



# The Social Impacts of Migration in India

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**ABSTRACT:** Migration is an equilibrium process which reduces regional disparities at different stages of development and a process which is as old as human civilization. Migration including refugee flows, asylum seekers, internal displacement and development induced displacement has increased considerably in volume and political significance since the end of the cold war. It has become an integral part of North – South relationships and is closely linked to current processes of global social transformation. This makes it as important for sociologists to develop empirical research and analysis on migration as it is to include it in their theoretical understandings of contemporary society. The study of migration is linked to research on economic migration but has its own specific research topics, methodological problem and conceptual issues. Migration needs to be analyzed as a social process in which human agency and social network play a major part. It gives rise to loss of state control, especially in the context of recent concerns about migration and security. In this context, it is essential to question entire sociological approaches, which have been based on the principle of relatively autonomous national societies.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Migration in India is not new and historical accounts show that people have moved in search of work, in response to environmental shocks and stresses, to escape religious persecution and political conflict. However improved communications, transport networks, conflicts over natural resources and new economic opportunities have created unprecedented levels of mobility. But as we discuss in following sections, the increase in mobility is not fully captured in larger surveys often leading to erroneous conclusions about mobility levels in India. Although significant in recent years, growth has been unequal in India characterized by industry in developed states such as Gujarat, Maharashtra and Punjab drawing labour from agriculturally backward and poor regions such as eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, southern Madhya Pradesh, western Orissa and southern Rajasthan. High productivity agricultural areas (“green revolution areas”) continue to be important destinations, but rural-urban migration is the fastest growing type of migration as more migrants choose to work in better paying non-farm occupations in urban areas and industrial zones. Delhi and the states of Gujarat and Maharashtra are top destinations for inter-state migrant labour. Labour mobility has grown and will probably continue to grow once the economy recovers from the current crisis.

A significant component of any assessment is to look at how immigration has affected social relationships within society. At one level the impacts that have been felt in Jobs, public services and so on tend indirectly to color the way in which individuals sense the impacts on the communities in which they live and work. This may be felt by some more than others, depending on whether immigrants are perceived to have brought competition or choice to local communities. Greater pressures in objectively measured employment markets are likely to flow through into subjective felt anxieties about local communities. The same is also true when looking at how local community relations are viewed and affected by national political debates about immigration. The social Impacts of immigration are also felt in a more direct manner. This can be seen when examining people's sentiment towards their local neighborhoods and specifically how far they feel that those around them are pulling together and can be trusted and relied on when needed " Togetherness " as this has been dubbed has frequently probed by researchers . Partly in order to pin down its essence, but also to isolate what is most likely to reinforce or unsettle this sentiment. It is notoriously tricky to measure give that feelings of common purpose are often reflection of prosperous communities laced with efficient public services.

Migration is synonymous of mobility which covers all kinds of territorial movements of whatever distance, duration or degree of permanence. The term migration refers to the movement of population from one place to another. A large volume of discussion on migration is dictated by popular perceptions. The study describes the factors responsible for migration. In rural areas, due to less employment opportunities, low wages, social factors etc. people migrate to urban areas to get more employment opportunities, higher income, better wages, and better facilities activities. A large part of migrated population particularly in large and metropolitan cities lives in marginal settlements, slums and squatter areas with limited infrastructure services threatening health, environmental degradation of urban areas, traffic and other problems of urban areas. The factor causing or controlling migration varies considerably from region to region and also from person to person. There are two type of factor responsible for the process of migration called push and pull factors. This particularly includes discussions on the number of migrants and their impact on the destination areas. Unfortunately, there are not too many studies on the impact of migration on growth and accumulation, especially in the destination areas. This paper provides only some general facts. The study reveals that the reason of people migrates due to marriage, education and jobs but here we study about household, after birth and business also. Whereas we studies on the internal migration one state to another states also know the impact of migration on society with the help of census data 2001 and 2011. The paper is an attempt to understand the concept of migration, reason and impact of migration in society.

## II. OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of this study are:

- To study the socio – economic conditions of the migrant laborers before and after the migration.
- To study the Reasons for migration.
- To understand in – migration, out – migration and net migration Levels of all states.
- To understand State to state migration flows of the consequences
- To understand some insights on the determinants of internal

Migration in India.

Migration is one of the common trends in these days. In the same way agriculture labour migration is also common in these days. Laborer face so many problems in his living condition and these problems pull him from his native

DATA SOURCE -For the socio-economic variables, paper used data of various sources including publication of the Reserve bank of India, central statically organization and planning commission of India. The relationship between migration and health is found to be multidimensional and bidirectional. Health status can drive a decision to migrate, but such relocation may in turn have an influence on health. Circular migration has further been associated with the spread of health conditions or behaviors between destination and origin areas, affecting the health status of others. The structure of urban and rural populations in India and the dynamic component of migration are likely to exacerbate the COVID-19 epidemic in the country. A large number of migrants who are from rural areas but work in the cities may be susceptible. The quarantine measures taken by the government are appropriate, but these may lead to inefficient outcomes because many of the migrants would prefer to escape the centers of disease, consequently inflicting negative externalities on other uninfected people. Studies indicate that when a disease has an epicenter, the marginal migrant imposes a net negative externality. Research has also confirmed suspicions that travel restrictions do not have much effect on the spread of pandemics. The major problem is that usually enough cases have been 'seeded' by the time awareness of an epidemic crystallizes. Many models have been developed and used to study the spread of an epidemic in space. Most of these are based either on contact distributions or on processes describing migration or movements of individuals in space (Noble, 1974). Public health interventions mainly aim at three types of population to prevent or mitigate the spread of an emerging infectious disease and its negative effects: (a) the population in the source area, (b) the floating population leaving the source area and (c) the population travelling from the infected area to other areas. Although there have been several studies on how migration affects the spread of epidemic, however, another important dimension of the problem is the way in which an epidemic affects the migrant population. Epidemics not only pose a public health crisis, but often convert into an economic crisis and a migration crisis too. In epidemic conditions, a large number of internal migrant workers are trapped in cities after being laid off due to the measures taken by the government to control the spread of the disease. Most of these workers earn little more than a subsistence wage and have no other means to protect their incomes if they lose their jobs. This issue drew attention of the administrators and researchers when it was noted that after the announcement of the 21-day-country-wide lockdown due to COVID-19 in India, there was a sudden gathering of tens of thousands of migrant workers from across the city of Delhi, walking towards bus terminals to cross into Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and other states. They gathered in thousands being desperate to reach their hometowns in adjoining states. With most transport links shut down, many were trying to walk hundreds of kilometers back to their rural homes with their families. The government, who initially had stopped all the public transportation, and emphasized on 'remaining at home', had to take the decision to allow people to reach bus terminals and city borders and arranged hundreds of buses into service. Further, the Central government asked State governments to take measures to prevent a mass exodus of migrant workers in the wake of the national lockdown. A mass departure of migrant workers from cities in several states to their villages raised concerns that the COVID-19 outbreak could turn into a humanitarian crisis. Realizing the gravity of the problem, the government launched a new scheme, namely Migrant Workers Return Registration. This scheme's main motto is to count the number of daily labourers and migrant workers who got stuck in other states, as well as to provide them with 14 days of quarantine facilities and arrangements after they reached their hometowns. State governments across the country launched their portals and accumulated the data of their people (daily labourers and migrant workers), There is a fear that COVID-19 recessions in India can take an extraordinary human toll that extends well beyond temporary earnings losses for unemployed workers. The studies on earlier recessions suggest that the job loss during a downturn sometimes results in long-term unemployment and wage setbacks, deteriorating the health of unemployed workers and increasing poverty. These impacts are most troubling for low-income households, which are less well positioned to cope with earnings losses during a recession, have no alternative earnings and have no social security available (Papadimitriou et al., 2010). Migrant workers constitute quite a large proportion of such vulnerable population. In this article, we have discussed some of the important issues regarding the effect of epidemics like COVID-19 on the migrant population.

## **The Impact of Migration**

On migrants and their Families Poorer migrant workers, crowded into the lower ends of the labour market, have few entitlements vis a vis their employers or the public authorities in the destination areas. They have meagre personal assets and suffer a range of deprivations in the destination areas. In the source areas, migration has both negative and positive consequences for migrants and their families.

**Living Conditions** Migrant labourers, whether agricultural or non-agricultural, live in deplorable conditions. There is no provision of safe drinking water or hygienic sanitation. Most live in open spaces or makeshift shelters in spite of the Contract Labour Act which stipulates that the contractor or employer should provide suitable accommodation. Apart from seasonal workers, workers who migrate to the cities for job live in parks and pavements. Slum dwellers, who are mostly migrants, stay in deplorable conditions, with inadequate water and bad drainage. Food costs more for migrant workers who are not able to obtain temporary ration cards.

**Health and Education** Labourers working in harsh circumstances and living in unhygienic conditions suffer from serious occupational health problems and are vulnerable to disease. Those working in quarries, construction sites and mines suffer from various health hazards, mostly lung diseases. As the employer does not follow safety measures, accidents are quite frequent. Migrants cannot access various health and family care programmes due to their temporary status. Free public health care facilities and programmes are not accessible to them

**For Women Workers** There is no provision of maternity leave, forcing them to resume work almost immediately after childbirth. Workers, particular those working in tile factories and brick kilns suffer from occupational health hazards such as body ache, and skin irritation.

**Problems of Children** As there are no creche facilities, children often accompany their families to the workplace to be exposed to health hazards. They are also deprived of education: the schooling system at home does not take into account their migration pattern and their temporary status in the destination areas does not make them eligible for schooling there. In the case of male-only migration, the impact is on family relations and on women, children and the elderly are left behind. The absence of men adds to material and Psychological insecurity, leading to Pressure & negotiations with wider family.

**Seasonal Migrants** Seasonal or circular migrants by contract are likely to move from place to place in search of employment or to continue to returning to the same place year after year. Such circular flows of migrants encompass migrants who may stay at their destination for six months or more at a time and hence need social services at their destination. Scholars have long characterized this migration as type in which the permanent residence of a person. Many of the women who migrate for marriage are also participants in the market even if their primary reason for migration is marriage. For example migration is a rapidly growing sector that employs women, most of whom are rural to urban, migrants.

## **MIGRATION AND HUMAN SOCIETY.**

Migration has continues to have a major impact on human societies. The effects of migration are seen in both the societies that people leave called sending societies, and those in which they settle, called receiving societies. These societies are not always countries or nation. People may for instance, move from a rural society, such as a village, to an urban one, such as a city, within the same country. The impacts of these internal moves may be as serious for the villages as international movements are for notion. The Impacts of migration are now so important that an academic discipline has developed around the study of human movement.

**INTERNAL OR DOMESTIC MIGRATION** These terms refer to human movements within a Nation. It usually results from people moving from, Rural areas to live in small centers, Small centers to large cities, between cities, Cities to rural areas where new industries create new jobs. Some of this internal migration is temporary as farmers move to town to sell their crops and produce and then return to their farm and plantations. Some is semi-permanent as people move to town to work and return only after their retirement. Some internal migration is permanent as families move never return to their birth place.

**MIGRATION PATTERNS IN INDIA** There are four migration streams: rural-rural, rural-urban, urban-rural and urban-urban. Further the stream can be intra- district, intra – state, inter-state. As is evident of majorities of the migrants move within the state, i.e. move within same districts or move to other districts of the same state. Inter-state migration in India is mainly from states having low agricultural

productivities. Orissa, Bihar, Eastern Uttar Pradesh, part of Bengal and Telangana region in Andhra Pradesh fell in this category. Inter-state migration takes place for casual and temporary employment in the following spheres.

[1] Seasonal agricultural labour required at the time of harvesting and for agricultural operations in Punjab, Haryana and western UP.

[2] Construction labour engaged in irrigation projects, major road and rail projects all over the country.

[3] Specialized labour like Oriya labour in Madhya Pradesh brick kilns, sugarcane harvesting labour in South Gujarat and other coastal states, textile labour in Surat and Bhivandi in Maharashtra.

There is no uniform pattern in the position of migrant workers as the variables determining it vary from sector to sector and state to state.

Hence the obvious reasons are that there is a one to one relation between the employer and the workmen, and some kind of continuity is there in the case of agricultural sector. These relations once established continue due to nature of work. Both these factors are absent in the case of construction workers. The migrant worker knows neither the employer nor the nature and place of work are known before hand. Once the project is over, the worker and the employer loose contract, and both have to a new work site.

**INTER STATE MIGRATION: SOCIO-ECONOMIC DETERMINANTS** There is growing evidence in India to suggest that the country is moving fast in the overall development. Structural transformation in the 2001s has propelled the growth of the economy further. The percentage of people below poverty line has reduced and per capital consumption has improved simultaneously. Although Indian economy is predominantly agricultural, the proportion of work force engaged in agricultural activities has fallen significantly. This reduction is perhaps a sign of enhanced job opportunities in other sectors.

#### **TYPES OF INTERNAL MIGRATION IN INDIA**

Labour migration flows include permanent, semi- permanent, and seasonal or circular migrants. Much of the available data polls migrants in the permanent and semi- permanent categories and considerably less large-scale statistical data are available on the numbers and characteristics of circular migrants. Semi-permanent migrants are those who are likely to have precarious jobs in their destination areas. Or lack the resources to make a permanent move. While they may reside in their destination cities for years or decades, the likely have homes and families in their sending district. Seasonal or circular migrants by contrast, are likely to move from place to place in search of employment or to continue returning to the same place year after year. Such circular flows encompass migrants who may stay at their destination for six months or more at a time and hence need social services at their destination. Scholars have long characterized this migration as type in which the permanent residences of a person. Many of the women who migrate for marriage are also participants in the market, even if their primary reason for migration is marriage. For example is a rapidly growing sector that employs women, most of whom are rural – to – urban, migrants.

#### **HOUSING**

Migration and slums are in extritricably linked, as labour demand in cities and the resulting rural to urban migration creates greater pressures to accommodate more people. In 2011, 68 million Indians lived in slums, comprising one – quarter of the population of India's 19 cities with more than one million residents. Across the country, the experiences of slum dwellers are characterized by sudden evictions without adequate rehabilitation and local government that do not provide low- cost housing for the urban poor. The basic problem is establishing identity result in a loss of access to entitlements and social services

## INDIVIDUAL MIGRATION

This refers to the continuous movements of Individuals who move for many reasons. Some Individual migration is planned. People plan to migrate at a certain point in their lives and save and prepare for these visits over long periods of time. Some Individual migration is spontaneous: people suddenly decide to go overseas to visit or to attend a funeral or wedding. They use their savings or borrow from friends to make these trips. Motives of individuals who migrate may vary greatly some people migrate so they can provide better social, economic and educational opportunities for their families. These individuals may continue to support their families from distant cities and countries. Other people move to escape the families and their expectations. These movements sometime occur after arguments and conflicts and lead people to sever ties with their families more or less completely and never return. Other individuals move for short periods to time to achieve individual goals, such as saving money to build a house or start a business, and then return to their homes. Others move so that they can hold in their own societies or to follow life styles that they are unable to follow in their own society.

## THE TERMINOLOGY OF MIGRATION

Different types of migration have quite different consequences, special terms are necessary to distinguish between different types migration. Those who study migration have created a set of terms to refer to different types & consequences of migration. This refers to temporary movements where people spend between three months & three years in another location before returning to their home. This types of migration has more significant effects in both the community which they leave and that in which they settle. The families of short term migrants may receive more money but may be without a parent, or an adult child who performed important social and economic duties for the family. Thus, a child behind may find themselves without a parent at important parts of their life. The benefits of short term migration to the family may be offset by certain costs. The costs and benefits need to be calculated by families to decide whether short –term migration will improve their situation in the long- term. The impact of long- term migration for the sending society is more serious where large numbers of people leave for longer terms. The donor communities lose their labour and skills „human „or “social capital”, the income which the migrants produced, the food, goods and services which the migrants produced and their social and religious contributions to their families and communities.

## CONCLUSION

The magnitude and variety of internal migration flow in India as well as the distresses associated with them are enormous. A basic overview of this complex phenomenon makes clear that in spite of the vast contribution of migrants to India's economy the social protections available to them still remain sparse. It can be concluded from the above discussion that the population mobility in the country which was decreasing up to 1991, increased often the adaptation of new economic policy. The economy of the country is based on agriculture; as a result rural to rural stream dominates in the migration process. As far as reasons of migration are concerned employment among males and marriage among female is the main reasons of migration in the country.

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