FOREIGN EMPLOYMENT AND REMITTANCE IN NEPAL: A GENDER PERSPECTIVE

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ABSTRACT
The neo-liberal economic policy initiated during the 1990s in Nepal has resulted in the increasing flow of Nepalese labor force in the global market. Foreign remittance is often considered as a backbone of the economy of Nepal. This paper, using the data mainly from Nepal Living Standard Survey III (2010/11) has examined the foreign employment and remittance from a gender perspective. The study has found a significant gender difference in the ratio of going abroad, level of education, type of job and reasons for going abroad for the Nepalese migrants, and a significant positive association between the level of education and the amount of foreign remittance. The study has also observed a significant gender difference in the amount of cash remittance with females sending more cash remittance than male counterparts. Hence, this study nullifies the traditional thought of male’s income being higher compared to female counterpart. The findings also tend to suggest that a higher level of education might benefit the foreign employees with higher income. The study suggests that foreign employment policymakers, to gain higher foreign remittance from the foreign employees will have to focus on better education policy encouraging a larger population to attain higher levels of schooling.

KEYWORDS: Education, Foreign Employment, Gender, Nepal, Remittance.