



# Impact of migration on social change: a review study

Govind Kumar Rohit<sup>1\*</sup> and Dr. Rabindranath Sarma<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> PhD, Research Scholar in Sociology, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Central University of Jharkhand, Cheri-Manatu, Ranchi, Jharkhand, India

<sup>2</sup> Associate Professor, Department of Tribal Studies, Central University of Jharkhand, Brambe, Ranchi, Jharkhand, India

Correspondence Author: Govind Kumar Rohit

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## Abstract

The paper highlights that rural to urban migration is the outcome of the rural economy in India being characterized by an uncontrollable and overwhelming expansion in population. In addition, the growth of industries has turned into a barrier to non-farm employment. People are therefore deprived of their fundamental requirements for existence as well as sufficient constructive activity to help them adjust. Particularly in the lives of rural people, this form of crisis fanned the fire of frustration and sadness among the poor, necking them into the pains of poverty and degrading dependence. This paper is based on the exploratory in nature of the research with secondary sources of the collection materials that was acquired from published papers, articles, policy, program and other sources. The result of this paper's precarious issues are a result of economic underdevelopment and development, which have a negative impact on millions of people's modest lifestyles in rural green meadows and forced them to leave their hometowns.

**Keywords:** migration, economy, employment, labour force, rural-urban migrants, dependency

## Introduction

Migration is an important phenomenon in India from an economic, political and public health point of view, which has a decisive influence on people's lives (Bhagat, 2010; Kumar *et al.*, 2008) <sup>[1, 13]</sup>. Rural people's struggle for existence is not possible without migration, which benefits both the economic well-being of migrants and society as a whole as well as its costs. Since agricultural production can cover all of the fundamental needs of rural people, seasonal and short-term migration for employment has emerged as the most resilient element of those living in rural parts of India's economy (Deshingkar & Start, 2003) <sup>[7]</sup>. People from rural, underdeveloped areas who practise single cropping are dependent on seasonal migration for their livelihood. The principal sector that feeds the majority of the inhabitants of the nation is the agricultural industry. In this sense, the general population and meet their fundamental requirements, these large numbers of unemployed individuals are compelled to move to urban areas (Gill, 1998) <sup>[9]</sup>. For the rural poor, movement is a factor that lowers their level of poverty and fosters growth. In India, seasonal and transient migration has a significant influence on the means of subsistence. These rural mass populations were compelled to migrate to the city in quest of better lives and jobs because of the low literacy rate, the availability of unskilled labour, and the absence of job possibilities at the source (Deshingkar *et al.*, 2008) <sup>[8]</sup>. Unskilled and illiterate individuals struggle to find decent employment in cities and are thus compelled to work in hazardous and risky professions in the unorganised economy. In this way, most of the people movement for livelihood due to the development-induced displacement (Tandi, *et al.*, 2019) <sup>[23]</sup>.

According to National Commission on Rural (NCRL, 1991) <sup>[19]</sup>

More than 10 million people are transient migrants in isolated places. At the workplace, these rural migrants are considered as outsiders. The majority of seasonal or temporary migrants work in underdeveloped, agricultural sectors, brick kilns, quarries, and construction sites. Once more, a sizable proportion of transient workers working in the manufacturing, hospitality, or transportation industries labour in the unofficial sector as hawkers, rickshaw pullers, and head-loaders. The current study more importantly indicates the passion of migration, the local variations, and the internal migration from a remote area to urban area only because of monetary reasons. The poor and illiterates are prone to migrate seasonally in India than other categories people in India.

## Historicity of migration

It has been shown that groups of humans have travelled around the world since 3000 BC. The many economists and sociologists have offered a variety of hypotheses. A million years ago, Homo erectus left Africa and crossed Eurasia, marking the beginning of the migration. Homo rectus appears to have colonized all of Africa about 150 millennia ago, moved out of Africa some 80 millennia ago, and spread across Eurasia and to Australia before 40 millennia ago. Migration to the Americas took place about 20 to 15 millennia ago, and by two millennia ago, most of the Pacific Islands were colonized. Later, population movements notably include the Neolithic, Indo-European expansion, and the early Medieval Great migrations including Turkic expansion (Lee, 1966) <sup>[15]</sup>. Since the Early Modern era, migration has surged due to the Age of Exploration and European Colonialism. The mobility of a group in prehistory is typically visible through remnants of a common language that the migrants carry to a new location. Migration has historically been integrally linked to the growth

of culture, social structures, colonisation of new lands, and the pursuit of trade and food. From the ancient to the modern eras, migration has been taking place all over the world in search of a living.

### Theory adopted in the paper

The migration was mostly initiated for financial reasons. (Lee, 1966) <sup>[15]</sup>. There are various theories are given by the various economists and sociologists like, first theory has given by Ravenstein's (1885, 1889) laws of migration, Stouffer's (1940) superseding opportunity model, Lee's theory of migration (1966), and Todaro's analysis of rural-urban migration (Harris & Todaro, 1970; Todaro, 1969) has given their opinion on migrations.

### Sources of migration

Different forms of migration have been discovered by academics from various fields. Migration may be divided into numerous sorts according to factors such as geographic distance, length of stay, variations in political and cultural norms between two locations, as well as the origin and destination countries of the migrant. Migration may be internal or external if the area is the starting point. Internal migration is the movement of people from one location to another within a single nation, whereas international migration is the movement of people from one country to another (Spengler, 1976) <sup>[21]</sup>. Internal migration is the term used to describe population movement within a nation's boundaries. There are several causes for internal migration, including ones related to finances, marriages, social and cultural factors, education, health, a better quality of life, crime, and politics. For employment-related reasons, the country has a high rate of internal migration. Seasonal migration refers to population migrations that must last fewer than six months from one location to another. People prefer to relocate to cities for temporary jobs during the lean season, which is when this seasonal migration happens (Bhagat, 2010) <sup>[1]</sup>. These rural poor are forced to move by hunger and poverty.

### Effects of migration

Broadly speaking the effects of rural to urban migration steam can be classified in to 3 years.

- a) Economic effect - Rapid urbanization, natural calamities and changes in administrative boundaries.
- b) Demographic effect - Population, sex ratio and fertility rate.
- c) Social effect - Caste, religion, behaviour cultural efforts etc.
- d) Other Effects
- e) Problem of shortage of labour in agriculture
- f) Disappearance of rural artisans
- g) Increasing casual labour
- h) Fast growth of informal sector
- i) Low paid, unorganized territory sector employment
- j) Growth of slums

### Nature of migration

The rural migration Harris-Todaro model is essentially a two-sector model. Urban and rural sectors are the two. The manufacturing of manufactured products is a specialty of the urban sector whereas agriculture is a specialty of the rural sector. The model's fundamental premise is that rural to urban migration will continue as long as predicted urban real income

exceeds expected real wage rate in the agriculture sector. The model also makes the assumption that the rural labour market is completely stable. Even industrialised nations had to deal with rural migration when they were just getting started. For instance, migration from villages to small towns and from small towns to metropolis occurred in England in waves. Other developed nations in Europe had a similar predicament. The primary source of industrial labour for the developing industrial centres and towns was the migratory labour force from the villages and semi-towns (Nagashima, 2018) <sup>[18]</sup>.

### Present scenario of migration in India

People migrate the reasons of circulations of human population were mainly for religious and trade purposes. The exodus from Buddhism to Islam, which had expanded along the trade routes, began there for religious reasons. War and military reasons for migration also began as a major issue. In pursuit of cow pasture, people relocated. These practices are the main reasons for human migrations in the ancient period (Keshari & Bhagat, 2012) <sup>[10]</sup>. The Census of India distinguishes between two forms of migration: migration by place of birth and migration by place of last residency.

Migration can occur for a number of reasons, including marriage, job, and many more. According to, census 2001, 307 million people have found migrants by place of birth. Out of them about 259 million (84.2%), migrated from one part of the state to another. 42 million (2%) from outside the country. As per the data number of migrants has 314 million by last residence census in 2001. Out of these migrants 268 million (85%) are intra-state migrants. 41 million (13%) were inter-state migrants and 5.1 million (1.6%) migrated from outside of the country.

### Migration and Livelihood

The low-paying and unemployed condition in rural areas is a result of labour migration. These unskilled and illiterate labourers move to the cities and work in the unorganised sector, such as domestic work, construction, hotels, textile production, transportation, and services. Like employees in the formal sector, these rural residents do not receive any extra benefits. (Datta & Mishra, 2011) <sup>[6]</sup>. Due to their low agricultural output, outdated production methods, and reliance on the monsoon for agriculture, these rural residents are compelled to relocate to the adjacent cities where they are forced to work in the 3D industry. These rural residents are compelled to perform 3D hazardous occupations for their family, a better quality of life, or food (Das, 2015) <sup>[5]</sup>.

### Review of literature

Maharatna (2003) <sup>[16]</sup> aimed to look at the fertility patterns and changes in such patterns among the tribal community in West Bengal's eastern state. He emphasized the positive aspects of a certain sort of migration, specifically seasonal rural-rural mobility. This study has helped them understand better what is at fault behind the commonly alleged adverse consequences of seasonal migration across India migration, exact mechanisms through which rural mobility in general and seasonal migration in particular help bring about idealized and motivated changes towards smaller family and more conscious fertility regulation should come first in the agenda.

Chaudhuri (2001) <sup>[4]</sup> examined theoretically the impact of

emigration of skilled labour from developing countries on the level of welfare of the non-migrants and the level of urban unemployment of unskilled labour in a three sector Harris-Todaro model. This study suggested that in a reasonable production structure for a developing economy a brain drain of skilled labour raises urban unemployment of unskilled labour may raise the welfare of the non-migrants in a tariff distorted product or the labour-intensive good. However, if the economy imports the traditional manufacturing product, the welfare of the non-emigrating workers is likely to deteriorate.

Gill (1998) <sup>[9]</sup> examined the different theories of migration and discusses migration flows into India in the post-colonial period while, highlighting the problems of migration labour in the country. The author recommended various measures for improving the social and economic conditions of the migrants and points to the urgency of reexamining the emerging empirical reality of India.

Chatterjee (1998) <sup>[3]</sup> study was based on the traditional Harris-Todaro version of rural-urban migration of rural labour where the migrant labour risk is neutral. The intended migrant labour will enjoy higher utility if he finances his cost of migration from his own savings rather than taking loan from the professional money lender. In this model, the labourers of the urban formal sector are unorganized and charge entry fees on the outsiders. Here outsiders are the labourers who have come to the urban area from the nearby rural areas to have job in the urban formal sector. They all are seasonal migrants who migrate only in the agricultural slack season where they cannot

get jobs in the agricultural sector.

Premi and Mathur (1995) <sup>[20]</sup> in an analysis of migration to 147 Indian cities, generated six migration rates by considering lifetime and current migration of total males and females. By using multiple classification analysis wherein, the above six variables are treated as dependent variables and city size, growth rate, functional specialization of the city, its life as class I city, and regional location as predictor variables, they obtained the adjudicated R<sup>2</sup> from 35 per cent to 45 per cent. Among the above explanatory systems, however, contrary to his hypothesis city size and functional specialization appeared to be of no importance. Extending their analysis further, they took 54 predictor variables relating to the migration distance, along with rural urban origin, literacy rates of the lifetime migrants and migrant workers, levels of education among migrants, work participation rates by age, occupation of migrants, marital status, and broad age structure of the migrants and ratio of migrant workers to non-migrants' workers. Their main findings are: Migration to cities is strongly related with migrants from urban areas, long distance migrants affect all six dependent variables very well. For lifetime migration educational background is not very important. Work participation rate of males in the age group 15-29 had good correlation with in-migrants. Percentage of migrant workers in secondary sector has strong correlation with lifetime migrants but no relation with current migrants. The hypothesis that marriage as an important cause of internal migration of females is not proved by his study.

## Review of Some other Literature

Table 1

Study	Coverage	Data	Methodology	Findings
Deshingkar (2003) <sup>[7]</sup>	Andhra Pradesh	Primary Data	Regression Method	Rural uneducated migrate to nearby cities for their livelihood.
Srivastava (2011) <sup>[22]</sup>	India	Secondary data	Theoretical framework	Rural people as well as urban people migrate for better job opportunities.
Keshari & Bhagat (2012) <sup>[12]</sup>	India	Secondary data NSSO 64 <sup>th</sup> round data	Regression model	The poor and uneducated people migrate for their livelihood.
Mitra (2016) <sup>[17]</sup>	Odisha	Secondary data NSSO 64 <sup>th</sup> round data	Descriptive statistics	The poor and uneducated people migrate for their livelihood.
Korra (2010) <sup>[12]</sup>	Andhra Pradesh	Primary Data	Descriptive statistics & Regression Method	In the lean period people migrate to nearby cities for their basic requirements. MGNREGA programme is failure to provide employment to rural unskilled.
Zachariah <i>et.al</i> (2001) <sup>[25]</sup>	Kerala	Primary Data	Descriptive statistics & Regression Method	The poor and uneducated people migrate for their livelihood.
Datta and Mishra (2011) <sup>[6]</sup>	India	Secondary data NSSO 64 <sup>th</sup> round data	Descriptive statistics	Seasonal migration is the major source of earnings for the unskilled.
Das (2015) <sup>[5]</sup>	West Bengal	Primary Data	Regression Method	MGNREGA programme is failure to provide employment to rural unskilled. This may be a reason temporary migration.

## Research Questions of the Paper

After discussing the previous literature this study has concluded some research gap and framed the following research questions.

- a) Whether migration is impact on social change on the migrant?

## Objectives of the Study

The study discusses on the pattern, living and working condition at destinations of migrants.

## Methodology

This present paper is concerned the impacts of migration in

rural areas of India. For this study, this paper is based on exploratory in nature of the research with secondary sources of the collection materials that was acquired from published papers, articles, policy, programme and other sources.

### Discussion

From the review mentioned above of both theoretical literature and empirical studies, it is clear that the migration literature covers a wide range of issues. Particularly in India, different aspects of internal migration in the urban informal sector caused for their livelihood. However, the earlier studies identify causes and issues of seasonal migration for the upliftment of economic condition of rural people in India.

The living and working condition of the seasonal migrants and their families are very poor in the country. Rural people hardly depend upon the agriculture for their livelihood or this agricultural production is not enough to meet their livelihood. (Zachariah *et.al*, 2001) <sup>[25]</sup>. However, the previous literature unable to find why the livelihood needs of these migrants in conjunction with strengthening the informal sector in mainstreaming the migrant informal sector s also face lot of problem.

MGNREGA programme has introduced to give 100 days of work to rural mass uneducated and unskilled people. But due to failure of the programme these rural people are migrating to the other states. There is no such good performance of MGNREGA programme in India (Das, 2015) <sup>[5]</sup> but currently due to Corona epidemic, better direction is being found in it.

PDS food grain is not sufficient for rural people all over the months and there are other basic needs to be fulfilled. So, these rural and poor migrate to other states. There is no literature covering PDS food grain supply and food quality compared to migration (Datta, & Mishra, 2011) <sup>[6]</sup>.

The migration data shows that in the 1990s migration rate was reducing (Kundu, 2007) <sup>[14]</sup>. At the same time, National Sample Survey (NSS) and Census 1999- 2000 and 1992-93 explained migration has raised within ten years (Bhagat, 2010) <sup>[1]</sup>. The migration has risen in the service sector during the same time because of the labour shift from the agricultural sector to the manufacturing sector. Migration is a complicated issue in the field of economics studies. It is difficult to define, measure, and compared with monetary aspect. Fascinatingly, being a spatial happening, the major contribution in migration research has been done by geographers rather than by demographers. Economists have contributed significantly in migration research but with little economic view-points like wage-differentials, job opportunities, market, and working condition of migrants at the destination (Mitra, 2016) <sup>[17]</sup>. There are two types of migration on the basic their staying at destinations such as, permanent and semi-permanent. In between these two segments of migration temporary or seasonal migration a major task to define. Temporary migration generally defined less than six months (Taylor, 1987) <sup>[24]</sup>.

There is common motive of seasonal migrants are economic reasons. Although migration is the main factor of economic growth but there is no proper data base available to track the seasonal migration. The lack of job facilities pushes the peoples to search for a job or to migrate, whereas the jobs of the cities (both in informal and formal sectors) pull this rural person to migrate. This seasonal migration although helps the rural peoples to meet their basic need, but has a bad impact on the

social and cultural aspect of the society. Migration is not an easy process to earn money and it very difficult get a better job at the place of destination. The income of migrants is enough for their livelihood, or it is just hand to mouth, all the issues can better understand through some literature reviews (Srivastava, 2011) <sup>[22]</sup>.

Most of the people in India suffer from poverty, hunger and malnutrition. The poverty, hunger and malnutrition rate are very in rural India. The population of India is near about 120 crore (Census, 2011) <sup>[2]</sup> very high. Although India is full of Natural resources but still people die in hunger Most of Indian lives in rural area depending on the agricultural sector for their livelihood. The person from western region migrates more than the people from eastern or northern western regions (NSSO 64<sup>th</sup> round report). Near about 70 percent people depends upon the traditional agricultural production for their livelihood. Most of the people suffer from unemployment and poverty in rural area. Poor production method will increase migration process. Mainly the education rate is also very low in the rural area. This clearly indicates the poor quality of education and agricultural production procedure; lack of irrigation facilities forces these people to migrate to other states of the country. Mainly as the vicious circle of poverty theory explains poverty will lead to poverty. Lack of knowledge, ignorance, and illiteracy, lack of job opportunities, low wage rate, high price rice situation, changing climatic condition and insufficient agricultural production force these people to migrate for their day-to-day requirements. (Khanna, 2020) <sup>[11]</sup>. This force the rural people to struggle and seasonal migration search for their survival.

### Conclusion

As we discussed from ancient period to till present era migration is major source of fight for survival for rural illiterate and unskilled people. India, the world's second-most populous developing nation, is grappling with the issue of inflationary unemployment. These rural residents are mostly compelled to move to another state of the union by a lack of employment opportunities. India is one of the least developed countries in the world. The majority of the population there emigrates to other states, districts, and countries. Study outputs are important as they will contribute to the growing literature of temporary and permanent migration. This study will improve the understanding power of migration in India. This study will help to policy makers and government authority to take better decision for the betterment of the rural poor. Therefore, the study will help the policy makers to understand and improve policies and strategies necessary to reduce this problem. This will help to stock holders, researchers and policy makers in a great extent.

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