Problem of Sanitation and Manual Scavenging in India:

A Case Study of Ghazipur District

Rajeev Kumar Singh & Ziyauddin , Research scholar F.S.S. Banaras Hindu University Varanasi, **ziyasocio@gmail.com**

 The proposed paper tries to analyse the problem of manual scavenging in Ghazipur district of Uttar Pradesh and search the reason for its continuance in various pockets. The paper studies also go through the problem of rural sanitation and its impact on socio-economic dimension of the society.

 The term manual scavenging describes the daily work of manually cleaning and removing feaces from dry (non-flush) latrines across India. In India manual scavenging is a caste based occupation carried out by dalits. These communities are invariably placed at the bottom of caste hierarchy, as well as dalit sub-caste hierarchy. Refusal to perform such task leads to physical abuse and social boycott. Manual Scavenger are exposed to the most virulent forms of viral and bacterial infections that affect their skin, eyes, limbs, respiratory and gastro-intestinal system.

The city Ghazipur situated on western bank of river Ganga is important district of eastern Uttar Pradesh. It consist of seventeen blocks and five Tehsils it has more than three lakh resident lack of modern sanitation facilities and spread of residential area on traditional sanitation spots along with a rigid caste and serial structure lead the prevalence and continuance of manual scavenging in this district. How ever official record shows the figure of zero. These are which we far from the river Ganga and have closed social structures promotes the practice of manual scavenging. It is found during the study that absence of sanitation facilities especially is closed societies where socio-cultural norms is quite rigid promotes the practice of manual scavenging.

Methodology: The paper is based on the field work conducted by authors in various locality of Ghazipur. Sample size was 72.Informal interview and non-participant observation is the two main methodological tools during the study.