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MIGRANT LABOUR CRISIS IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT

The internal migration is a complex process that can be viewed as one of the intricate issues faced in the world today. This paper provides an overview of the current status of the international or internal migration, along with its opportunity and challenges. The paper also discusses the challenges faced by the destination countries in the process of internal migration. Migration is one of the most significant issues faced in the world today. It is a complex process with a wide range of etiologist and recurrences. In this paper, we have analyzed the migration shifts in scale, course, demography, and the consequences of environment changes, new global economic and political impulse, revolution in technologies and social networks, and a huge scale of complex transformation in internal migration. India's migrant labour crisis have been a problem for a while, but the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 brought them a lot of attention. Millions of migrant workers leave their homes and villages in search of better economic opportunities in urban areas, and these crisis highlight the risks and difficulties they face.

Key words: Migrant labour crisis, Indian economy, Internal migration

INTRODUCTION

A migrant labour is an individual who relocates inside a nation of origin or outside it to seek after work. Transient labourers generally don't have the goal to remain for all time in the nation or area wherein they work. In India, migrant labour for the most part alludes to the people who participate in inward movement inside the country, frequently to look for work.. They are powerless against abuse including being paid not exactly least wages, being compelled to work extended to perilous working circumstances. Social avoidance: Transient labourers are frequently vilified and victimized because of their identity, language and social they are casual and unskilled who move about systematically from one region to another offering their services on a temporary, usually seasonal, basis. They leave their hometown and went to a big city for work they are.

The Global Association for Relocation characterizes a migrant labour as any individual who is moving or has gotten across a worldwide boundary or inside a state away from his/her ongoing spot of home. Analyzing the movement shifts in scale, course, demography and recurrence can prompt compelling arrangements, programs and functional reactions on the ground. Migrants help to improve people's quality of life. It helps to improve people's social life by learning new cultures, customs and languages, and it also helps

to improve the people's fraternity. The migration of qualified workers is a major factor in regional economic growth.

OBJECTIVES

- ❖ To examine India's internal migration.
- ❖ The issues of migrant labour in the workplace.
- ❖ To know about benefits of migration and resolving the problems.

Review of literature

1. Picher it (2012) , in his study entitled "Migrant Labourers' Struggles Between Village and Urban Migration Sites: Labour Standards, Rural Development and Politics in South India" examined the socio-economic struggle of migrant labours along with the influencing factors like migration pattern, state policies and development issues in Andhra Pradesh. The state is at the forefront of the neo-liberal policies since 1990s and the author points out the impact of migration, how the politics and development are related in the labourers' daily life from village to urban migration site. It highlights how the state policies ignore the issues of capital/labour in favour of development/poverty struggles. The article also shows how the informal management of migrant labourers in absence of labour standards hampers the demands from labourers such us better working and living condition or salaries. The rural development scheme also gets redistributed by local leaders under political clientless.
2. Mahadevia (2009) advocated a strategy that would make it economically impossible for labour to gain long-term support in the accumulation area. To this end, the State has not only withdrawn its efforts to provide affordable shelter and basic services to migrant workers, but has not adopted an effective strategy to achieve this, in addition, efforts to relocate workers who may have gained such an office have actually increased.

INTERNAL MIGRATION IN INDIA

Internal migration from rural to urban areas is called urbanization or urban transition. Migrants who migrate outside their national borders are called internal migrants, i.e. people seeking temporary or permanent housing, regardless of their reasons. There are many economic, social and physical reasons for migration and they can usually be classified into factors of push and pull. In recent years, however, migration has been observed mainly due to geographical reasons and due to natural disasters such as floods, storms, landslides, earthquakes and droughts. Interregional migrants are people who move to different regions of their country. Internal migrants move to their own region. The two types of migration are internal (in one area to another) and international (between countries). Internal migration does not change the population size, but affects the population distribution in the country.

Internal migration is the development of individuals inside a country starting with one characterized region then onto the next.

It is for the most part separated into the accompanying

SL.NO	CLASSIFICATION	PERSENTAGE
1	Rural to rural	47%
2	Rural to Urban	32%
3	Urban to Urban	15%
4	Urban to Rural	6%

Source: (<https://www.ilo.org>)

Sector-wise Classification of Migrant Workers in India

SL.NO	Sector	Rural		Urban	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
1	Primary	4%	75%	20%	65%
2	Manufacturing	13%	59%	38%	51%
3	Public services	16%	69%	40%	56%
4	Construction	8%	73%	32%	67%
5	Traditional services	10%	65%	29%	55%
6	Modern services	16%	66%	40%	52%
	Total	6%	73%	33%	56%

Source: Report working group of migration, 2017 (Ministry of Urban Poverty and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India)

Internal migration refers to the migration of one place to another in a country, while external migration or international migration refers to the migration of one country to another. Internal migrant flows can be classified by origin and destination. There is a rural-urban migration and also an intra- and inter-state migration. Migration to work in India is a fundamental right of citizens, as stipulated in Article 19 of the Constitution of India. Fundamental rights also prohibit trafficking in persons and guarantee the freedom from discrimination, equal opportunities for employment and protection from forced and child labour. Inter-state migration is carried out under the seventh chapter of the Constitution, namely List I (Union List), which confers authority on the central government.

According to Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) figures, in 2021 there were 23.7 million new internal displacements globally due to disasters (these are in addition to those internally displaced due to conflict and violence). This represented a decrease of seven million, or 23 per cent, compared to the previous year. Internal migration is the movement of people between the usual residences in the national state. This paper begins with a description of the levels of residential mobility in industrialized countries and the degree of interregional migration. Migrant communities often contribute to the economic development of their origins.

The main reason for this is that their umbilical cord is linked to the identity of this country. According to a recent UN report, the Indian Diaspora community is the world's largest. In different parts of the world, more than 32 million Indians are living. England, Canada and the United States have the largest number than other European countries. NRIs represent only 1 per cent of India's total population. However, they play an important role in India's development.

The money they send to India is beneficial to the country. India is also leading in this regard. According to the World Bank's report, the amount of money received from abroad in India will reach US\$89.1 billion in 2022. It accounts for 2.81 per cent of India's GDP. In addition to remittances to their home countries, foreigners can also contribute to foreign direct investment (FDI) in the country. It also contributes to The migrants' communities transfer skills, contacts, resources and experiences they have acquired to their originers. This stimulates the development of local trade and skills. Entrepreneurship and skills development. If the number of immigrants in the region is high, relations between the two countries are likely to increase.

THE MAJOR FACTS OF INDIA'S MIGRANT LABOUR CRISIS :

- a) **Absence of Government backed retirement:** In India, many migrant workers are from underserved communities and do not have access to social security benefits like affordable housing, education, or healthcare. As a result, they are extremely susceptible to health crisis and economic shocks.
- b) **Casual Business:** A huge piece of the migrant labour force in India is taken part in the casual area, which frequently implies they have no employer stability, the lowest pay permitted by law certifications, or admittance to benefits like fortunate assets or benefits.
- a) **Occasional Movement:** Transient work is many times occasional, with labourers moving to metropolitan regions during the collect or development season and getting back to their towns during the slow time of year. This example can upset everyday life and cause monetary shakiness.
- b) **Lack of Housing:** Overcrowding and unsanitary living conditions make migrant workers in cities more vulnerable to health risks, including disease transmission.
- c) **Utilization Methods:** Employers sometimes take advantage of migrant workers' vulnerability by paying those low wages, withholding payments, and providing them with substandard working conditions. Numerous migrants fall into a cycle of debt as a result.
- d) **Absence of Legitimate Securities:** India has labour rights laws and regulations, but enforcement can be poor and many migrants are unaware of or afraid to assert their rights because of their precarious situation. Metropolitan regions lack cheap housing and essential services.
- e) **Exclusion from political rights:** migrants have been denied the opportunity to exercise their political rights, such as voting rights. Barriers in diet, language and other cultural aspects: Most internal migrants come from rural areas.
- f) **The Corona virus Pandemic:** Migrant workers were severely affected by the COVID-19 lockdown in India in 2020. Many people lost their jobs as factories and businesses closed, leaving them stranded in cities without access to public transportation. As a result, a large number of migrants fled their homes and travelled long distances to return to their villages, suffering from hunger, exhaustion, and even death.
- g) **Government Drives:** The Indian government began responding to the pandemic by establishing relief camps for stranded migrants and providing free food rations. However, a lot of people argue that these measures were insufficient and that more comprehensive policies are required to address the structural issues that cause migration crisis.
- h) **Change in priorities:** The emergencies have started conversations about the requirement for work changes, including better government backed retirement measures, further developed lodging conditions, and more grounded implementation of work regulations. These modifications have been demanded by a number of advocacy organizations and civil society organizations. India's migrant labour crisis necessitate a multifaceted strategy that incorporates improved social safety nets, labour reforms, and government policies to ensure that these vulnerable workers have access to fair wages, decent living conditions, and crisis protection.

MIGRATION AND THE INDIAN ECONOMY

The commitment of migrant labourers, both exceptionally talented and low-gifted, has prompted India turning into the beneficiary of settlements on the planet, with over US\$ 62.7 billion got in 2016. FDI inflows for that very year in India were at US\$ 46.4 billion, highlighting the significance of settlement streams into the Indian economy. There was a 9% decrease in settlements to India in 2016, a pattern in accordance with most different nations in Asia. This decline was to a large group of recurrent elements like the worldwide monetary log jam, particularly in the GCC (Gulf Countries Council) nations, Russian League and Europe. Further, the debilitating of the euro and the pound versus the dollar prompted a more keen decrease in

settlements. Settlements from the GCC (Gulf Countries Council) make up 52% of settlements got in India and consequently, the recurrent decay would have been undeniably more articulated for India in.

As per census 2011, the total number of internal migrants in India is 36 crore or 37% of the country's population. The Economic Survey pegged the size of the migrant workforce at roughly 20 per cent or over 10 crore in 2016.

The increase in WPR (Weekly Payroll Report): reverse migration during the pandemic has increased the ratio of workers to population in the village areas.

Increase in employment: Reverse migration has also increased employment in rural areas. On the other hand, the urban economy is facing a distinctive problem of lack of specialized and unqualified labour, which has an impact on the economic viability of the secondary sector.

Technology deficit: The absence of technological development in the secondary sector may result in serious shocks to industrial activity.

HISTORICAL NET MIGRATION DATA

INDIA- HISTORICAL NET MIGRATION RATE DATA		
YEAR	NET MIGRATION RATE	GROWTH RATE
2023	-0.329	-3.80%
2022	-0.342	-3.93%
2021	-0.356	-3.52
2020	-0.369	-3.66%
2019	-0.383	-3.28%
2018	-0.396	1.28%
2017	-0.391	1.56%
2016	-0.385	1.32%
2015	-0.38	1.60%
2014	-0.374	1.36%
2013	-0.369	-3.91%

Source: <https://www.migrationdataportal.com>

BENIFITS OF MIGRATION

One of the main sources of foreign exchange is remittances from workers from other countries. The success of the green revolution was due to the migration of rural areas in eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha to rural areas in Punjab, Haryana and western Uttar Pradesh. Immigrants affect social change. Through them, innovative concepts in the fields of family planning, women's education and other fields are distributed from urban to rural communities. Migration brings people from many cultures together. The positive effects include the development of composite cultures.

The disadvantages of migration Overcrowding is the result of uncontrolled migration to major cities in India. Uncontrolled migration within the nation has adverse effects, including the growth of slums in industrially advanced regions such as Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Delhi. One of the key factors influencing the urban population expansion is rural-urban migration. The demographic structure of rural areas is adversely affected by the selective migration of age and qualifications. There are significant age and

gender imbalances due to high exodus in Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and eastern Maharashtra. The current social and physical infrastructure in the urban areas is under pressure due to the overpopulation caused by the migration from rural to urban areas. Cities suffer from excessive use of natural resources.

Naturally, when a place has a big population, agricultural fields suffer as a result of increased human activity, which can occasionally result in flooding or erosion, rendering the ground useless for agricultural purposes. Because of the growing rate of human activity, many lands will lose agricultural fertility. It reduces the population burden on social services in the region of origin. There will always be a lot of traffic congestion, accidents, fires, and people in the hospital.

CONCLUSION

India's migrant labour crisis necessitate a multifaceted strategy that incorporates improved social safety nets, labour reforms, and government policies to ensure that these vulnerable workers have access to fair wages, decent living conditions, and crisis protection. India's migrant labour crises have been a problem for a while, but the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 brought them a lot of attention. These emergencies feature the weaknesses and difficulties looked by a large number of transient specialists who leave the places where they grew up and towns looking for better financial open doors in metropolitan regions.

Labourers who sneaking or carrying across borders for work or potentially going into constrained work in the new objective. Uniformity in admittance to work freedoms, pay, and government backed retirement, worker's organization privileges, business charges or official procedures and cure. Prejudice and segregation in the work environment.

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