

Trends and outline of Indian Emigration to other Countries: A Micro Study

Dr. M. Muthu Vadivoo*

***Lecturer, Dept. of Modern Office Practice, State Institute of Commerce Education, Tharamani, Chennai-600 113.**

Abstract

According to the latest estimation of Government of India approximately more than 15 million Indians are working in the other countries. They are mainly engaged in unskilled, semi-skilled profession. Remittances sent by the migrants are playing very crucial role in the local economies of many Indian states like Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat. India stands first rank in terms of highest absolute remittances in world.

The main objective of this paper is to discuss the recent trend and overview of migration from India to the other countries and its impact on the local as well as nation development at the place of emigrants household. This study mainly based on secondary source from MOIA reports, journals, magazines and other migration survey reports. The major influenced factors for migration to other countries are unemployment, under employment and poverty. The study expresses that Globalization and information of communication technology are playing important role for further enhancing migration from India into different parts of world. But we cannot ignore the problem faced by the migrants before and after migration at the place of origin and destination countries.

A reported case shows living and working environment of Indian migrants workers is harsh in other countries. Moreover violation of human right against Indian also notices in case of domestic workers. For strengthening Indian migration in positive way Government of Indian and concern country government should take immediate actions for the welfare of these migrates for employment.

Key Words: Indian, Migration, Influence Factors, Economic and Social Variables.

Introduction

Indian population almost spread all over the world and make significant diaspora in the world after China. According to the latest estimate by MOIA, Indian emigrants (both PIO and NRI) constituted about 30 million in 130 countries.

The leading Indian states for outward labour migration, in 2017, included Uttarpradesh, Bihar, Tamilnadu, Kerala, Andhrapradesh, West Bengal, Punjab, and Rajasthan. Together, these states accounted for over 80 per cent of the migration from india outward migrants; Uttarpradesh was the top contributor at 2,30,000 outward migrants. The migration trend has experienced a relative shift from prosperous states such as Kerala and Karnataka to poor states like Uttapredesh and Bihar due to the excessive and sudden population growth in these states, leading to a high demand for jobs. Moreover, wages rates, particularly for low skilled

workers, in states like Kerala are fairly high compared with the rates in Bihar and Uttarpradesh. This situation encourages low skilled and less educated workers in poorer states to migrate abroad in hopes of earning greater income.

Review of Literature

Balakrishnan & Cheethanapuravan (2018) in their study revealed that Kerala the southernmost State of India has been characterized by its unique developmental model in several developmental literature for the last many decades. Some of its essential developmental indicators were even elevated to compare with the developed countries. Beyond the emergence of agricultural or industrial sources, human resources are the basic strength of Kerala's developmen . Kerala has so far exported a good portion of its population into different parts of the world and a substantial population has been surviving on their remittances. Although Keralites have been immigrant to many countries, the migration to Arabian peninsula, which started in 1960's and reached in its peak in 1990's is remarkable.

Objectives of the Study

The paper mainly deals with two objectives:

1. To know the recent trend and pattern of Indian emigration (out migration) to the other countries.
2. To identify the influencing factors for migration from India to other countries.
3. To trace out the impact of migration on Indian economy.

Methodology and Research Design

This paper is mainly based on secondary data collected from various national and international documents such as MOIA (Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs), ILO (Indian Labour Organisation), IOM (International Organisation of Migration), and United Nations reports on the workers' rights and so on. All these data have been analysed statistically.

Analysis and Discussion

Table No.1
Details of Migration of Indian to other countries during 2016-17

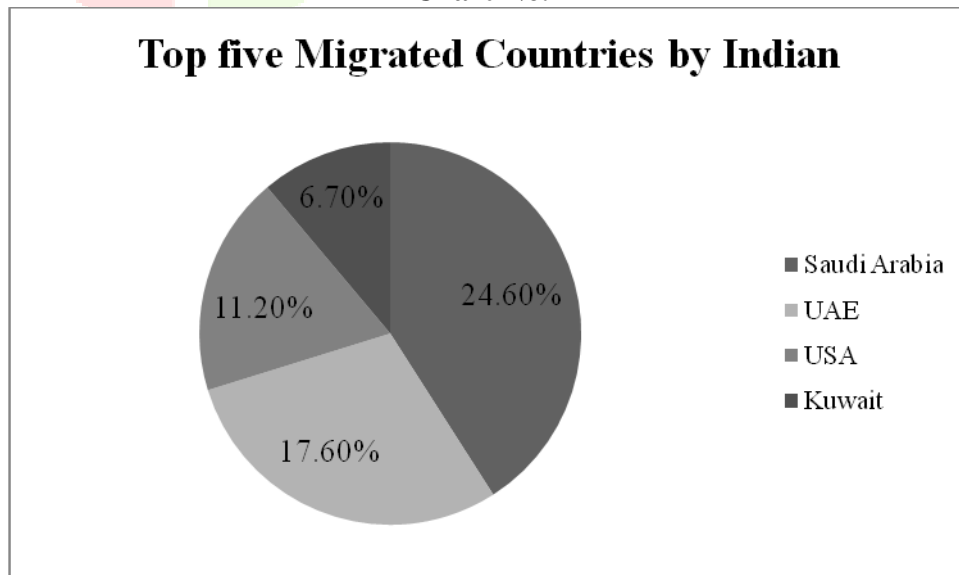
SL.No.	Country	Number of Indian Migrants	% contribution based on 2017 numbers
1	Saudi Arabia	2,800,000	24.6%
2	UAE	2,6300,000	17.6%
3	USA	1,272,846	11.2%
4	Kuwait	758,615	6.7%
5	Oman	707,850	6.2%
6	Nepal	600,000	5.3%
7	Qatar	600,000	5.3%

8	Bahrain	350,000	3.1%
9	Singapore	350,000	3.1%
10	New Zealand	45,000	0.4%
11	Australia	251,000	2.2%
12	Canada	184,320	1.6%
13	Germany	43,000	0.4%
14	UK	325,000	2.9%
15	Malaysia	150,000	1.3%
16	Sri Lanka	14,000	0.1%
17	South Africa	50,000	0.4%
18	Netherlands	20,000	0.2%
19	Ethiopia	10,000	0.1%
20	Uganda	25,000	0.2%
21	Other (186)	823,115	7.2%
	Total	11,379,746	100.0%

Source: MOIA

The table 1 reveals that migration of Indian to others countries. The result reveals that majority of the Indian migrated to Saudi Arabia with the contribution of 24.6 per cent, followed that UAE with the contribution of 17.6 per cent, USA with the contribution of 11.2 per cent, Kuwait with the contribution of 6.7 per cent, Oman with the contribution of 6.2 per cent and least migrated countries by Indian are Srilanka with the contribution of 0.1 per cent, Ethiopia with the contribution of 0.1 per cent, Uganda with the contribution of 0.2 per cent, Germany with the contribution of 0.4 per cent and New Zealand with the contribution of 0.4 per cent. The above result express that majority of Indian migrated to Saudi Arabia because of more employment opportunities offered by Saudi Arabia government and private companies.

Chart No.1



Details of Migration from Southern States of India

Table No.2

Migration from Southern States of India

States	Emigration Clearance
Kerala	66058
Andhra Pradesh	53104
Telangana	38531
Tamil Nadu	83202

Source: MOIA

- The states of Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Tamil Nadu accounted for 2.4 lakh workers that were granted Emigration clearance. Bulk of these clearances are for the EU, Australia, the US and the Middle East
- The migrants from these states are majorly semi-skilled and take up jobs in healthcare, retail industry and manufacturing
- The job roles offered to migrants from these states are assistant nurse, medical record technicians, and pharmacy aides in the healthcare sector, followed by salesmen and cashiers in the retail sector

Factors influencing the Migration Pattern**1. Economic factors leading to migration**

India has strong economy ranked seventh in terms of GDP, however India ranked third globally for negative migration rate. This means that India has a significantly larger number of people leaving the country than those entering. Furthermore, India's percapita income is amongst the lowest in the world and 22 per cent of the population lives below the poverty line. With a labour participation of only 52.5 per cent, there is a larger population within sufficient means for a stable standard of living. Due to the variance of employment opportunities across states and counties, unemployed and underemployed workers choose migrate in search of better wages and standard of living.

2. Demographic and Social Factors leading to migration

The population of India is expected to reach 1.48 billion by 2030 and at the current low mortality rates coupled with life expectancy stagnant at the age of 63, India will have one of the youngest populations in the world with robust growth expected in labour force participation, the labour force supply is projected to reach a massive 706 million by 2030. However, the current increase in new job opportunities in India is insufficient to meet the projected labour supply.

Impact of Migration on Economy

Migration can to some extent relieve local unemployment and underemployment pressures by enabling a considerable number of people to find jobs overseas, while also generating large flows of remittances. The major impacts of migration on source areas occur through changes in the labor market, income and assets, and changes in the pattern of expenditure and investment.

- I. **Migrant remittance flows:** Migrant remittances are the most tangible benefit of migration, remittances usually go towards improved housing, nutrition, schooling and health care. Remittances therefore create human capital by financing education of children and health for all age groups, and improving food security for poor households. An important advantage of remittances is that they are better distributed than FDI, they are also a more reliable and stable source of income, tending to fluctuate less with economic cycles and thus to be less volatile than capital flows
- II. **Employment and Wages:** While there are many motivations behind individual decisions to migrate, a major force driving contemporary migration is the lack of decent work opportunities at home. In India, decent jobs are not being created fast enough to absorb the growing numbers of people ready to join the labor force every year. Migration can thus be seen as a means to increase economic security
- III. **Rural Out Migration:** Rural outmigration could cause a tightening of the labor market in some circumstances. There is also the problem of replacement of out-migrant male labor by female and even child labor
- IV. **Reduction in poverty:** Migrants send money back home which increases the disposable income of households and their purchasing power, improving the resource base of migrant households and indirectly leading to reduction in poverty caused by the trickle-down effect

Summary and Conclusion

- ❖ Migration from India is dominated by the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, with all 6 GCC countries featuring in the top 9 countries that account for over 80% of overseas Indian migrants. The main factors leading to attractiveness of middle east are economic attractiveness, relative political stability and modern infrastructure.
- ❖ A majority of Indian migrants going to the Middle East, including GCC countries, for work are temporary migrants, semi-skilled and unskilled in nature, who return home once their contractual employment expires.
- ❖ Saudi Arabia was the most popular destination for Indian migrants in 2015 with a total of 2.8 million Indians migrating to the country during the year, the reason Saudi Arabia attracts migrants is ease of availability of jobs to unskilled labor accompanied by higher wages when compared to India
- ❖ These countries attracted migrants' people across the world, especially from the South and South-east Asian countries such as Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and so on. India is also one of the labor contributing countries in the Middle East. Indians are working as skilled or unskilled/ semi-skilled occupation there many Muslims migrate to the middle east from India to be with family and relations, while finding better job opportunities.
- ❖ Remittances have been playing a vital role to reducing poverty and increasing household income specially those workers who were not involved in any economic activity in India

before emigration.

- ❖ Poverty and high unemployment, low wages, poor standard of living, limited financial support of the government and allied agencies, low creation of job in the formal and informal sector have been contributing out migration from different states of India.

Migration and development is not a new process it was exist in ancient times and still continue. Migration and development can be seen positive and negative aspect of both the place of origin and destination. In the case of Indian migrants in other countries positive effect have been noticed at the origin places (India). These changes have been noticed through different primary studied done by academicians with compare of non-migrants workers in India. Majority of Indian workers in foreign are from the peripheral regions of India, majority of them are the part of absolute poverty before migration. Multiple changes have been noticed in migrants life such as earning money increase at household level/ family level, sending their children to school, re-paid loan reduce unemployment rate, purchasing housing, increasing saving, increase commercial sector etc. Globalization and information of communication technology are playing important role for further enhancing migration from India into different parts of world. But we cannot ignore the problem faced by the migrants before and after migration at the place of origin and destination countries. A reported case shows living and working environment of Indian migrants workers is harsh in other countries. Moreover violation of human right against Indian also notices in case of domestic workers. For strengthening Indian migration in positive way Government of Indian and concern country government should take immediate actions for the welfare of these migrants for employment.

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