

HUMAN RESOURCES MIGRATION – FROM RURAL TO URBAN WORK SPHERES

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Abstract

- 1. Human Migration is a universal phenomenon.*
- 2. Migration is the movement of people from one locality to another and nowadays people involved in farming readily decide to migrate to urban areas and involve themselves in non-farm occupations. Lack of rural employment, fragmentation of land holdings, and failure of monsoon, occurrence of pests and diseases and lack of financial support to agriculture create crisis for rural farmers and for the farm labourers who depend on farm related activities for their lively hood.*
- 3. People in rural areas want to migrate to urban areas due to many push and pull factors. It is disheartening to note that farming has become a big question since many of the farmers and farm workers wanted to leave their villages and shift their occupation since agriculture has become a gamble. This trend is prevailing throughout the world. This paper will analyse the factors responsible for migration and suggest measures to reduce distress migration from rural areas.*

Migration Census Data Analysis

One important facets of study on population is the study of migration arising out of various social, economic or political reasons. For a large country like India, the study of movement of population in different parts of the country helps in understanding the dynamics of the society better. At this junction of the economic development, in India, especially when many states are undergoing faster economic development, particularly in sectors, such as manufacturing, information technology or service sectors, data on migration profile of population has become more important.

When a person is enumerated in census at a different place than his / her place of birth, she / he is considered a migrant. This may be due to marriage, which is the most common reason for migration among females - or for work, what is the case as generally among males. It also happens that many people return to their place of birth after staying out. To capture such movements of population, census collects information on migration which helps to understand the migration scenario better. In India, as per census 2001 (Refer Table 1), about 307 million people have been reported

as migrants with reference to place of birth. Out of them, about 259 million (84.2%), migrated from one part of the State to another, i.e., from one village or town to another village or town & 42 million (2%) have migrated from other countries. The data on migration by place of last residence in India as per Census 2001 (Refer Table 2),

shows that the total number of migrants has been 314 million. Out of these migrants, 268 million (85%) have been intra-state migrants, those who migrated from one area of the State to another. 41 million (13%) were interstate migrants and 5.1 million (1.6%) migrated from other countries.

Table: 1. Number Of Migrants By Place Of Birth – India 2001

	Category	Migrations by Place of birth	Percentage
A.	Total Population	1,028,610,328	
B.	Total Migrations	307,149,736	29.9
B.1	Migrants within the state of enumeration	258,641,103	84.2
B.11	Migrants from within the districts	181,799,637	70.3
B.12	Migrants from other districts of the state	76,841,466	29.7
B.2	Migrants from other states in India	42,341,703	13.8
B.3	Migrants from other countries	6,166,930	2.0

Source: Table D1 India, Census of India 2001.

Table : 2. Number Of Migrants By Place Of Last Residence – India 2001

	Category	Migrations by Place of birth	Percentage
A.	Total Population	1,028,610,328	
B.	Total Migrations	314,541,350	30.6
B.1	Migrants within the state of enumeration	268,219,260	85.3
B.11	Migrants from within the districts	193,592,938	72.2
B.12	Migrants from other districts of the state	74,626,322	17.8
B.2	Migrants from other states in India	41,166,265	13.1
B.3	Migrants from other countries	5,155,423	1.6

Source: Table D1 India, Census of India 2001.

Opportunities in urban areas for employment, education, etc have been a pull factor attracting migrants from rural

to urban areas and from smaller towns and cities to larger urban areas. There is also migration in the opposite direction

from urban to rural areas due to various reasons. The migration during the last decade, i.e., migrants with duration of

residence of 0-9 years at the place of enumeration, by various migration streams are summarized in Table 3:

TABLE: 3. NUMBER OF INTRA-STATE AND INTER-STATE MIGRANTS IN THE COUNTRY (DURATION OF RESIDENCE 0-9 YEARS) BY RURAL URBAN STATUS – INDIA 2001

Rural Urban status of place of last residence	Rural unban status of place of enumeration		
	Total	Rural	Urban
Total	97,560,320	61,428,374	36,131,946
Rural	73,949,607	53,354,376	20,595,231
Urban	20,655,277	6,266,503	14,388,774
Unclassified	2,955,436	1,807,495	1,147,941
Source : Table D-2, Census of India 2001			

Out of about 98 million, total intra-State and inter-state migrants in the country during last decade, 61 million have moved to rural areas and 36 million to urban areas. Migration stream out of rural areas (73 million) to another rural areas was quite high (53million) in comparison to from rural to urban areas (20 million). About 6 million migrants went to rural areas from urban areas. On the basis of net migrants by last residence during the past decade, i.e., the difference between in – migration and out – migration, in each state, Maharashtra stands at the top of the list with 2.3 million net migrants, followed

by Delhi (1.7 million), Gujarat (0.68 million) and Haryana (0.67 million) as per census. Uttar Pradesh (-2.6 million) and Bihar (-1.7 million) were the two states with largest number of net migrants migrating out of the state.

There are various reasons for migration as per information collected in Census 2001 (Refer Table 4) for migration by last residence. Most of the female migrants have cited ‘Marriage’ as the reason for migration, especially when the migration is within the state. For males, the major reasons for migration are ‘work/employment’ and ‘education’.

Table: 4 Reasons For Migration Of Migrants By Last Residence with duration (0-9 Years) India 2001

Reason for migrations	Number of Migrants			Percentage to Migrants		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Total migrants	98,301,342	32,896,986	65,404,356	100.0	100.0	100.0
Work / Employment	14,446,224	12,373,333	2,072,891	14.7	37.6	3.2
Business	1,136,372	950,245	186,127	1.2	2.9	0.3
Education	2,915,189	2,038,675	876,514	3.0	6.2	1.3
Marriage	43,100,911	679,852	42,421,059	43.8	2.1	64.9
Moved after birth	6,577,380	3,428,673	3,148,707	6.7	10.4	4.8
Moved with households	20,608,105	8,262,143	12,345,962	21.0	25.1	18.9
Other	9,517,161	5,164,065	4,353,096	9.7	15.7	6.7
Source: Table D3, Census of India 2001						

Types of migration

There are five types as listed below:

1. Rural to Urban,
2. Urban to Rural,
3. Rural to Rural,
4. Urban to Urban,
5. International migration.

Measures to arrest Migration from Rural areas

1. Government welfare schemes must be made known to everyone so that people in the rural areas will avail and enjoy the benefit.
2. Government alone cannot cover the entire villages and hence NGOs are to be involved. Private

companies, public enterprises, corporates should get involved and create rural job opportunities in the village itself.

3. Encouragement of rural entrepreneurs is a must and training programmes should be made available to the women, and youth so that they will be motivated.
4. Credit facilities should be made available to the rural people.
5. Off time employment should be made available in the villages.
6. Rural migration is mainly due to low wages and hence jobs with payment of higher salary should be made available in villages.

7. Natural calamities play a vital role in migration and hence flood control measures and drought relief measures should have to be planned well in advance.
8. Training on agro rural retailing has to be given to the youth of rural areas.
9. Improvement of infrastructure by providing medical, school and recreational facilities should be planned.
10. Technical and financial support should be given to rural people to enable them to live in their villages and not to leave their villages.

Conclusion

The main threat in India and world over is migration which disturbs the balance between rural and urban life. Urban areas are not able to accommodate the migrated population and hence lot of diseases affect the migrated population. Moreover the migrated people are not getting the mental satisfaction since they are not involved in the work. Since the work is new and mostly of the migrants are exploited with more hours of work which cause them frustration. To lead India in right direction all villagers should be empowered to lead a standard life in their own villages.

About the Author

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