

Vol 5 Issue 8 May 2016

ISSN No : 2249-894X

*Monthly Multidisciplinary
Research Journal*

*Review Of
Research Journal*

Chief Editors

Ashok Yakkaldevi
A R Burla College, India

Ecaterina Patrascu
Spiru Haret University, Bucharest

Kamani Perera
Regional Centre For Strategic Studies,
Sri Lanka

Review Of Research Journal is a multidisciplinary research journal, published monthly in English, Hindi & Marathi Language. All research papers submitted to the journal will be double - blind peer reviewed referred by members of the editorial Board readers will include investigator in universities, research institutes government and industry with research interest in the general subjects.

Regional Editor

Dr. T. Manichander

Advisory Board

Kamani Perera Regional Centre For Strategic Studies, Sri Lanka	Delia Serbescu Spiru Haret University, Bucharest, Romania	Mabel Miao Center for China and Globalization, China
Ecaterina Patrascu Spiru Haret University, Bucharest	Xiaohua Yang University of San Francisco, San Francisco	Ruth Wolf University Walla, Israel
Fabricio Moraes de Almeida Federal University of Rondonia, Brazil	Karina Xavier Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA	Jie Hao University of Sydney, Australia
Anna Maria Constantinovici AL. I. Cuza University, Romania	May Hongmei Gao Kennesaw State University, USA	Pei-Shan Kao Andrea University of Essex, United Kingdom
Romona Mihaila Spiru Haret University, Romania	Marc Fetscherin Rollins College, USA	Loredana Bosca Spiru Haret University, Romania
	Liu Chen Beijing Foreign Studies University, China	Ilie Pinteau Spiru Haret University, Romania
Mahdi Moharrampour Islamic Azad University buinzahra Branch, Qazvin, Iran	Nimita Khanna Director, Isara Institute of Management, New Delhi	Govind P. Shinde Bharati Vidyapeeth School of Distance Education Center, Navi Mumbai
Titus Pop PhD, Partium Christian University, Oradea, Romania	Salve R. N. Department of Sociology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur	Sonal Singh Vikram University, Ujjain
J. K. VIJAYAKUMAR King Abdullah University of Science & Technology, Saudi Arabia.	P. Malyadri Government Degree College, Tandur, A.P.	Jayashree Patil-Dake MBA Department of Badruka College Commerce and Arts Post Graduate Centre (BCCAPGC), Kachiguda, Hyderabad
George - Calin SERITAN Postdoctoral Researcher Faculty of Philosophy and Socio-Political Sciences Al. I. Cuza University, Iasi	S. D. Sindkhedkar PSGVP Mandal's Arts, Science and Commerce College, Shahada [M.S.]	Maj. Dr. S. Bakhtiar Choudhary Director, Hyderabad AP India.
REZA KAFIPOUR Shiraz University of Medical Sciences Shiraz, Iran	Anurag Misra DBS College, Kanpur	AR. SARAVANAKUMARALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY, KARAIKUDI, TN
Rajendra Shendge Director, B.C.U.D. Solapur University, Solapur	C. D. Balaji Panimalar Engineering College, Chennai	V.MAHALAKSHMI Dean, Panimalar Engineering College
	Bhavana vivek patole PhD, Elphinstone college mumbai-32	S.KANNAN Ph.D , Annamalai University
	Awadhesh Kumar Shirotriya Secretary, Play India Play (Trust), Meerut (U.P.)	Kanwar Dinesh Singh Dept.English, Government Postgraduate College , solan

More.....



Review Of Research



THE LABOURERS OF THE TEA GARDENS OF WESTERN DOOARS AND THE ISSUES OF THEIR HEALTH AND HYGIENE: A GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS



Suraj Tamang

Ph.D. Research Scholar , Department of Geography ,
Visva Bharati , Santiniketan.

ABSTRACT

Health and hygiene are major problems of the workers and the members of their families living in the garden environment in all the tea estates of the Dooars area. The labourers living in rural environment in the tea gardens often lack facilities of proper medication and thus are found to suffer from various diseases. Water supply facility for drinking and washing is not available adequately for the labourers. Moreover they have to work in the exposed tea gardens in all seasons throughout the year. Hence they are found to suffer from various diseases and health ailments. This paper is a discussion of these aspects on three selected tea gardens of western Dooars namely, Ranicherra, Washabarie and Leesh River tea gardens. This study has been conducted upon field data generated during the years 2011-14.

KEYWORDS :major problems , garden environment , health ailments , tea garden labourers .

INTRODUCTION

A major social issue for all the tea garden labourers is related to their health and hygiene. People living in rural environment of the tea gardens often lack facilities of proper medication and thus are found to suffer from various diseases. Water supply facility for drinking and washing is available quietly in all these three garden villages. Since the largest contingent of the labourers remain engaged in tea plucking and carrying works in the exposure of the gardens for the greater part of the day from 7am to 4pm they often suffer from the adverse effects of weather, rain, pesticides and other

professional hazards. For general health ailments the workers and the members of their family obtain free health care facilities from the hospital in the garden itself. However, for major health problems the patients are referred by the garden physicians to the hospitals in major towns, particularly in Jalpaiguri and Siliguri where the entire expenditure for treatment is borne by the garden authority.

TYPES OF DISEASES AND THE HEALTHCARE FACILITIES AVAILABLE FOR THE LABOURERS

Viral fever is by far the most common type of health problem in which many of the garden labourers suffer round the year, particularly during the rainy season. Among others some erratic cases of malaria and typhoid are found.

In the nineteenth century before the introduction of tea gardens the entire Terai-Dooars area, this entire stretch of the foot hills and the adjacent plains was known as an acute Malaria-prone area. It has already been mentioned that in the beginning the tea garden population in Dooars was almost entirely immigrant, recruited every year by bringing them from Chhotanagpur, the Santhal Parganas and the Darjeeling Hills. The majority of them showed little evidence of malaria on their arrival. But afterwards, as they settled in this part in the tea gardens they started getting affected by malaria and other diseases. Hence the garden authorities had to pay special attention and care on the health problems of their garden and factory labours. Previous studies on the health condition of the tea garden workers in the Dooars area in Jalpaiguri showed that malaria endemicity had been the major health problem among them and the garden authorities continued to pay special attention and provide appropriate medical facilities to their workers and the members of the families (Ghosh, 1970).

It has also been observed in the early days of the tea garden industry that among disease conditions, resulting from the universal intensity of malaria throughout the Dooars, none had been more striking than black-water fever which happened to be exceedingly common both among Europeans and the local people. It was the frequent occurrence of this disease that caused a heavy mortality and much invaliding among the planters. Black-water fever appeared to be mainly confined to Europeans, Bengali babus and tradesmen, dhobies, and servants drawn from the town-dwelling classes of the then Bengal.

Most of the gardens in the Dooars have dispensaries and common medicines and basic treatment facilities for their labour. There is, however, a distinct absence of adequately qualified doctors and, in fact, some gardens have only compounders. As a result, in complicated cases, it often becomes very difficult to avail good medical services on account of the gardens being so widely scattered and the absence of good telephonic communication. In serious cases the patients are usually referred to the Government Hospital in Jalpaiguri or Siliguri.

A survey on the health status and the diseases affecting the labours and their families of the three tea gardens have been conducted through collecting secondary data from the respective medical centers of the tea estates and by generating data in the field by questionnaire survey.



Plate 1: Entrance to the Hospital of Ranicherra Tea Estate

Detailed reports of the types of disease among the tea garden labours treated in the hospital in the tea gardens of Ranicherra, Washabarie and Leesh River, from the year 2008 to 2014, made available from the office of the tea gardens, have been given below.

Table 1: Types of disease among the workers treated in the hospital in Ranicherra Tea Garden

Types of disease	2008		2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		2014	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Viral fever	173	145	154	97	123	143	122	117	145	134	176	159	110	96
Diarrhea	91	78	112	87	121	88	113	67	101	88	123	89	78	76
Liver Jaundice	9	3	8	4	5	1	6	2	6	3	7	2	3	1
Malaria	7	4	5	6	-	3	7	2	2	1	3	2	1	1
Typhoid	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-

Source: Data obtained from respective tea gardens

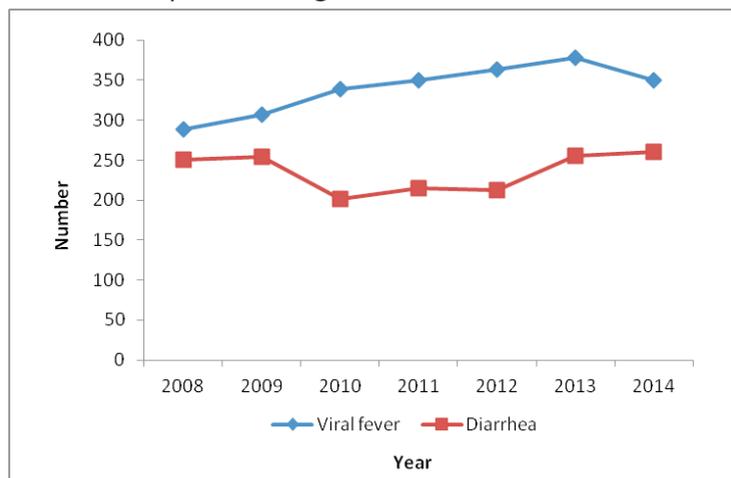


Figure 1: Occurrence of Viral fever and Diarrhea among the people of Ranicherra tea garden



Plate 2: A worker patient called on to have medicine in the hospital of Ranicherra

Table 2: Types of disease among the workers treated in the hospital in Washabarie Tea Garden

Types of disease	2008		2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		2014	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Viral fever	162	126	170	137	167	172	190	160	185	178	198	180	178	172
Diarrhea	110	141	124	130	111	91	117	98	112	101	130	126	147	113
Lever Jaundice	5	4	4	5	2	1	2	1	5	1	2	-	2	-
Malaria	6	4	4	4	2	2	0	1						
Typhoid														
Others														

Source: Data obtained from respective tea gardens

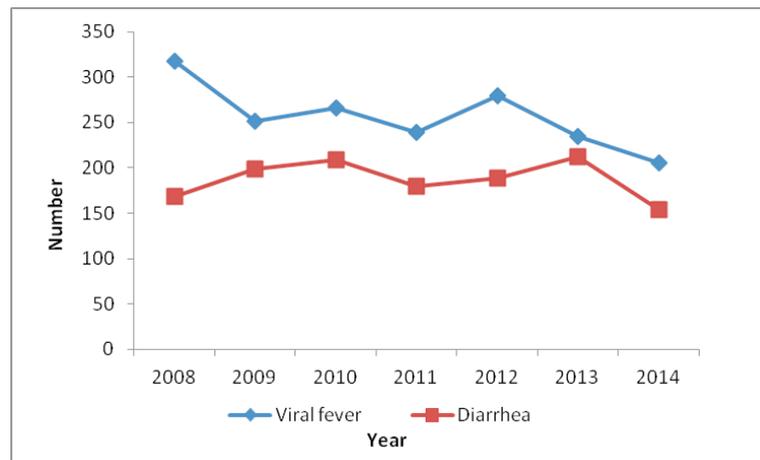


Figure 2: Occurrence of Viral fever and Diarrhea among the people of Washabarie tea garden



Plate 3::Inside the hospital at Washabarie Tea Estate

Table 3: Types of disease among the workers treated in the hospital in Leesh River Tea Garden

Types of diseases	2008		2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		2014	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Viral fever	193	135	163	101	133	141	128	119	157	141	188	163	132	121
Diarrhea	67	71	111	77	112	96	102	112	101	98	132	98	78	67
Liver Jaundice	8	3	9	6	5	1	5	2	6	3	9	2	10	3
Malaria	3	4	5	9	-	3	8	2	2	1	3	2	1	2
Typhoid	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-
Others														

Source: Data obtained from respective tea gardens

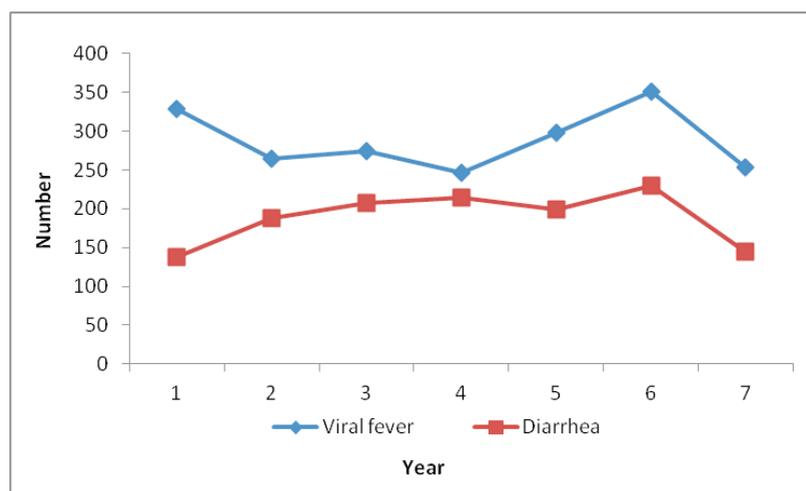


Figure 3: Occurrence of Viral fever and Diarrhea among the people of Leesh River tea garden.

A comprehensive study was also conducted upon the pattern of occurrence the major diseases

among the workers and the members of their family of all the three gardens taken together and the result has been demonstrated in the table as well as figure below.

Table 4: Occurrence of diseases among the workers in the Ranicherra, Washabarie and Leesh River from 2008 to 2014

Type of disease	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Viral fever	934	822	879	836	940	1064	809
Diarrhea	558	626	619	609	601	698	559
Lever Jaundice	32	36	15	18	27	22	19
Malaria	28	33	10	20	6	10	5
Typhoid	2	1	0	2	1	2	1
Others	0	0	2	0	0	2	0

Source: calculated on the basis of data obtained from the respective tea gardens

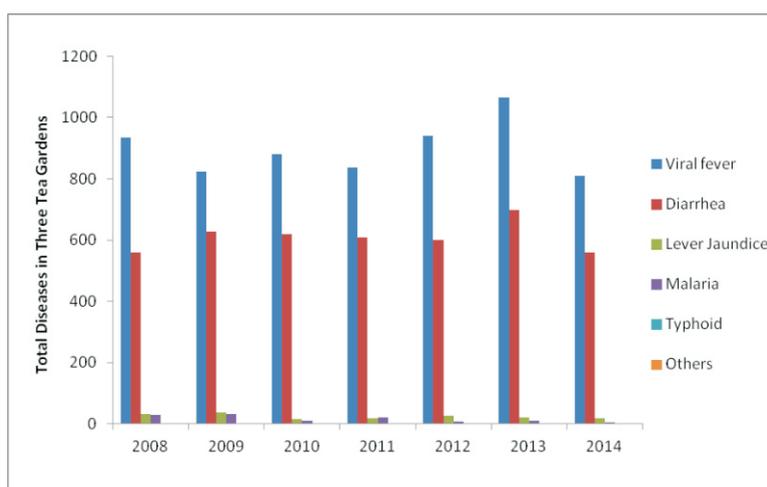


Figure 4: Occurrence of different diseases among the workers in the Three Tea Gardens

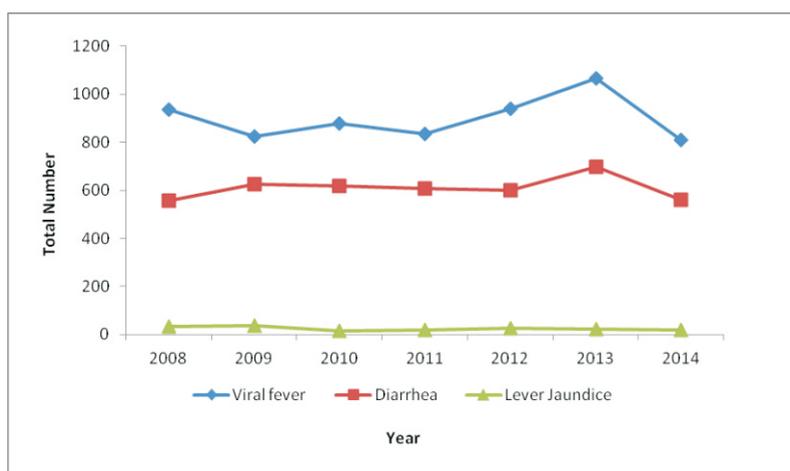


Figure 5: Occurrence of different diseases among the workers in the Three Tea Gardens

Overall Assessment

Identifiable features as detected from the investigation on health ailment pattern of the workers and their members of the family reveal the following facts:

- Diseases like Viral fever, Diarrhea, Liver Jaundice, Malaria, Typhoid have been identified among the people among which the first two i.e., Viral fever and Diarrhea are most common and prevalent.
- The cases of occurrence of viral fever and Diarrhea do not show any major rise or fall (without noticeable improvement of the condition) over the recent years.
- A large contingent of the people suffers from viral fever and Diarrhea round the year.
- Although in the earlier days most of the people were found to suffer from Malaria and Typhoid, these two diseases have now been almost eradicated. However, a few incidents of these fevers are still found.
- Liver jaundice is the third noticeable disease in the tea gardens which is a water-borne disease.
- Occurrence of Diarrhea and Liver jaundice at large indicate that quality of drinking water is not up to the mark in the entire Dooars area

REFERENCES

1. Dwivedi, H.N. (1999): Production of Tea in India (With special reference to Dooars). K.P. Bagchi and Co., Kolkata. 151pp.
2. Grunning, J.F.(1911): Eastern Bengal and Assam District Gazetteers. The Pioneer Press, Allahabad.pp.1-202
3. Ghosh, B.C. (1970): The Development of Tea Industry in the District of Jalpaiguri. N.L. Publishers, Siliguri; pp. 103
4. Khawas, V. (2006): Socio-Economic Conditions of Tea Garden Labourers in Darjeeling Hills. Council for Social Development, 53 Lodi Estate, New Delhi – 110003.pp.1-73.
5. Report Tea Board of India, Kolkata (2009).
6. Sunder. D.H.E. (1895): Survey and Settlement of the Western Duars, in the District of Jalpaiguri 1889-1895. Calcutta, Bengal Secretariat Press, Calcutta
7. Tamang, S., and Chattopadhyay, G.P. (2014): The Socio-Economic Status and its Changing Pattern of the Tea Garden Workers of the Western Dooars area in West Bengal. International Journal for Current Research and Techniques, Vol.01 (04) Parth Earth & Environment Consultancy, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India pp.8-20.

Publish Research Article

International Level Multidisciplinary Research Journal For All Subjects

Dear Sir/Mam,

We invite unpublished Research Paper, Summary of Research Project, Theses, Books and Books Review for publication, you will be pleased to know that our journals are

Associated and Indexed, India

- ★ Directory Of Research Journal Indexing
- ★ International Scientific Journal Consortium Scientific
- ★ OPEN J-GATE

Associated and Indexed, USA

- DOAJ
- EBSCO
- Crossref DOI
- Index Copernicus
- Publication Index
- Academic Journal Database
- Contemporary Research Index
- Academic Paper Database
- Digital Journals Database
- Current Index to Scholarly Journals
- Elite Scientific Journal Archive
- Directory Of Academic Resources
- Scholar Journal Index
- Recent Science Index
- Scientific Resources Database

Review Of Research Journal
258/34 Raviwar Peth Solapur-
413005, Maharashtra
Contact-9595359435

E-Mail-ayisrj@yahoo.in/ayisrj2011@gmail.com