers and their families according to the ILO estimates. It is estimated that 20 million African men and women are migrant workers and that by 2015 one in ten Africans will live and work outside their countries of origin. While migration is bound to grow and offers development opportunities for both countries of origin and destination as well as for individual migrant workers, ill-conceived or inadequate policies have led to a series of problems that are of direct concern to the International Labour Organization and its constituents (UN, 2002).

The flows of international remittances have tremendously increased during the last decade exceeding all spending on development aid. These remittances have received considerable attention from many policy makers and development strategists in particular with regard to its impact on the economy of developing countries. The data show that officially reported flows of remittances to developing countries have been approximately 20 percent higher than official development assistance. In 2005, the total remittance received by all developing countries was US\$ 188 billion-twice the amount of official assistance to developing countries. Remittance accounts the second most source of external funding in developing countries, following by Foreign Direct Investment. The data further reveal that remittances have been increasing on average by 15 percent annually in developing countries since 2000. Therefore, the impact of remittances on receiving countries is of great significance

In the past few years, there has been a remarkable renaissance in the interest in remittances. This interest has undoubtedly been triggered by a striking increase in remittance flows: after years of relative neglect, they have been rediscovered as a potential source of development finance. Remittances sent back to developing countries rose from \$31.1 billion in 1990 to \$76.8 billion in 2000 to no less than \$167.0 billion in 2005. Registered remittances now amount to well over twice the



amount of official development assistance and are 10 times higher than net private capital transfers to developing countries

## **2.2 Review of Theoretical Models**

Bauder suggested, “The international migration of workers is necessary for the survival of industrialized economics - it turns the conventional view of international migration on its head; it investigates how migration regulates labor market, rather than labor market shaping migration flows” (Bauder, 2006).

Zelnisky Wilber presented mobility transaction hypothesis. He observed the pattern regularities in the growth of personal mobility from the beginning to recent time. There are number of stage of transition comprising modernization processes as components. Differences in economic advantages and wages are the main causes of migration of laborer. There are orderly changed in the type and amount of special mobility including change in function, frequency distribution, priority, distance and types of migration (Zelnisky Wilber, 1971).

Todaro has given the most significant contribution of the large volume of migration literature. He viewed, “Migration mechanism can be explained by the differences unexpected rather than actual earning between two places.” He formulated migration model with four different features as:

- a. Migration is stimulated primarily by national income considerations of reflective, which are mostly financial and psychological.
- b. The decision to migrate depends in expected rather than an actual new or old real wage differential.
- c. The probability of obtaining employment in the new sector is inversely related to the unemployment rate in the new sector.
- d. Migration rate of new employment opportunity growth rates are not only possible but rational as well and even likely (Todaro, 1969).

Lee formulated important approach in literature of migration which reveals that migration a result of "push" and "pull" factor at the both origin and destination and the cost of overcoming the obstacles lying between the individuals as well possible

alternatives. The process of migration is influenced by factors associated with the area of origin and destination, intervening obstacles and personal factors. This model framework of pull and push factors and it summarizes the contribution on migration by Revensteins, Zipf, Stouffer, and other. There are usually three sets of factors i.e. positive, negative (Lee, 1966).

Stouffer developed the principle of intervening opportunities, which show that the number of persons moving to an area is directly proportional to the number of available opportunities and inversely and inversely proportional to the number of opportunities between origin and destination (Stouffer, 1960).

Bogue viewed migration as an adjustment in economic and social change. Migration redistributes the population of any territory by transferring people from one place to another (Bogue, 1959).

Zipf has studied migration and brought out an article in 1949 AD. In this article he had focused on the reason that compelled the migration to move. He has expressed the view in systematically and theoretically, on the destination of migrants that where is the origin and where is the destination of migrating. (Zipf, 1949).

Revensteins (1889) was the first person to study migration systematically according to him there is certain undesirable factor in the place of origin which stimulates or compels the individual to migrate to the other places and likewise there factor in the destination that attracts the migrants. In this word the former factor are "push" and the latter are the "pull" factor causing the events of migration. He also said that the migration occurs with streams and counter streams. The distance between the origin and destination determines the volume of migration (Revensteins, 1889).

### **2.3 Empirical Research on Migration: Global Context**

Mansoor and Quillin report about the international migration. The cores of the report document the history of migration. The remittances through transition and discussion determines of migration. The distinctive pattern of migration experienced since transition will continue to exert an important impact on growth and development in the near future.

Migration creates challenges and opportunities for sending and receiving countries. For many net emigration countries in ECA households' income and national output are strongly tied to the income of migrants living and working abroad. Cross country growths studies conduct for these reports indicate that remittance have a positive impact on long term economic growth. Migration can allow migrant to learn new skill and can facilitate cross border trade and investment linkages Moreover labor importing CIS economics and the neighboring EU rely on migrant labor from the region to the maintain rates of economic growth and stands of living.

At last they suggested about the migration. First reform to the business investment climate and economic governance in the country of origin could reduce the incentives for migration as well as migrants to return home closely coordinate labor can meet demand through legal channel that respect the rights of migrants while also satisfying the political and satisfying the political and social sensitivities of receiving countries (Mansoor and Quillin, 2006).

Subedi has explained that Nepal its status as a labor sending country in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. With current population of size 23.12million growing constantly over 2.2 percent per annum, more than 200 thousands young adults are entering into the labor force every year. Most of this entry is rural areas. Overwhelming majority of this population is unskilled. He argues that with poverty, lack of in-country employment opportunities amidst youth bulge, labor migration from Nepal is imperative. Taking this into consideration the government considers promoting foreign labor migration of the citizens as way of to benefit both citizen and the country.

He further explained that foreign labor migration from increase over space and time in recent years than ever before. More than 160 employment agencies have been actively engaged in sending Nepalese workers to overseas countries. But unhealthy competitions between local recruiting agencies and cheating of the individual workers are not uncommon. Indian sub-continent still absorbs overwhelming majority of Nepalese international labor migrants but the recent labor migration through Foreign Employment Promoting had been directed towards West Asian and East and Southeast Asia.

According to him recent political event in the country is also forcing youths to leave the village and look for opportunities elsewhere. But mismatch demand (quality) and supply and safety of industry workers in Saudi Arabia and other areas the important issue to be considered while promoting labor migration (Subedi, 2003).

Wyss has pointed out that the process or institutions involved in international labor migration with regard to accumulation of information, decision, preparation, financing and travel access to employment saving and remitting money are crucial. These processes influence the propensity to migrate and the potential contribution of labor migration to the live hood of people. Without denying the importance of incentives from potential receiving countries (pull-factor), it has to be emphasized that these factors are translated through how migration occurs and the assets this demands (Wyss, 2003).

United Nation has spent a lot of time to study migration in different part of the world in the different time. United Nation states that a fundamental characteristic of people in their movement from place to place. International migration can have positive impact in the both the communities of the origin and the communities of destination. Migration also has the potential of facilitating the transfer of skill and contributing to cultural enrichment. Today the number of people residing outside their country of birth is at an all –time of about 175 million. More than double the number of a generation ago. The vast majority of migrants are making meaningful contribution to their host countries. At the same time, however international migrations entails the loss human resources for many countries of origin and give rise to political, economic, or social tensions in countries of destination.

The report also states that over the past three decades policies in the area of labor migration have developed along four major paths: growing restrictiveness and selectiveness in the admission of labor migrants in developed countries; a significant increase in the number of countries, particularly developing countries, that have become host to foreign workers; the rising recognition that the right of migrant workers and their families need to be protected and the about of regional agreements on the free movement of persons (United Nation ,2002).

The research study made by the UN-ESCAP, in 1987, Trends, Issues and Policies finds out the causes and consequences of migration from developing countries to the developed countries especially in Middle East. The findings of the study are also applicable and relevant in the present situation though the study is done in the end of eighties. The study found that after the heavy rise in the prices of oil in 1973 resulted in a massive inflow of financial resources into the oil exported countries to Middle East over a very short span of time, which expanded the construction programs such as infrastructure developments etc accelerate their economic and social development, which in turn give rise a large flow of labor migration into these regions.

It is also found that between 1970 and 1975 the share of migrant workers from the ESCAP region in the workplace of Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar and UAE increased from 25.8 percent to 45.7 percent. In 1983, the share of Asian workers in total immigrant workers in the Middle East was estimated at 46.9 percent. By skill level, most of the workers are unskilled and semiskilled who were working in those regions, and their jobs were mainly on the construction which is categorized as dangerous to their citizens. So most of the South Asian workers were engaged construction activities. This pattern of employment is further confirmed by the fact that Arab nationals preferred jobs outside construction or manual works. The research study found that rapid population growth, a sequence of national calamities, general poverty and the increasingly high wage differential between these ESCAP countries and; other Middle East and Gulf Countries acted as strong incentives for workers to seek job opportunities abroad. The serious disruption accompanying these for democracy, followed by slow growth of the country's economy, acute problem of unemployment and extremely low salary and wage levels acted as highly effective push factors for outward migration.

According to the study, remittances by workers provided a source of income to families left behind and have also hand a considerable impact on the economics of the counties in the ESCAP region which had experienced major outflows of labor in recent years. The major flow of emigrating workers in the recent past went to the oil exporting countries in the Middle East. It could be expected that the ME would constitute the major source of remittance flow to the labor exporting countries in the

ESCAP region. It has also given the data labor the remittance outflows from oil exporting countries were 7.6 percent of total world outflows in 1970 and increased to 20 percent in 1980. Over the same period, the share of the developed marked economics in total remittance outflows declined from four fifths to two thirds. The developing ESCAP countries also more than doubled their share in remittances inflows within the short time span between 1975 and 1980. The remittance income paid to the emigrant workers from the value added income which they contribute to produce, in turn does not affect the income of the host countries.

The study has investigated that a major benefit to the labor exporting countries can be seen to accrue to balance of payments as the remittance help to have favorable effects on balance of payments situation, as the remittance help to have favorable effects on investment and output. However, the monetary consequences of a sudden large inflow of cash remittance could generate inflationary pressure on the economy. Remittance cannot impact badly to the economy of the host country, emigrant workers perform their work on aboard which is the activities of that country that help to the value added of that country. Receiving country is also benefited from remittance due to its contribution on foreign currency earnings.

It is found that banking facilities are not used by the emigrant workers because of the cumbersome procedures involved in effecting remittances through banking channels many workers unfamiliarity with such channels and the delays involved in transactions were considered to have discouraged persons countries, unauthorized money dealers despite the considerable risk of fraud and loss. The result was the loss of foreign exchange to the official account of the countries concerned. Over valuation of the exchange rate of the domestic currency also discouraged the use of banking channels.

The study suggests the major policy concerns are the protection of the emigrating workers legitimate rights and prevention of their exploration at the hands of the middle men and agents who emerged in large numbers, sensing opportunities to make money out of the huge trade in human beings. The other major policy issue was the need to regulate, facilitate in such a way that the countries concerned could deserved the maximum economic benefits out of them (UN-ESCAP, 1987).

## **2.4 Related Literature to Migration: Nepalese Context**

Migration is a worldwide process in the past, present, and future. Nepal is not out of this process. Literature concerning migration on Nepal is extensive since it has become a subject for many social scientists.

Niroula has studied the socio- economic impact of labor migration ‘A case study of emigration from Nangkholyang VDC Teplejung.’ The objectives of the study were to understand the causes and impact of socio- economic characteristics of emigrants.

He concludes that all the migrants were young males who were literate. The push factors of emigration were unemployment, food deficiency, increase expenditure, lack of security and some family causes. On the other hand, availability of work presence of friends, relative, higher rate of salary and bright light were the pull factors of migration. The jobs picked by these people were building construction, Mechanics, Agriculture /farming, Industrial work and Hotel works. The impacts of emigration fell upon economic, social and demographic dimension. The impacts were positive as well as negative. The positive impacts were; higher earning, saving and a main source of up liftmen to their livelihood. The people tended to be more conscious. They tended to give more attention to education and sanitation. The negative impacts were labor shortage in the village, negligence of agriculture and mobility to urban areas. The domination of children and older population, low development activities and family problems were some other negative impacts of the emigration in the study area.

He recommends that to provide employment opportunities to the villagers, attention should be given in controlling population. Emphasis should be given in keeping livestock providing good qualities of animals and improving agriculture system. Thus he provides micro-level information about emigrants in different aspects (Niroula, 2007).

Sharma provides a micro-level study of labor migration to the Arab countries in Jaidi VDC Baglung. The study defining migration includes push factor as non availability of land and work in village, lack of security other social factors. Similarly easy availability of job, higher wages, security, prances of relative and friends are regarded

as major pull factors. He also points out the impact of emigration in the village. Decreases in active male population, shortage of labor force, social psychological anxiety are the some negative impacts where as improvement in knowledge of emigrants, life standards etc. are positive ones (*Sharma, 2005*).

Bhandari studied on international labor migration as livelihood strategy a case of study of Prithivinager VDC Jhapa. In this study focus was also given to the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of migrants and their households. He also examined the impact of labor migration on livelihood of the study (*Bhandari, 2004*).

Subedi, (2003), has explained that Nepal has been known as a labor sending country in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. With current population of size 23.12million growing constantly over 2.2 percent per annum, more than 200 thousands young adults are entering into the labor force every year. Most of this entry is rural areas. Overwhelming majority of this population is unskilled. He argues that with poverty, lack of in-country employment opportunities amidst youth bulge, labor migration from Nepal is imperative. Taking this into consideration the government considers promoting foreign labor migration of the citizens as way of to benefit both citizen and the country.

Gyanwali, has explained the different aspect of emigration has affected the place of origin both positively and negatively. Such as some households have increased their standard and in other hand the local agriculture lands are changing into non-agriculture land. The emigration is also affecting the socio economic set up of the village (*Gyanwali, 2001*).

Seddon found that foreign labor migration and the income returned to the rural household of Nepal are the result of employment abroad while tending to consolidate existing inequalities, can for a significant minority of individuals and households, work against emigration trend and generate a real improvement of life and living standard For the very poor however these opportunities seem not to be available, as much because of the difficulties and risk of seeking employment abroad The very poor are in fact, relatively little involved in foreign labor migration. Their livelihoods have so far been, secured, though precariously, by the generation of local wage



employment opportunities because of the outside earning of the wealthier households. Their survival is bought by their continued reliance and dependency on their employers and masters (*Seddon, 2001*).

Gautam provided micro level study of Kandebash in Baglung on emigration. He found that reasons for emigration were unemployment, food deficiency, and family causes and other personal reasons. He also founded that emigration has become a traditional occupation. He point out the impact of emigration in the village decrease in inactive male population, shortage of labor force , social psychological anxiety to family are some negative impacts where as improvement in knowledge of emigrants , life standard etc. are positive ones (*Gautam, 1999*).

Gurung carried a study of internal and international migration in Nepal. This study was sponsored by National commission of population. The objectives of the study were to analyze the nature, magnitude, caused and consequences of internal and international migration as well as to suggest policy measure and direction for programmed with regards to migration. This study selected on the basis of grid sampling and 2411 households were interviewed. In order to determine the nature and cause for employing foreign workers, 66 industries establishment were surveyed. To study out migration and emigration 404 household heads were interviewed, the study also concluded that approximately 94percent of the sampled in-migration family heads in Kathmandu valley were male. A large scale majority of in migration family head belongs to the 20-44 age category and majority of the sample household heads were married during 15-19 years with the 17.3 percentage average years of marriage (*Gurung, 1984*).

Shrestha in his study has indicated that ridge to valley migration of population is also a notable phenomenon. He has maintained that land ownership in the valley is the important stimulating factor and non economic (social and cultural) factors are not so important to move from hill to Terai (*Shrestha, 1983*).

Kansakar described the aspect of population in Nepal through the historical analysis of population change. He concludes that the basic reasons for migration are poor economic condition of hill as compared to the Terai. Terai was destination of

international migration. Finally, he suggested to the need for development of hill region (*Kansakar, 1974*).

Myron Weiner focused on the political implication of migration between Nepal and India dealing with internal migration immigration and implications of migration on the social and political affairs of Nepal and indicated that in past decades, India provided a “safety valve” for the growing population in Nepal in its hills region. Weiner concluded that the basic reasons for migration were high hill density, per land unit, employment opportunities outside the hills and eradication of malaria in the Terai (*Weiner, 1971*).

Mc Dougal has studied migration of western hills, inner Terai Terai in far western Nepal that includes Mahakali, Seti, Karnali and Rapti zones. It concludes that temporary migration is happened due to lack of cash income in the village. The cash is wanted for fulfillment of their daily needs, especially to buy salt, kerosene, clothes, sugar, and number of other necessities. The study further concludes that the destination of migrants was to India and was started nearly 20 (now 50) years ago. At last it has provided a part of solution as improve methods of production resulting in higher yields (*Dougal, 1968*).

There is an act namely Foreign Employment Act 2064 in order to control and regularize foreign employment. In this act Nepal government send can send worker through manpower agency or government owned institute Manpower Agency should send labour within the prescribed time limit otherwise they return the amount taken from such worker as the on interest at 20% within 30 days If the worker unable to go to foreign employment after receiving the visa the workers should pay visa fee.

After a thorough study of this act, government has been paying serious concern to protect labourer from misguidance.

Based on the above literature, it is found that different scholars and writers have different views about migration, international migration, international migration, internal migration and their livelihood pattern. The above reviews of literature have been in this field of migration by different research institution and scholars and focus has on labor migration, causes and consequence, livelihood strategies and pattern of

ethnic groups. Most are concerned with internal hill to Terai, rural to urban migration; some research and dissertation are concerned with emigration from Nepal but not in sufficient scale.

In this study the researcher focused on the neglected aspect such as very specially type of work. The above study also focused of type of work but these studies have only addressed the general types such a skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled. This micro level study aims to fulfill gap of knowledge of volume, trend, socio-economic status, causes and consequences of emigration the study area. This study has also focused the working condition, family contact, remittances and its use.

## **2.5 Past Migration History of Prithvinagar**

Migration has been an important component of population redistribution in Nepal. People have been migrating from rural-to-rural and rural-to-urban areas in search of employment and educational opportunities (KC, 2003:130). Major streams of internal migration are rural-to rural (68.2%) and rural-to-urban (25.5% in 2001 and 31.2% in 1996). Urban-to-urban (2.8%) and urban-to-rural (3.5) are of lesser importance (Ibid:141-142).

In-migration history in eastern Tarai especially in Jhapa District is not very old. In Jhapa, the trend of in-migration was low before 1957. Hostile climate and malaria became a barrier for new settlers (Bhandari, 2003:64). Now, in eastern Tarai, in-migration is 75.6% while out-migration is 24.4% (KC 2003:158, Figure 15.8). In the case of Prithvinagar VDC, in-migration started only after 1970/71 when Government of Nepal started resettlement programme. Initially the program was for former British and Indian army families who were living in a nearby village called Suryanagar. Later many other people from different places grabbed this opportunity.

Before resettlement program, the place was inhabited by indigenous people called *Satar* and *Rajbansi* and the rest of the village was covered by dense forest. After resettlement program, there was massive influx of people from different parts of the country as well as Bhutan, India and Burma wherever Nepalese were living. So, due to the mass arrival of other caste people these indigenous people were replaced and now living in the vicinity area either in rented land, bank of the river or *ailani jagga*

(open land having no ownership). According to the senior people of the village, 3 *bigha* lands were equally distributed to all the families. There was no caste discrimination for the land distribution and even no official identification was needed for new settlers. To know the reality, I went to the Hattimara (Satar Village) and asked to *Manjihadam* (head of Satar community). He said it was true, the resettlement company had offered equal land to all the people and some indigenous people had taken that facility. But after living some months, they realized that it would be difficult to live among *pahade* (Nepalese migrated from hills) and other caste people. They felt insecure and abandoned their distributed land. As a result, now they have no land and working as a low wage labourers in local tea garden and processing industry to feed their family and children (Bhandari, 2007).

There are a number of stories why people came to this VDC. According to an old man, who himself was migrated from Ilam (eastern hill district of Nepal) mentioned that he came to this village to get some agriculture land. He further mentioned that there was big rumour that government was going to distribute free land in Prithvinagar. It was necessary to have family to get land. So, many people from his village and district came with their wives and children. Another old man who had come from Assam (Indian State) mentioned the same story with different passion. He said there was big flood in Bramhaputra River and all his land was under terrible flood. He became landless and returned to his own country (Nepal). Some other people from Burma said they were attacked many times by Burmese and returned to their native country for the security of their wives and children. Others who had already substantial land in their old place also got equal land. Therefore, whatever the stories are, the fact is people came in to this place to grab the opportunity of resettlement program. Consequently, after resettlement programme migration increased tremendously with foreign-born and native born population, which has contributed for rapid population growth of Prithvinagar.

## **2.6 Present Migration Pattern**

In-migration played a very important role from the very beginning of the village establishment. Today, parents and grandparents either came from other parts of Nepal,

India, Bhutan and Burma. Since many people were already in British and Indian Army before coming to this place nobody has exact idea when out-migration has started in Prithvinagar. No information and data was found in this regard. When we talk about the present migration pattern in Prithvinagar then labour migration from village started in late 1980s and early 1990s.

According to the manager of SFCL (Small Farmer Cooperative Limited), there was a man who first migrated to Kathmandu for employment in garment factory in late 1980s. Others many people said, some people used to go Panjab (Indian State) and Delhi as seasonal agricultural labour works around 15-20 years before. Local farmers claimed that some people even went to Delhi for unskilled labourer and other household works during that period. Anyway, if we noticed manager and local farmer's statements then we can conclude that labour migration was started in late 1980s. When foreign employment to Gulf States began in early 1990s the flow took its momentum. Now among 2997 households, 2860 households have at least one emigrant which shows the drastically changed condition of international labor migration.

## **2.7 International Conventions and Policies for Migration**

### **2.7.1 The UN International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families**

The convention was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly Resolutions 45/158 of 18 December 1990. The convention opened a new chapter in the history of efforts to establish the rights of migrant workers and to ensure that those rights are protected and respected. It is a comprehensive international treaty, inspired by existing legally binding agreements, by United Nations human rights studies, by the conclusions and recommendations of meetings of experts, and by the debates and resolutions on the migrant worker question in United Nations bodies over the past two decades (<http://www.unhcr.ch/html/menu6/2/fs24.htm>). And the basic features of this convention are:

- It addresses the treatment, welfare and rights of this specific group of people

- provides an internationally recognized definition of “migrant worker” and certain categories of migrant workers
- Considers migrant workers as more than economic entities or labourers. They are social entities with families
- Recognizes that migrants have human rights regardless of their legal status, whether they are documented or undocumented. It defines human rights of migrant workers whether legal or illegal, and also defines other rights, which are applicable only to migrant workers in a regular situation.
- Seeks to establish minimum standards for the protection of legal, political, economic, civil, social and cultural rights for migrant workers.
- Recognizes the importance of women as migrant workers in their own right
- Recognizes the complexity of the situation migrant workers face in the contemporary world
- Provides the definitions for specific categories of migrant workers-such as “frontier workers”, “seasonal workers”, “project-led workers” and self-employed workers”
- Does not propose new human rights exclusively for migrant workers, but draws attention to the dehumanization of migrant workers and members of their families.
- Outlines duties of all states, specifically those belonging to sending states and states of employment.
- Requires states to take appropriate measures against those who organize illegal migration and to impose sanctions on those who use violence, threats or intimidation against migrant workers.

Like all other international human rights agreements, the convention sets standards which create a model for the laws and the judicial and administrative procedures of individual states. Governments of states which ratify or accede to the convention undertake to apply its provisions by adopting the necessary measures. They undertake to ensure that migrant workers whose rights have been violated may seek judicial remedy.

The convention provides that States must respect the basic human rights of all migrant workers. They must also prevent clandestine migration for employment and stop

manpower trafficking activities. Furthermore, states must declare and pursue a policy to secure equality of treatment in respect of matters such as employment and occupation, social security, and trade union and cultural rights. A total of 29 countries has ratified this convention till 2005 May. Nepal has still not ratified this convention.

### **2.7.2 Other International Conventions and Conferences**

ILO Migration for Employment Convention of 1949 (No. 97): The convention provides the foundation for equal treatment between national and regular migrants in recruitment procedures, living and working, access to justice, tax and social security regulations. It sets out details for contract conditions, participants of migrant in job training or promotion and deals with provisions for family reunification and appeals against unjustified termination of employment or expulsion and other measure to regulate the entire migration process.

ILO Migrant Workers (supplementary Provisions) Convention of 1975 (No. 143): The convention was elaborated at a time when concern about irregular migration was growing. It sets out the requirements for respect of the rights of the migrants with an irregular status, whilst providing for measures to end clandestine trafficking and to penalize employers of irregular migration.

The world conference on human rights held at Vienna in June 1993 in its Declaration and Programme of Action urged all States to guarantee the protection of human rights of all migrant workers and their families. The conference also stated that the creation of conditions to foster greater harmony and tolerance between migrant workers and the society of host States was of particular importance.

The International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), held at Cairo in September 1994, dealt with migration issues and, in particular, with the question of global migration. In chapter X of the Programme of Action which it adopted, the conference called for a comprehensive international approach to dealing with international migration. Among the areas requiring action, the conference identified mainly the root causes of migration and called for measures to deal with documented, as well as undocumented migrants.

World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen in March 1995, states committed themselves, at the international level, to ensure that migrant workers benefits from the protection provided by relevant national and international

instruments, to take concrete and effective measures against the exploitation of migrant workers and to encourage all states to consider ratifying and fully implementing international instruments relating to migrant workers.

The fourth World Conference on Women, held at Beijing in September 1995, paid considerable attention to the situation of migrant women. In the platform of action, which it adopted, the conference called on states to recognize the vulnerability to violence and other forms of abuse of women migrants, including women migrant workers, whose legal status in the host states depends on employers who may exploit their situation. It also urged governments to establish linguistically and culturally accessible services for migrant women and girls, including migrant workers who are the victims of gender based violence.

Similarly, International Labour conference 2004 adopted a plan of action to ensure that migrant workers are covered by the provision of international labour standard. Framework accepted in the conference will comprise international guidelines between sending and receiving countries that address different aspects of migration; promoting decent work of migrant workers; licensing and supervising agencies for migrant workers; preventing abusive practices migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons; protecting their human rights and preventing and combating irregular labour migration.

The plan also covers specific risks for all migrant workers-women and men-in certain occupations and sectors with particular emphasis on dirty, demeaning and dangerous jobs and on women in domestic service and the informal economy. It also seeks to labour inspection, create channels for migrant workers to lodge complaints and deals with policies to encourage return migration, re-integration into the country of origin and transfer of capital and technology by migrants.

### **2.7.3 International Labor Migration from Nepal**

Nepal has also long history of International Labour migration. Around 200 years ago, Nepalese started to seek work abroad and send remittances back to their families in Nepal. In the early 19<sup>h</sup> century, for instance, the first men migrated to Lahore (in today's Pakistan) to join the army of the Sikh ruler, Ranjit Singh. They earned the



nickname “Lahure” which is still used today for Nepalese employed in foreign armies abroad. In 1815/1816, the first British army of India and were then, and still are called “Gurkhas”. Since then, international labour migration of Nepalese has never ceased. Especially in the recent decades, it has greatly increased and diversified in pattern (NIDS, 2003).

In Nepal, much of early migrations were the result of push factors like excessive tax burden, exploitative agrarian relations and political instability. The more formal and temporary migration began after people started to work in the British army following the *Sugauli Treaty* that was signed on December 2, 1815. This Treaty permitted Britain to recruit *Gurkhas* for military service (Pant, 2006:32). Both the First and the Second World Wars created a huge demand for young army personnel from Nepal. In recent times, the scope for out-migration for military services has declined and more and more people have migrated for other types of job. It was only after the 1990s that policy makers and academicians began to fully acknowledge the importance of remittances sent by Nepalese employed abroad for enhancing the livelihoods of the households, including those in the rural regions (Kollmair et. al., 2006:151).

Late 1980s marks the new era of overseas labour migration from Nepal. During these years the demand for labour in the emerging economics in South East Asia increased substantially. The infrastructure development programs extended in West Asia also offered incomes earned through oil trade (Bhandari, 2003:8) On the other hand, in Nepal, there was extremely low level of employment generation, but still the labour force increased noticeably. In this situation, Nepalese government decided to promote and regulate employment of its nationals to overseas countries (Subedi, 2003:262). The assumption is “a country like Nepal, who has been suffering from serious problems of unemployment could be an effective medium to avail the opportunity of employment for the benefit of the country and its people” (MOLT, 1999:4).

The most cited data on international migration in Nepal originates from the latest nationwide census in 2001 (HMG et al., 2002), where 762'181 persons have been registered being abroad. Estimations of migration figures suggest that real numbers are several times higher than official statistics show. Seddon estimates that there are approximately 1.3 million Nepalese emigrants working in India. In India Nepalese

immigrant associations estimate the number of Nepalese as up to 3 million. Following these estimations, the number of Nepalese in India would be about two to five times higher than official statistics show. For migration to Gulf States, official sources such as the national census speak of 110,000 migrants in 2001 and the Ministry of Labour and Transport registered only slightly less than 104,000 migrants. Estimates, however, suggest that between 200,000 and 400,000 persons are working in Gulf countries. Considering the estimations for India and the Gulf States, the percentage of the total population absent from Nepal would be between 6.5 and 14.7 %, compared to the officially recorded 3.3% (KOLLMAIR et. al: 2007).

Recently, the outgoing labor market is drastically changing, in 1999/2000 number of people in countries other than India were 35,543 after six years in 2006/07, the number shoot up to 204,533. Women used to go in foreign employment as with the working male members in the past. This trend has been changed and around 11 percent earning is sent by women migrant workforces. The Nepali workforce for centuries was in the long time known labor market in India. Traditionally, there was no need to pay the middlemen for going and joining the job market in the past. Now, the aspirant worker has to start paying from making government passport and pay to the Manpower Supply Company and / or their Agents for finding the job and have to spend substantial amount of money on the cities while waiting for processing and waiting for departure to the country of destination. Aspirant job seekers have to collect around US \$1300.00 in most of the cases to be paid in advance to the manpower supply agent/company. There would be labor migrant who are not having job and are poor have to manage the amount of money that is around three times of the per capita income in Nepal. So, it makes a lot of pressure in the (mostly joint) family. The whole family makes a big sacrifice to collect the amount of money to send the family members in the foreign job in the hope of transferring their living from unemployed poor to in a better of position once they start to send back home their earnings (Sharma: 2008).

## **2.8 Some Government Policies regarding International Labour Migration:**

### **2.8.1 National Labour Policy (NLP) 1999**

National Labour Policy (NLP) 1999 has dealt the government policies and programmes on different labour issues where the issue regarding the promotion and reliability of international labour migration is also highlighted to some extent. The provision mentioned in the NLP on the issues of international labour migration is like a complementary action to increase the effectiveness of Foreign Employment Act-2042. The working policy section of NLP four major policies regarding migrant workers is incorporated. The policies are as follows:

- For the protection of rights and security of Nepalese workers in foreign country, diplomatic mission of Nepal, to the countries where the greater possibility of foreign employment exists and other government agencies shall be mobilized and in addition labour attaché shall be kept according to necessity
- For the expansion of foreign employment and increment of the reliability of its business, a high level advisory committee shall be constituted with the participation of Ministry of Labour, Home, Finances and National Planning Commission and foreign employment entrepreneurs' organizations
- For the development of foreign employment, if necessary, foreign employment institution shall be established, with the participation also of the private sector and
- To encourage the skilled human resources to the self employment or foreign employment, the programme to expansion the self-employment and foreign employment shall be preceded as campaign by providing loans at the concession rate without security (Bhattarai:2005).

### **2.8.2 The foreign Employment Act, 2008**

The foreign Employment Act, 2008 is enacted and enforced for promoting the business of foreign employment while safeguarding the rights and interests of workers and foreign employment entrepreneurs by making it a safe, well managed, and dignified profession. As per the provision of the Act, a separate Foreign Employment Department is established on 31 December 2008 under the Ministry of Labor and Transport Management to look after foreign employment related activities. After its establishment, the Department has adopted a number of policies like rigorously

curbing foreign employment related frauds in collaboration with the private sector; ensure that conditions of contracts are enforced through effective monitoring in coordination with diplomatic missions abroad and see whether employees get the job and wages as stipulated in the contract. In addition, it is also responsible to make the employment agencies pay compensation to the persons made to return being stranded in foreign countries; strictly enforce the system of imparting orientation training before leaving for foreign employment; and arranging necessary facilitation to the outgoing and returning workers at the International Airport (Economic Survey: 2010).

## **CHAPTER-III**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Background**

Conducting a research in a systematic way requires a method. Methods are set of techniques or procedures of identifying a topic, receiving and the related literatures, conducting field work and writing a report. This section deals with how the idea of research was generated, why a particular location and social group is chosen. Why are particular methods employed? The sources and nature of information, tools and technique of information collection are discussed later in this section.

#### **3.2 Selection of the Study Area**

This study was conducted in Prithvinagar VDC. Prithvinagar VDC lies in southeastern part of Jhapa district which is a few kilometers away from Indo-Nepal border. The VDC has some suitable reasons for this study. Since whole Nepal is dependent on remittance, Prithvinagar is not out of this fact. Almost all of the households have at least one member who is out of nation. This is the first suitability of this study. On the other hand still a huge numbers of young populations are in the process for going abroad which has also played a vital role to conduct a study and to find out the real contribution on livelihood of Prithvinagar VDC. At the same time the drop-out rate from higher education is significant in the study area and the main reason behind it is the international labour migration. This reason also encouraged the researcher to choose the area for this study.

Last but not least the important suitability of this area for the study is this is the home VDC of the researcher and at the same time the researcher is also a victim of international labour migration. Thus the researcher wants to find out the real impact of international labour migration to Prithvinagar VDC.

#### **3.3 Research Design**

Both descriptive as well as explanatory research design will be applied for this study. Descriptive research design helped to analyse the socio-economic pattern of the households and the remittance use. Explanatory research design helped to compare

the relationship between remittance and changing condition of inhabitants of Prithvinagar.

### **3.4 Nature and Sources of Data**

Both primary and secondary data were used in this study. The primary data required for this study are information regarding the number of emigrants, their earning, the livelihood pattern of their family, the use of money and the plan for future. The primary data were gathered using some appropriate tools which are described after. Likewise the required secondary data were collected from books, journals, published and unpublished reports, records of concerned governmental agencies (VDC, DDC, Ministry of Labour and Transport etc.)

### **3.5 Sampling Procedure**

To cover the entire population of the VDC for this study is more difficult and time consuming. To conduct a research in a scientific way there requires adopting certain sample design and procedure. Reliability and validity of the information used in the study depend upon the employed sample design and sampling procedure.

As per the record of 2010 of Prithvinagar VDC the population is 17481 and the total households are 2997. The same record shows that 2860 households have at least one emigrant. Out of 2860 households of emigrants, 860 households were identified and contacted. 15% of 860 households which is equal to 130 households were selected for the actual survey through independent simple proportional random sampling from all nine wards of the VDC (See table 3.1 on page 40).

### **3.6 Tools of Data Collection**

The primary information required for the study are information regarding the number of emigrated labors who have changed their residence from one operationally defined area to another area and their impact, volume, direction, causes and consequences. Then, latter includes information such as the pattern of migration and their socio-economic and demographic characteristics for instance sex, age, marital status, educational attainment, income level and family size of the of the individuals among those involved in their change of residence. The field survey for this study was

conducted by using various tools and techniques. These are questionnaire, interview, observation and group discussion.

*3.6.1 Questionnaire:* for the general households survey a standard questionnaire was prepared containing questions at both household and individual level. The demographic and socio-economic compositions of the emigrated households were recorded using questionnaires.

As respondents of the questionnaire, the adult members of the households were selected.

*3.6.2 Group Discussion:* Three group discussions were conducted to gather the information about the use of remittance, their situation in the community, support from their emigrated member, their view towards the labour migration etc. The group discussions were helpful to explore more information from the participant due to facilitation of the researcher.

*3.6.3 Key Informant Interview:* To gather the information and overall picture of international labour migration from Prithvinagar VDC some interviews were taken from the secretary of VDC, former VDC and ward chairman, school headmaster, NGO representatives, manager of Small Farmer Cooperative Limited. Likewise the interviews were taken with some selected persons who have been abroad several times.

*3.6.4 Observation:* Non-participant observations were used to obtain qualitative information about the livelihood pattern of the households. At the same time participatory observation was also applied to gather the information of house structure, activities taken by the people and other related information.

### **3.7 Data processing and analysis**

Data has been analyzed and presented by adopting different technique to fulfill the objectives. The raw data collected from field survey were edited and then processed, through data processing, editing, and coding followed by classification and tabulations. Some statistical tools like percentage, average, etc. have been used to

analyze the data. To illustrate the research work necessary tables, charts, diagrams and maps have been used for the clarity of the data presented. The personal experience derived from the field observation and information from individual and focus group discussion have been used while elaborating and specifying the text. Microsoft Excel has been used to analyze the calculated data. Simple quantitative measures have been adopted for data analysis.

**Table 3.1: Sample Size of Households**

Ward No.	Households	Emigrant Households	Identified households	Surveyed Households
1	189	176	55	8
2	183	178	60	7
3	197	189	95	9
4	518	503	150	24
5	998	938	240	41
6	262	256	70	10
7	312	308	80	15
8	199	179	60	9
9	139	133	50	7
Total	2997	2860	860	130

Source: *Field Survey, 2011*

The table 3.1 above shows the sample size chosen randomly from all the 9 wards. It is clear that more households (41) are selected from ward no. 5 since it has more households than that of the rest of the wards whereas ward no 2 and ward no. 9 have the least number of households (7).



## CHAPTER-IV

### DESCRIPTION OF STUDY AREA

#### 4.1 Introduction to the Study Area

The study area of this research is Prithvinagar Village Development Committee which is situated in the south-eastern end of Jhapa district and a few kilometers away from the Indo-Nepal border. Jhapa district has an area of 1606 sq. km. and a population about 688109 (CBS et. al., 2001). Geographically the district lies between 26<sup>0</sup> 20' to 26<sup>0</sup> 50' north latitude and 87<sup>0</sup> 39' to 88<sup>0</sup> 12' east longitude. Likewise the study area Prithvinagar VDC is located between 26<sup>0</sup> 25' 51'' to 26<sup>0</sup> 30' 46'' north latitude and between 88<sup>0</sup> 02' 09'' to 88<sup>0</sup> 04' 53'' east longitude. It is surrounded by Maheshpur VDC in the north and east; by Jalthal VDC in the west and by Pathamari and Baniyani VDCs in the south. According to the government's topographic survey done in 1991, the total area of Prithvinagar VDC is 23.24 sq. km. It is topographically a plain VDC having slightly rolling in the north to flat plain in the south. The general direction of slope is from north to south. The average elevation is 70 meters from the sea level. Having low gradient landscape and favourable climatic condition, commercial tea plantation is getting popular in recent years. Deuniya is a major river which flows through the northern part and ends meeting Mechi River, the eastern border demarcation between India and Nepal. It has some small streams and lakes but without permanent irrigation facilities.

Kamaladharp Forest located in the north-east part of the VDC is the major source of fuel, timber and fodder for local people. According to the elderly local people, large part of the VDC was covered by forest until 1980. Largely due to the migration of people from India and various parts of Nepal, most part of forest was destroyed for fuel, timber, construction of houses, for cultivation of land and resettlement programme. Most of the forest was destroyed for resettlement programme and expansion of agricultural land launched by the Government.

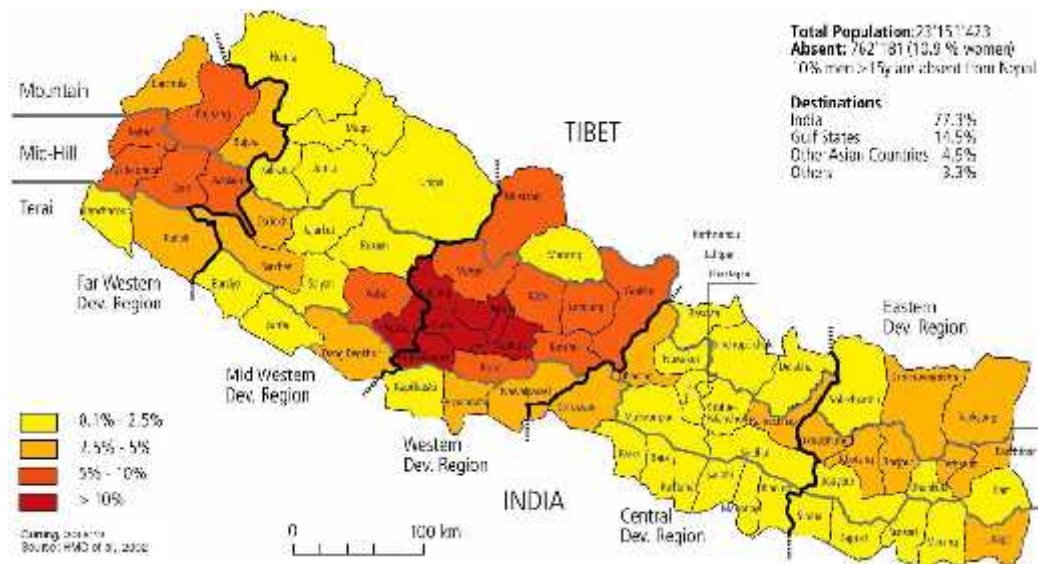
After the establishment of *Nepal Punarbas Company* (Nepal Resettlement Company) 1970/71 in the VDC, Government distributed land on the basis of the number of households. It did not matter how many members a house had. However, it was very

important to have a family, i.e. husband, wife and children to become a complete *pariwar* (family) and *ghar* (house). That means, if someone had house but unmarried then he would not be eligible to get land from *Nepal Punarbas Company*. Some people who had more than one sons of marriageable age, got married, became father and applied for new land as a new *ghar* and *pariwar*. In this way, initially two *bigha* (1 bigha is equivalent to 0.67 hectares) lands were distributed for each household. It was upland, suitable for residence as well as maize and millet cultivation. Most people made their house on that land and it became home surrounding land. Even now people called it *gharbari* (homestead area). Soon, Company realized that still people lack land for rice cultivation. So, again government added one *bigha* low land for each household. It was additional plot and known as *thap plot* (additional plot). But due to the regular flow of people to Prithvinagar, the later migrants were provided with less land than the former. The migrants of the last settlement which was settled near by the forest were only provided with 10 kattha of land which was not sufficient for their livelihood.

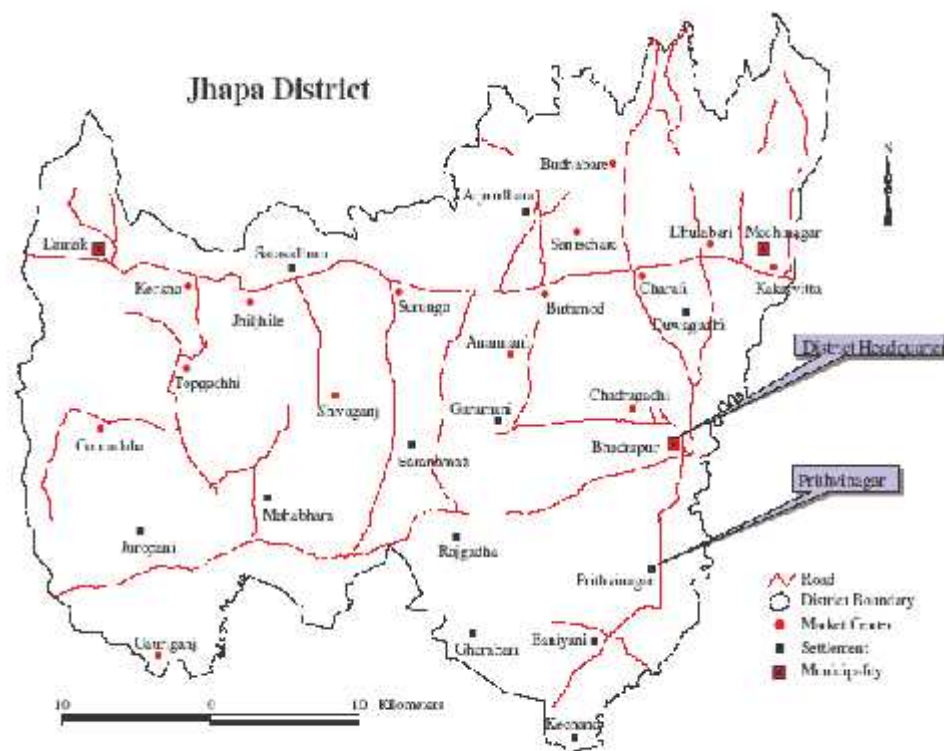
#### **4.2 Infrastructure Setting**

Prithvinagar has 2997 households and the total population is 17481. Most parts of the VDC have basic infrastructure facilities such as road, communication, health post, schools, drinking water, electricity and proximity to the district market centre and headquarter (see map 4.2). Prithvinagar VDC still lacks good hospital, blacktopped road, pure drinking tap water, and telephone for all the households.

The main north-south gravel road (Jhapa Chowk to Kechana) which is 21.67 Km long (Nepal Road Statistics, 1998:25) crosses the VDC through middle and covers around 10 km. of Prithvinagar VDC. Besides this, there are many *kachhi sadak* (earthen road) to link each village. As mentioned earlier, it is a planned resettlement VDC; this *kachhi sadak* links most of the settlements of Prithvinagar. Every morning, nearly ten public buses carry people from most of the villages to the near-by cities Bhadrapur, Birtamod (see maps 4.1 & 4.2) and other cities of Eastern Nepal and again return at evening via same route.



*Map 4.1: Nepal population absent abroad, percentage per district*



*Map 4.2: Jhapa District and Major Market Centres*

As a means of communication, now, the recently added mobile network of different companies like NTC, Ncell and UTL has played a vital role. Due to the lack of

national mobile network most of the households of emigrants had mobile with Indian SIM card. Still various households have the Indian SIM card due to the low calling cost from the destination of emigrants. Prithvinagar has a *chhoti hulak* (local area post office) near VDC office.

In early 1990, government constructed a big water tank in the middle of the village for safe drinking water. Underground water pipes were installed for pure water distribution up to each small village. Very few households benefited from this facility. Because people had to deposit around 3,000 NRs. for new connection and even water supply was not very reliable. Most of the houses had already their own tube well or well. The offer for drinking water was very expensive at that time. As a result, water supply program became a failure. Another new water tank has been constructed in Gaurishankar, a small village with dense population and water will be distributed in near future. But again the success of the water drinking system relies on the affordability and necessity of pure drinking water.

Electricity is available in almost all part of the VDC. Therefore, most of the families have radio and a television set. For the entertainment, the VDC has a cinema hall and several audio and video parlours. In mild sickness, people use local health post. Besides, several medical shops, family planning and health workers are serving health facilities to the villagers. Some medical clinics have even provided good medical facilities twice a week. But also it lacks good hospital.

Here is one large-scale tea refining and packaging industries and some other small-scale cottage industries. As small-scale industries the VDC has a number of rice, flour and oil mills, sawmills, furniture industries, cake and bread industries and some snacks industries. Still Prithvinagar has not any permanent marketing centre except some permanent shops at cross roads and dense settlement area. *Hatbazar* (periodic market) takes places once or twice a week at Sombare, Bihibare, Himali, Sagarmatha and Gyane Chowk. Permanent grocery, electronics, medicine, readymade garment and hardware shops are found at most of the road junctions. Bhadrapur and Thakurgang (Small town of Bihar, India located in border area) are the main market centres for the villagers.

There are 21 schools including 7 private schools. Schools are conveniently located in all nine wards. One government and one private higher secondary school are providing education up-to grade 12. For further education students have to go Bhadrapur Municipality at Mechi Multiple Campus which is approximately 10 Km. away from VDC where bachelor level education is provided in science, law and commerce faculties and master level in humanities and social sciences in few selected subjects.

The VDC has some co-operatives, some agricultural groups, one community library, and some local non-profit organizations which are working for the upliftment of the living standard of the local people.

### **4.3 Socio-economic Setting of Prithvinagar**

As mentioned in previous paragraphs, Prithvinagar is a planned resettlement VDC (1970-71) and at that time total of 931 households had been resettled in 1641 hectares of land (Kansakar, 1979:48). The current total households and population are 2997 and 17481 respectively.

The VDC is characterized by multi-ethnic and multi-lingual character. Brahmin and Chhetri both castes have the highest proportion in caste/ethnicity with 32.2% and 23.3% respectively (CBS, 2001). Ganesh has the lowest proportion in the VDC. According to my household survey Brahman and Chhetri are in the first and second position with 18% and 16% respectively. Limbu ranks in the third position with 14% and Newar is in the fourth position with 12% proportion. According to *Varna4* classification *matwali* (Limbu, Rai, Gurung and Magar) has dominancy in the village with 56%. *Thulo jat* (twice born) and *pani nachalne* (untouchable: low caste) have 36% and 8% proportion respectively. Indigenous people (Satar and Rajbansi) are known as tribal groups falling outside this *varna* System. Since the VDC is planned resettlement all the people except indigenous groups (*Satar* and *Rajbansi*) have migrated from other places. Brahmin, Chhetri, Newar, Gurung, Kami and Damai believe in Hinduism. Some Rai and Limbu believe in local religion (Kiratism) but other follow Hinduism. Tamang and Magar also believe in Buddhism. However, all

the castes including local tribal groups celebrate Dashain and Tihar, the main festival of Hindus.

According to the VDC record, the main occupation of this VDC is agriculture. Still 84% of its people are dependent on crop farming and other agricultural activities. But this data is not so relevant. During my fieldwork, most of the agricultural fields were seen barren though it was time of corn farming. In key informant interviews people informed that several farmers have abandoned agriculture in recent years due to the lack of man-power and low productivity of the land.

According to Aase (1985:36) the material well-being of the household will to some extent depend upon the relation between its “productive potential” and its “consumption needs”. A household with many producers and relatively few consumers will be better off than a household consisting of mother, father, many children and old disable grandparents. Aase (Ibid) further writes that theoretically, it is possible to express a household’s labour capacity through a producer/consumer-ratio weighting all the household members according to their assumed labour capacity and consumption needs.

If so, then newly established nuclear households in Prithvinagar are poor in terms of labour force and income but may be they will be well-off after ten years. Parents have admitted their children in private schools and a new educated generation is emerging in the village. So, Aase (Ibid: 38) suggests to describe this situation in terms of “stages in the household’s development cycle” rather than in terms of household “types”. Stages of household development cycle changes over time in accordance with the “household’s development cycle”. After ten years, small children will become youngsters, educated and will contribute to the income yielding activities themselves and mother will also get more time to productive and income oriented work.

## **CHAPTER-V**

### **DATA ANALYSIS**

I collected the households' information from my questionnaire through field survey. As per the record of 2010 of Prithvinagar VDC the population is 17481 and the total households are 2997. The same record shows that 2860 households have at least one emigrant. Out of 2860 households of emigrants, 860 households were identified in the preliminary phase and then 15% of them, that is equal to 130 households, were selected for the final survey through independent simple proportional random sampling from all nine wards of the VDC. Among the selected 130 were chosen for household survey. Since the possibility of all households regarding international labour migration is almost same we followed two stages for the selection of household for survey. The total population of 130 households was 780 at the average number of 6 per households. From the 130 selected households, the total number of emigrants was 212 of which 190 were male and 22 were female. The detailed information of respondents, their households, emigrants and other related information are described below.

#### **5.1 Selection of Study Area**

Prithvinagar VDC of Jhapa district of the Nepal has been selected for the present study. The VDC has a very large size of young population and it is chosen for the outstanding importance of international labor migration as livelihood strategy for its inhabitants. Unemployment is also increasing in the population. Therefore, the young generation is being emigrated towards the other countries.

#### **5.2 Demographic and Socio- Economic Characteristics of Emigrants**

##### **5.2.1 Age and Sex Composition of Respondents**

The table 5.1 below shows that majority of the respondents are between age 18 and 41. The least number of respondents are from above age 65. From the field survey, it is also obvious that no member below age 18 is the respondent. From the table it is also clear that female respondents are more than male and this is in high ratio between

age group 18-41. This table hints that more males of age group 18-41 emigrate than female. Hence females are more than males at home in the VDC.

**Table 5.1: Age and Sex Composition of the Respondents**

Age Group	Male	Female	Total
18-29	17	28	45
30-41	21	27	48
42-53	13	9	22
54-65	9	3	12
66 and above	2	1	3
Total	62	68	130

*Source: Field Survey, April 2011*

### **5.2.2: Age and Sex Composition of the Emigrants and their Families**

The following table 5.2 reveals that the highest number of emigrants is 122 which are from age group 15-29 and this age group is the most active population. No one below age 15 is found to have gone abroad for labour. Among 212 emigrants, it is found that 190 are males and 22 are females. This figure shows a trend of more male emigrating for jobs abroad than female. 2 emigrants aged 60 and above are also found to have gone out and this shows that elderly people do have some problems for livelihood at home. Among the remaining family members children outnumber the rest.

**Table 5.2: Age and Sex Composition of the Emigrants and their Families**

Age Group	Emigrants			Remaining family members		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
0-14	0	0	0	124	133	257
15-29	109	13	122	34	87	121
30-44	56	9	65	45	78	123
45-59	23	0	23	28	26	54
60 and above	2	0	2	8	5	13
Total	190	22	212	239	329	568

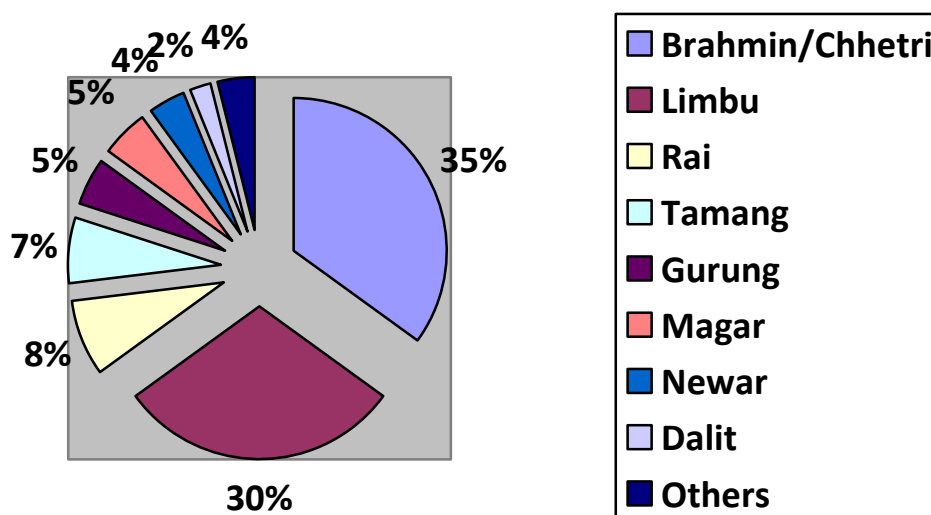
*Source: Field Survey, April 2011*



### 5.2.3 Caste/Ethnic Composition of Emigrants

Figure 5.1 below gives the caste ethnic composition of the respondents of whom Bramhin/Chhetri have the highest percentage (35) whereas Dalits have the lowest percentage (2). The percentage of Limbu having 30% is in the second rank. The population of Rai ranks third whereas Tamang, Gurung, Magar and Dalit come in the next decreasing order.

*Figure 5.1: Caste / Ethnic Composition of the Respondent Households*



*Source: Field Survey, April 2011*

### 5.2.4: Educational Status of the Emigrants

The table 5.4 below clearly indicates that the highest number of emigrants (118) have secondary level education whereas the least number of emigrants (4) are Illiterate and Post graduates. So, the table concludes that maximum emigrants have basic education but do not possess better or higher educational qualification. This trend shows that the emigrants have to face hard times and difficulties in the place of destination due to the lack of higher level of educational status.

**Table 5.3: Educational Status of the Emigrants**

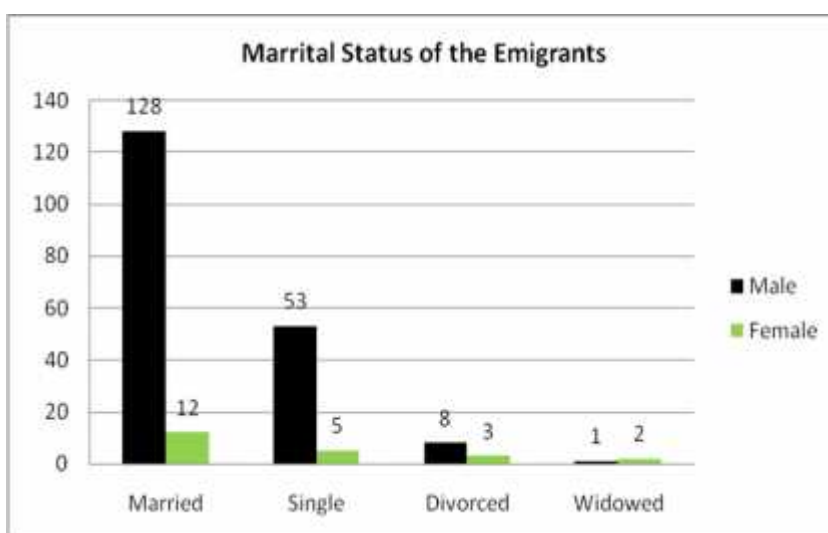
Level of Education	No. of Emigrants
Illiterate	4
Primary (Grade 1-5)	28
Secondary (Grade 6-10)	118
10 +2 or Equivalent	46
Graduate	12
Post Graduate	4
Total	212

*Source: Field Survey, April 2011*

### 5.2.5: Marital Status of the Emigrants

The following figure 5.2 depicts the marital status of the emigrants. Most of them are married whose total number is 140 together with 128 male and 12 female. Altogether 58 are singles comprising 53 male and 5 female. Divorced are 11 and widowed are 3. The figure clearly shows that males are more than female in all statuses except the widowed. From this it can also be inferred that married emigrants have more economic burden than the singles. Hence more married are leaving home for employment abroad.

**Figure 5.2: Marital Status of the Emigrants**

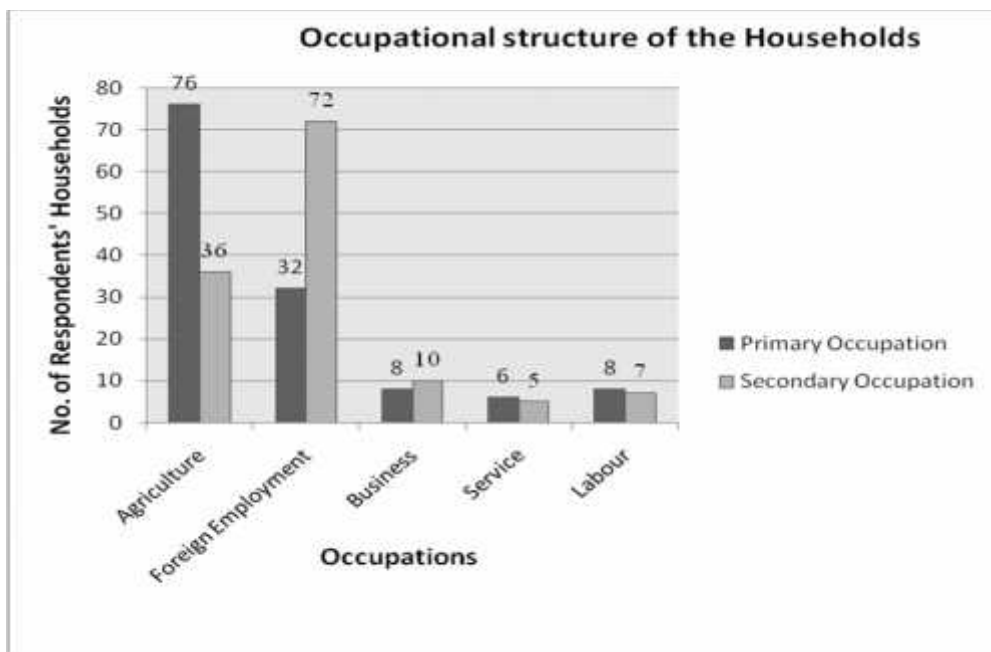


*Source: Field Survey, April 2011*

### 5.2.6: Occupational Structure of the Respondent Households

The figure 5.3 below graphically shows the primary and secondary occupations of the emigrants' households. The dark-colored bar represents the number of households with the primary occupations whereas the light-colored bar stands for those households with secondary occupations. Out of 130 total households, the tallest bar with 76 households indicates that most of them have agriculture as their primary occupation for their livelihood. However foreign employment is nearly equally a very significant secondary occupation since the figure shows that 72 households choose foreign employment as their secondary occupation for their livelihood. It is also understood from the figure that business, service and labour are less preferred occupation as the figure shows that very few households such as between 5 and 10 are interested in both types of occupations. 36 households choose agriculture as the secondary occupation but 32 households depend on foreign employment as a means of livelihood. This figure clearly reveals that the households of the VDC depend more on agriculture and foreign employment and less on business or service or domestic labour.

*Figure 5.3: Occupational Structure of the emigrants' Households*

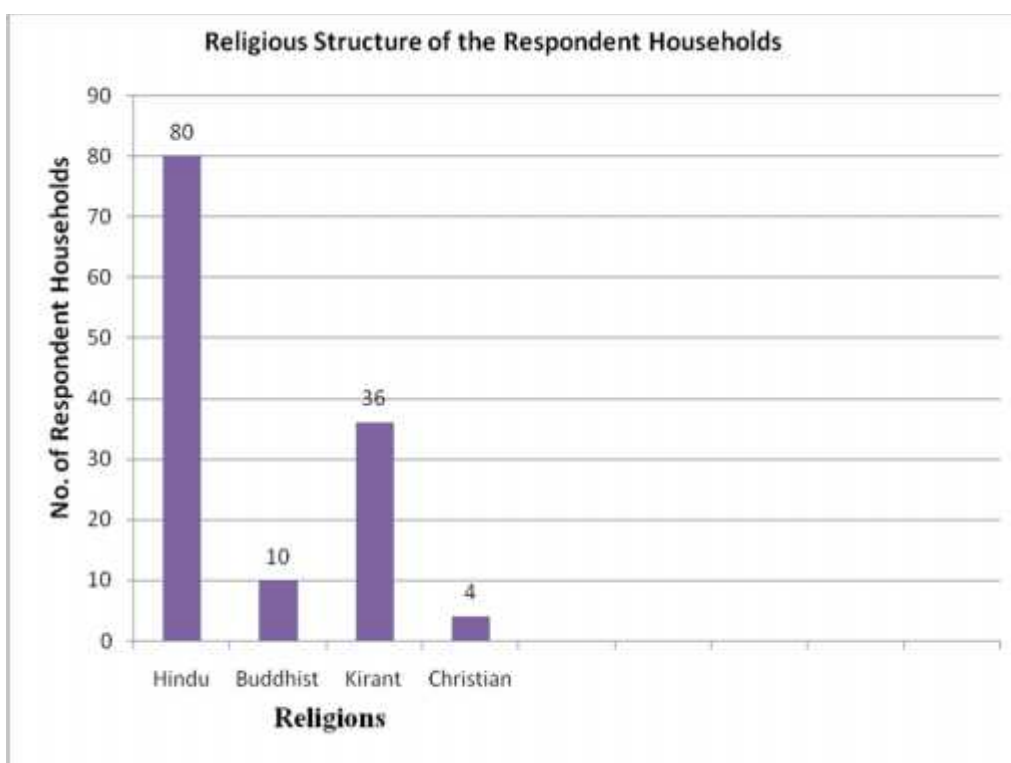


Source: Field Survey, April 2011

### 5.2.7: Religious Structure of the Respondent Households

The figure 5.4 below gives the religious structure of the households. Out of 130 households, 80 are Hindus, 10 Buddhists, 36 Kirants and 4 Christians. This figure shows that the highest number of households belongs to Hindu religion and the lowest number of households belongs to Christian religion. Kirants rank in second position with 36 households. Buddhist households are in the third rank. So, the figure indicates that the majority of the emigrants' households belong to Hindu religion in the VDC.

*Figure 5.4: Religious Structure of the Respondent Households*



*Source: Field Survey, April 2011*

### 5.2.8: Landholding Pattern of Emigrant Households

The table 5.4 below shows the land holding size by the households. Out of 130 households, 38 households hold land between 5-10 katthas and 31 households hold land between 0-5 katthas. Only 3 households possess land above 25 katthas which may be able to support their livelihood. It is likely that agriculture may be the primary occupation of these 3 households. The table hints that most of the households possess small size of land which may not be sufficient to support their living. Hence it is clear that from those households with less amount of land, more members are likely to have

gone abroad for employment which may be the primary source of income to support livelihood. Due to the lack of enough land, the members of maximum households are likely to be compelled to go abroad for earning so as to fulfill the basic needs. Those households having land between 10 and 25 katthas also cannot fully depend on the land for livelihood since such amount of land cannot be enough to feed them. Hence, these households are also likely to be compelled to go abroad for employment.

**Table 5.4: Land Holding Size of Households**

Land holding in Kattha	No. of Households
0-5	31
5-10	38
10-15	24
15-20	21
20-25	13
Above 25	3
Total	130

*Source: Field Survey, April 2011*

### **5.2.9: Size of emigrants from Households**

The table 5.5 below shows that 73 households have at least one emigrant each, 32 households have 2 emigrants each and 25 households have 3 emigrants each. This clearly shows that the total 212 emigrants are from 130 households and one household has minimum one and maximum 3 emigrants. Most of the households have only one emigrant and a few of the households have 3 emigrants. The number of households having 2 emigrants is 32 which is also a very significant figure. From the table, it can also be inferred that 73 households may get less remittance but 32 and 25 households may get more remittance due to the larger size of emigrants from those households.

**Table 5.5: Size of emigrants from Households**

No. of emigrants	No. of Households
1	73
2	32
3	25
Total	212
	130

*Source: Field Survey, April 2011*

### **5.2.10: Major Destinations of the Emigrants**

The figure 5.5 below depicts the major destinations of the emigrants for foreign employment. The figure clearly shows that majority of the emigrants have gone to the Gulf countries such as Malaysia, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, etc. A very few emigrants have gone to Hong Kong, United Kingdom and other European or western countries. Out of 212 emigrants, 77 are found to have gone to Malaysia, 68 to Qatar and the equal number of emigrants (22) to Saudi Arabia and UAE respectively. In this study, only 4 emigrants are found to have gone to India for foreign employment. So, there is a high pressure of emigrants in the Gulf countries. This trend hints that quite a lot of Nepalese should have gone to gulf countries for foreign employment.

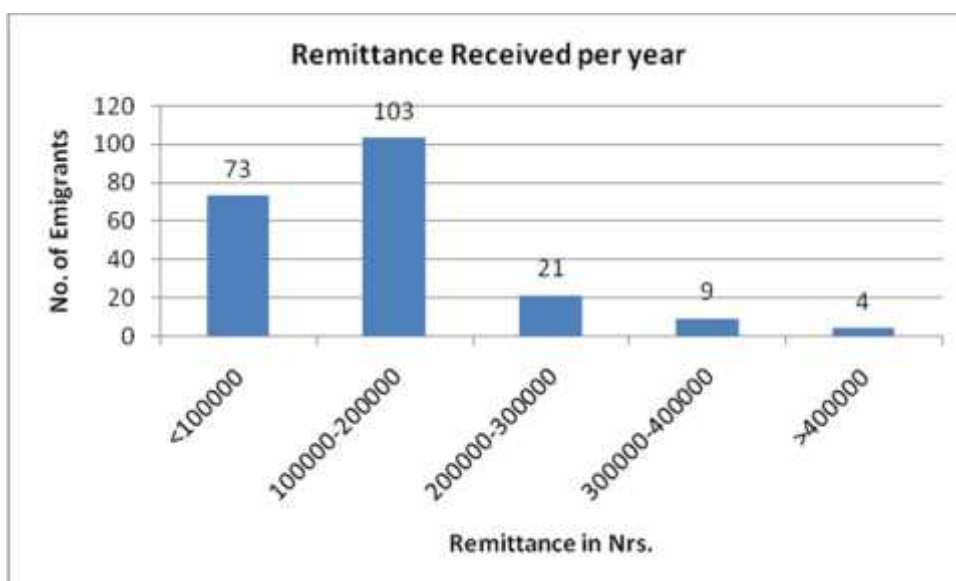
#### ***Figure 5.5: Major Destinations of the Emigrants***

*Source: Field Survey, April 2011*

### **5.2.11: Remittance Received per Year**

The Figure 5.6 below reveals that quite a heavy remittance is sent to Nepal by the emigrants within a year. Out of 212 emigrants, 73 have sent below 100,000 NRs and 103 have sent between 200,000 and 300,000 NRs in a year. There are 4 the emigrants whose yearly remittance is over 400,000 NRs. Thus the figure apparently indicates that the households receive quite a heavy amount as remittance from the emigrants. The highest number of emigrants, that is 103, have the capacity of saving between 200,000 and 300,000 NRs in a year from gulf countries whereas the lowest number of emigrants, i.e. 4, who save above 400,000 NRs and send it home in Nepal and these emigrants may be earning such a huge amount working in some European or western countries. The figure shows that foreign employment is bringing a huge sum in Nepal.

#### ***Figure 5.6: Remittance Received per Year***



Source: Field Survey, April 2011

### 5.2.12: Remittance Utilization Areas by the Households

The table 5.6 below shows that out of 130 households 100 households utilize the remittance for children’s education whereas 50 of them use the remittance to clear the debt/ loan. Of them 40 households use the foreign income in construction of house. The number of households who use the cash for farming and business is low. However, quite a good number of households are interested in loan investment and re-migration since their number is 20 and 30 respectively. About 10 households utilize the remittance by purchasing land. This figure gives a clear hint that the majority of households do not seem to be interested in investing the remittance in business and financial sectors.

**Table 5.6: Remittance Utilization Areas by the Households**

Area of Investment	No. of Households
Loan Payment	50
Children’s Education	100
Construction of Home	40
Purchasing Land	10
Farming	12
Business	7
Loan Investment	20
Re-migration	30

Source: Field Survey, April 2011

### 5.2.13: Households Assets

The table 5.7 below gives a clear picture of the assets owned by the respondent households. Out of 130 households, all of them have mobile, 122 have TV while 117 have CD/DVD and 18 households have computer. Only 4 households have Motorcycle and 2 households have tractor. Thus, of households have modern electronic gadgets at home. This data gives us another clear picture that these households might have spent all the remittance in buying all these goods and they might not have any saving left for investment or reinvestment. It can be concluded that money used for tractor can be taken as a good investment.

**Table 5.7: Households Assets**

Assets	No. of Households
Mobile	130
T.V.	122
CD/DVD	117
Computer	18
Motorcycle	4
Tractor	2

*Source: Field Survey, April 2011*

### 5.2.14: Reasons of Emigration

Because of social and economic consumption and self motivation and individual decision people migrate abroad for employment temporary or permanently. Moreover from this VDC many youths have been migrating to gulf country to improve their economic condition for last two decades. In an underdeveloped country labor migration is not a matter of desire or wish but rather it is a compulsion. Primarily poverty is the main reason for the Nepali labor migrants. The employment opportunity available in the rural area of Nepal is very low to meet the demand of the increasing population. Mainly causes of emigration are categorized into two parts. One factor is associated with origin and another factor is associated with destination. Both factors are clearly explained in the following paragraphs.

### 5.2.15: Factors Associated with Origin (Push Factors)

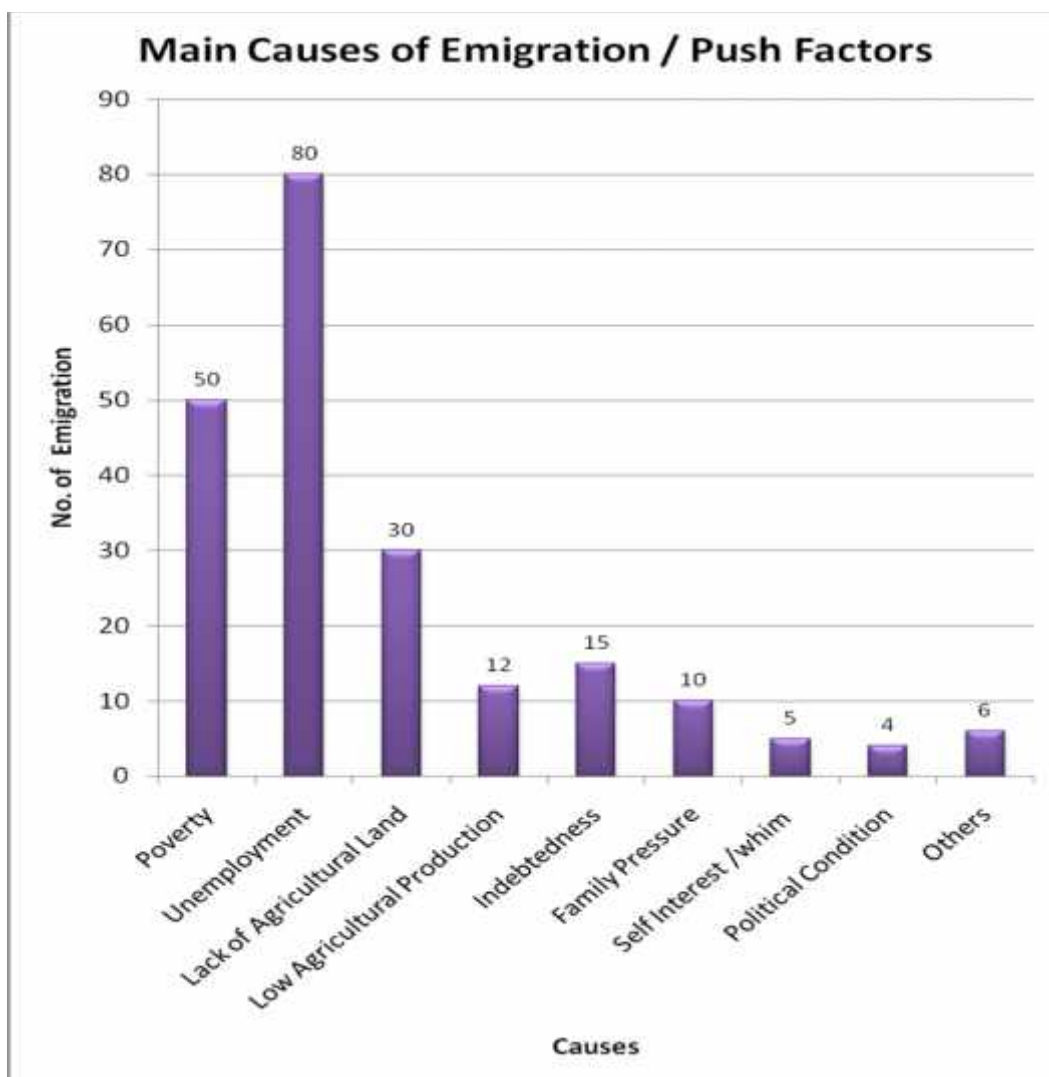


The figure 5.7 below gives some striking causes of emigration at the place of origin also known as push factors. With regard to the determinants of labor migration destination has been made between push and pull factors. The push factor refers to poor economic condition and economic misery or lack of opportunities for achievement which push people out of the region in search of livelihood or better opportunities. The push factors are thus, the factors which more or less compel people to leave the place of birth or origin.

The Dominated cause associated with origin for international labor migration is unemployment since the figure shows that 80 emigrants are forced to leave the country for foreign employment due to the lack of employment at the place of origin. The political problem in this VDC is also a vital issue. Poverty is considered as the second greatest cause of this emigration. Some opportunities of cash crops like vegetable and other are also possible in this VDC but the youths are not interested in working in such farms. Lack of agricultural land, low agricultural production, self interest / whim, family pressure, indebtedness etc. are some other compelling factors at the place of origin for international emigration.

As a result, the limited agricultural land becomes unsupportive for the dwellers of Prithvinagar VDC and that compelled them to search another option for their survival as a foreign employment. It is cause of low Agriculture production and lack of agriculture land that are similar of this study. Currently the country is highly affected by the unrest political condition. The households do not want to invest the income from Remittance because of the fear of political instability. This VDC is also a victim of such situation.

***Figure 5.7: Main Causes of Emigration - Push factors***



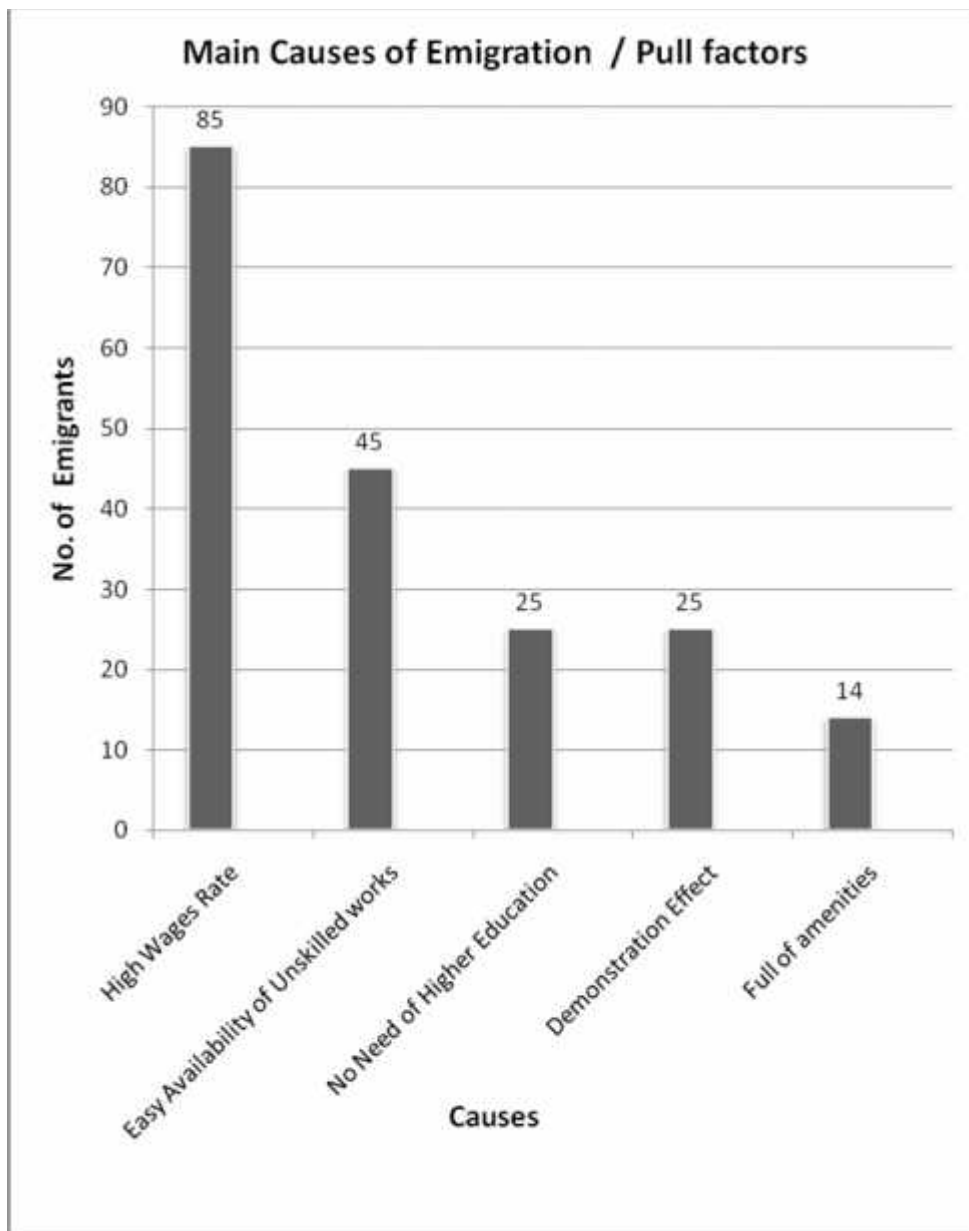
Source: Field Survey, April 2011

### 5.2.16: Factors Associated with Destination (Pull Factors)

The figure 5.8 shows the pull factors as causes of the emigration at the place of destination. Pull factors refer to the factors which encourage migration to an area such as employment opportunities, economic opportunities, high wages rate and amenities of modernity. Labor migrants see their jobs only as a means to earn money. The local jobs enable them to increase their status and prestige at home when they come back, they will finally be respected. The cause of high wages rate attracting the highest number of emigrants (85) is the greatest reasons of emigration factors destination. Availability of unskilled works, amenities, opportunity to grow are other factors that attract the foreign emigrants. Most emigrants are unskilled and have low

educational status in Prithvinagar VDC; hence the emigrants are attracted by the jobs with low skills and education in the Gulf countries.

**Figure 5.8: Main Causes of Emigration - Pull factors**



Source: Field Survey, April 2011

### 5.3 Impact of Emigration

The emigration influences equally both sides of migrant that is in the place or origin and destination. Influenced may be positive or negative. Migration also influences

directly and indirectly on the living standard, custom and society and culture of the human beings and these aspects have been examined in the present research study.

In this chapter concentration will be on certain variables which are changed after emigration. There has been some limitation on the analysis because of lack of true information caused by emigration on the basis of personal observation, experiences through group discussion and opinions expressed by local leaders and teachers.

### **5.3.1 Positive Impact of Emigration at Origin**

#### **(a) Income Increment**

According to this study emigrants' income has been increased in comparison with past income. In general emigrant has earned more than the amount they had earned at origin. They have maintained their family needs and really improved their standard of living. Though the income has been increased, it has also helped to increase the consumerism in their family. From the findings it can be concluded that the remit money helps to increase the land ownership, bank balance and decrease the loan burden of the emigrant households

#### **(b) Improve Living Standard**

Most of the family has given priority to build house. It reveals that, definitely foreign employment has raised their standard of living. Quality of foods and clothes as well as other amenities such as cassette, camera, TV, furniture, and kitchen items etc. the responded told that the expenditure on health and education.

#### **(c) Respect of Work**

Most of the returned migrants have reported that they have got an opportunity to know the real value and importance of hard labor. Their attitude has changed regarding the hard labor and now they are ready for any types of work.

#### **(d) Opportunities to Develop Skill**

Though the Nepalese are unskilled and poorly educated, they also got the opportunities to acquire new skill while working in the destination countries. Some

persons have started their own business utilizing the skill they learnt and gained in the place of destination while being emigrants.

**(e) Economic Support for Nation**

Economic sector of the country is badly affected by the political instability, social insecurity and uncertainty. The emigrants have heavy amount of remittance sent. So they can contribute to develop the national economic. It contributed 21.2% to GDP of Nepal in the fiscal year 2008/09. Likewise purchasing power of the people has raised and economic activity of the nation has increased as well.

**(f) Reduction in Deforestation**

A large number of unemployed locals are emigrating for foreign employment. This trend has helped in the reduction of deforestation. Had they not been out but lived in village near by the forest, they might have involved themselves in deforestation activities.

**5.3.2 Negative Impact of Emigration at Origin**

**(a) Lack of Labor Force**

As many youths are going abroad for jobs, there is scarcity of active labor force in the village scenario. Therefore it is very hard for the elderly people for cultivation, harvesting and also in the production field as regards the industries.

**(b) School Drop Out**

There is a whim in every corner of the country that the youths always talk about going abroad. They don't complete higher education rather they want to go out of Nepal anyhow and in anyway. Because of this trend there are many dropouts in the school. This kind of trend is not healthy to produce quality manpower.

**(c) Rural Desertification**

The village was green and beautiful with colorful crops, grains, flowers, trees and fruits some years ago. But now almost all the youths above aged 18 have gone abroad for labor and hardly one or two adults can be found in the village waiting for sponsor visa. So the rural agricultural sector is neglected and almost deserted. On the other

hand after earning money from foreign employment, the country folks move towards cities leaving the village forever. In this way village is getting deserted day by day.

#### **5.4 Attitude towards Labor Migration from the View of the People**

International labour migration is increasing day by day from Nepal. More than 95% households have at least one emigrant. Though it is increasing both positive and negative responses were found during the study.

##### **5.4.1 Household Attitude of Emigrants**

Most of the households gave positive responses towards international migration. They said that most of the necessities are being fulfilled by the income earned by international labour migrant. They expressed the improved condition was due to the international labor migration. Some households responded that foreign migration created very difficult situation. The emigrated member of their family could not work in the place of destination due to very hard and difficult work. Thus the loan created more difficulties.

##### **5.4.2 Emigrant's Attitude**

People who have positive thinking towards labor migration express that due to the scarcity of employment and weak economic condition; people have been compelled to go abroad for the employment. Therefore labor migration is considered as only right solution of these problems. People expressing negative attitude towards foreign employment they said that the main negative impact is to miss their family for a long period. Likewise hard work, low salary, etc. are considered as the negative impact of foreign employment.

During my interview I found various people with negative and positive attitude with their own logic. I asked one emigrant who was returned after staying 12 years in Saudi Arabia about international labour migration. He told me he gained nothing except habit of hard working. So he lamented thinking his wasted 12 years being out of his family, community and nation. Another one migrant answered me with a good statement "It is better to live in a small home in the country than going abroad by

leaving a bigger home. Doing something within motherland is the best and wisest thing, being a Nepali.”

Some emigrants expressed their view that without international labor migration they could not provide better education to their children and they could not experience the modern technologies. In nutshell, both positive and negative attitudes were found during this study.

## CHAPTER-VI

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 6.1 Summary

The majority of people in Prithvinigar VDC derive their livelihood from agriculture. Remittance is equally a great source of income of village economy. It is found that 2860 households out of 2997 households have emigrated for foreign employment. Mostly the emigrants are young males who are literate but not highly educated. The causes of international labour migration chiefly to the gulf country are the push factors: unemployment, food deficit, increasing expenditure, lack of securities, lack of agricultural land and other family problems.

Some family causes are the pull factors of emigration. The solutions to this problem are expected to be found in abroad. Availability of work, presence of friends and relatives, higher rate of salary and prospects for further employment are the pull factors of emigration. The jobs picked by these people are building construction, mechanical, Agriculture/farming, Industrial work and hotel/catering. Salaries received by them for these jobs are higher than in Nepal. They save their earnings and send/bring back to village. The impacts of emigration are on economic, social and demographic dimensions. Impacts are positive as well as negative. The positive impacts are increasing income, improvement in standard of living; respect of work, and opportunities to develop skill. The people tend to be more conscious. They tend to give more attention to education and sanitation. The negative impacts are lack of labor force, school dropout, and change in social role and demonstration effect and, negligence of agriculture and mobility to urban areas in the place of origin. The domination of children and elderly population, low development activities and family problems are other negative impacts of emigration in the study area.

#### 6.2 Conclusion

This is a study of the situation of Prithvinagar VDC about international labor migration and its impact on socio-economic, educational, and family environment. Although a lot of remittance is coming to the village, most of the emigrants tend not



invest their income in some productive fields since it is found that they do not save money for such purpose rather they spend the income by constructing house and purchasing residential plot. But debtless and food sufficient household also are not the exception to migration. There is no doubt that labour migration is a newly adopted livelihood strategy. Most of the emigrants are found going abroad due to food deficiency and rampant unemployment but some young ones go abroad with the foreign going fever as whims.

It is also concluded that rural to urban migration has been increasing unprecedentedly. It is also discovered that there is lack of active and most vibrant population in the VDC in a way that no youth is found to take care of farming and family guidance which has degraded the moral and cultural values in the society. Moreover, any person staying at home without going abroad feels pressure from the rest of members of the family thinking that he/she is wasteful but not income generating population. The remaining youths are not interested in higher studies because the family members give them pressure to go overseas for better earning. So, this notion is also responsible for driving the adults away to foreign employment. Seemingly, the income of the family is increased but on the other hand, this trend of going abroad has resulted in individualism and superficial civilization. The children of those families are found to be less caring about their education and moral character and more concerned about electronic gadgets such as mobile, DVDs, TV and luxury goods. The village feels the lack of a strong and highly educated guardian to guide them through all the activities of the society.

The study is centered on the issue of proper investment of the remittance in the village for creating self employment and for generating employment for others. Only a couple or two have invested remittance in the productive sectors such as purchasing tractors for more agricultural productions. But the rest have no cash left with them for investment in the income generating activities since they use the money for purchasing residential land and making house in it. Using money for these activities is not the best way to utilize the remittance rather it is the improper way of using the remittance. The best way to utilize the remittance is to invest it in income and employment generating activities like opening new markets, business, banking, financial institutions, industries, etc. in the village for sustainable development.

### **6.3. Issues and Recommendations**

#### **6.3.1 Major Issues of Nepalese Foreign Employment**

From the study of the VDC, major issues related to foreign employment are summarized as follows:

- Inadequate information about the destination countries
- Potential laborers face financial problems
- Lack of adequate skills and training before departure
- Many manpower agencies frequently exploit potential migrants
- The government has a low technical capability to handle data on Nepalese foreign labor migrants
- Other issues are related to discrepancy in wages before and after departure
- Working conditions in the destination countries are usually poor for both regular and irregular migrants, causing poor health, abuse of human rights, high HIV prevalence rates, forced labor and trafficking and incomplete official papers and passports.

#### **6.3.2 Recommendations on International Labour Migration**

The study is intended to make some recommendations for concerned VDC, emigrants, remaining households, Government bodies, men-power agencies, Ministry of Labour and Transport. Some are as follows:

- Government should collect data of emigrants and make necessary arrangement for regular supervision through its Diplomatic Mission. If there is any problem Government should take measures to ensure assessment of any workplace risks related to the safety and health of the workers. The results of the assessment should be made available to the public and concerned parties.
- Government should bring some planning, measures to better utilize the received remittance so that more jobs can be created to cater to the need of coming generation.

- The VDC should launch some awareness programs in all the wards so that the households can invest the remittance in the productive sectors and more favorable job situation can also be created in the villages.
- Emigrants should be careful about the proper use of their income so that they can secure their future in time. They cannot work in old days but can eat the fruit of the wise investment.
- It is learnt from those who have returned from foreign employment that majority of them earn approximately 10,000 NRs. per month working hard and over 10 hours daily. If this kind of work is done even in Nepal, these people can earn more than that but they don't want to do anything like that in Nepal rather they are ready to do any low kind of works in the foreign country. So, the emigrants are recommended to think twice about this situation and once they returned home, it is better if they invest in self-employment and in creation of more jobs for others.
- It is also recommended that the men-power agencies should invest the collected fees in the home country for creation of attractive jobs in the country so that they can better utilize the agency fees and the coming generation need not suffer from the same scenario of going abroad for jobs for their livelihood. These agencies can support the youths with different programs.
- The government bodies responsible for foreign employment should bring some attractive package of trainings for the emigrants so that they can better utilize their income in the home country.

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**APPENDIX**

**QUESTIONNAIRE FOR HOUSEHOLD SURVEY**

**Socio-Economic Impact of Labour Migration in Prithvinagar VDC of Jhapa District**

Name of respondent .....

Ward no ... ..

Village .....  
emigrant .....

Religion.....

Relationship with

1. Basic information of the respondents' family members

Name	Sex		Age	Marital status				Education	Occupation	
	M	F		S	M	D	W		P	S

S= Single

M= Married

D= Divorced

W= Widowed

P= Primary

S= Secondary

## 2. Individual background of emigrants

Name	Sex		Age	Marital status				Education	Destination
	M	F		S	M	D	W		

## 3. How much land do you have?

..... Kattha

## 4. How much remittance do you receive per year?

NRs.....

## 5. What are the causes of foreign employment?

Push factors	Pull factors
Lack of agriculture land	Ample Employment opportunities
Unemployment	High wages rate
Political condition	Presences of friends and relative
Indebtedness	No need higher education
Poverty	Amenities
Low agricultural production	
Family pressure	



Self interest	
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7. How did you manage money to go for foreign employment?

- a. loan
- b. Saving
- c. Helps of relative and friends

8. How do you use income from remittance?

- a. Loan payment
- b. Housing
- c. Saving
- d. Land purchasing
- e. Education for children
- f. Investment
- g. Business
- h Farming
- i. Remigration

9. What is your opinion on emigration?

- a. Positive
- b. Negative`

10. What are your household's assets?

.....

11. What are your suggestions and recommendations to make foreign employment more beneficial and fruitful?

.....  
 .....