

Research Article

# An Enquiry into the Nature and Problems of Migration in India: A Critical Look

<sup>1</sup>Mahibul Islam, <sup>2</sup>Dr. Subrata Saha

<sup>1,2</sup>Department of Economics, Raiganj University, West Bengal, India.

Received Date: 20 February 2024

Revised Date: 01 March 2024

Accepted Date: 08 March 2024

Published Date: 28 March 2024

**Abstract:** Migration has been an integral part of human history, driven by the need to adapt to social, economic, cultural, and ecological environments. This restless movement of people from one place to another is a universal phenomenon. Migration is often a response to disparities in regional development. People may move seeking access to a better standard of living, financial freedom, to resources that are lacking in their place of origin. Migration is typically explained by push and pull factors. Push factors compel individuals to leave their place of origin, such as poverty, conflict, or lack of opportunities. In contrast, pull factors attract them to new destinations, such as job opportunities, better living standards, or education. For landless and marginal farmers, migration may be the only viable option to earn a sustainable livelihood. Moving to urban areas or other regions with greater economic opportunities allows them to support themselves and their families. According to the census of India in 2001, there were approximately 315 million migrants in the country based on Place of Last Residence (PLR) and 307 million migrants based on birthplace. The migration rate(per 1000 population) in rural areas showed an increase from 21% in 1983 to 24.4% in 1999-2000. Several factors drive migration, including urbanization, marriage, employment opportunities, and educational pursuits, lack of security, and push-pull factors that influence individuals' decisions to move. Migration can have various consequences, both positive and negative. It may contribute to urbanization, economic growth, cultural exchange, and social development. However, it can also lead to challenges such as strain on urban infrastructure, social tensions, and the displacement of communities.

**Keywords:** Education, Pull Factor, Push Factor, Urbanization, Employment.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Human migration has been a constant throughout history, stemming from the need to adapt to various social, economic, cultural, and ecological factors. From the earliest primitive societies to modern times, migration has been integral to human existence. In the most primitive societies, migration was a fundamental mode of existence. People moved from one place to another in search of basic necessities such as food, water, and shelter. This nomadic lifestyle was driven by the need to survive and secure livelihoods in changing environments. Over time, humans aimed for a more stable and stationary life, seeking security and development. Settlements emerged as populations grew, leading to the establishment of villages, towns, and eventually cities. Agriculture and animal husbandry allowed for more predictable food sources, reducing the need for constant migration. As populations increased and labour became specialized, societies transitioned into feudal and capitalist systems. The division of labour and the emergence of complex distribution systems led to the formation of social classes, including unproductive individuals who relied on the labour of others for sustenance. In feudal and capitalist societies, migration continued to play a significant role, albeit in different forms. While some migrated in search of better opportunities or to escape poverty, others were forced to migrate due to political, economic, or social factors such as colonization, industrialization, or conflict.

Feudal societies are characterized by agriculture as the primary economic activity, with localized production and consumption patterns. Barter trade is common, and social relations of production play a significant role in shaping economic interactions. Migration in feudal societies is constrained by the existing social structures and relations of production. While some movement of people occurs, it is typically limited and less visible compared to primitive societies. In contrast, primitive societies may exhibit larger-scale production, industrialization, and concentration of economic activities. This can result in greater employment opportunities and mobility for individuals within these societies. Urban areas tend to concentrate on economic activities and capital, leading to increased demand for labour. However, this demand may not always be met by the natural increase in the urban population, necessitating migration from rural to urban areas. Migration serves as an equilibrating mechanism in different stages of development, helping to balance labour supply and demand across regions and sectors of the economy. It addresses imbalances created by capital concentration and economic disparities.



Human migration can indeed be described as a universal phenomenon occurring in various forms and scales across different societies and historical periods. It reflects the adaptive nature of humans in response to changing social, economic, and environmental conditions.

**A) Objectives of the Study:**

The objectives of the study are quite general. In the first place, an attempt has been made to explain the nature and patterns of migration in India. Its pattern has also been evaluated. The objective of the study is to examine the reasons and consequences of migration in India.

**B) The Layout of the Study:**

This paper is divided into six parts. The first section deals with a basic overview of migration in India. Section II covers an existing literature review, Section III deals with methodology, Section IV explains migration in India, Section V discusses trends of migration in India, Section VI identify the causes of migration and consequences, and Section VII demonstrates that conclusion suggestions and references are stated in Section VIII.

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Bharali (2020) in his study, tries to analyze the issues of migration from historical origin to contemporary times and to examine the structural and institutional failures towards resolving the crisis in Assam to date. The historical and qualitative study is based on secondary data, and those have been collected from books, magazines, articles, journals, commentaries, etc(Bharali, 2020).

Thapa and Yadav (2015), in their study, try to examine the definitional and conceptual differences of migration, the magnitude of out-migration and the characteristics of migrants in examining the different factors causing people to migrate from rural to urban areas. The study is based on secondary data which is collected from the Census of India and NSSO. The study finds that migration has a positive relation with monthly per capita expenditure but the short time migration differs sharply as per its characteristics (Thapa & Yadav, 2015).

Mitra and Murayama (2008) on their study attempt to study the district-level rural-to-urban migration rates, including both intra-state and inter-state separately as per gender. The study is based on the secondary data. The data are collected mainly from the various rounds of the Population Census of India (1991-2001). The study finds that the intra-state migration rates are substantially larger than the inter-state migration rates. The male and female migration rates are closely inter-connected since it is observed from most of the micro surveys that females generally migrate as a companion to males (Mitra & Murayama, 2008).

Lewis (1954) establishes that migration functions as a balancing mechanism, prompting the movement of labour from sectors with an excess of labour to sectors experiencing a shortage, ultimately equalizing the two. The foundation of his investigation lies in the concept of a dual economy, comprising a subsistence agricultural sector characterized by a significant prevalence of disguised and underemployment and a modern industrial sector with abundant employment opportunities, where capitalists reinvest their entire profits. According to Lewis's theory, the phenomenon of rural-urban migration is a consequence of geographic variations in labour supply and demand. This migration is made feasible by several underlying assumptions, including wage differentials between rural and urban areas, the existence of a surplus labour pool in agriculture, complete unemployment, negligible transfer costs, and the reinvestment of profits from urban enterprises into production. Consequently, Lewis's study perceives the migration of rural workers to urban regions as a pivotal catalyst for capital formation and the advancement of industrialization (Lewis, 1954, pp. 139-191).

Gupta (1961) demonstrates that the inclination to migrate is inversely related to one's family status. In his research, he reveals that individuals with higher education levels and belonging to families with limited or no agricultural land exhibit a higher likelihood of migration. Additionally, Gupta observes that as the socioeconomic status of a family increases, the inclination of its members to migrate from the village decreases (Gupta, 1961).

Shaw (1974) examines rural-urban migration and its relationship to the structure of land tenure in certain countries. His research reveals that in regions where a significant portion of the rural-urban population consists of small landowners and landless workers and where a substantial proportion of agricultural land is owned by large landlords, a high population growth rate is a key factor contributing to and intensifying rural out-migration (Shaw, 1974).

Majumdar and Majumdar (1978) conducted a study focusing on the factors influencing rural-urban migration. Their research identifies several key motivations for individuals to migrate from rural to urban areas. These include the availability of increasing employment opportunities in the growing city, encouragement from close relatives already residing in the city, employment offers extended by labour contractors operating in the city, experiences of social injustice faced by marginalized

groups in the rural area, and the anticipation of a better quality of life in the urban environment. These factors are found to be the primary driving forces behind rural-urban migration (Majumdar P.S, 1978).

Banerjee (1986) points out that the reasons given by migrants for their migration do not align with the prevailing belief that push factors are the main drivers of rural-urban migration. He affirms that two notable reasons were obtaining money or paying debts, aversion to agricultural work or the desire for different jobs. There is some evidence that the motive for the cash was largely for life cycle ceremony spending. As prevailing social values and attitudes are, to a greater extent, responsible for rural residents being profligate in ceremonial spending, migration for this reason can be reduced through a social education programme. Furthermore, he argues that the aversion to agricultural work was reported mainly by immigrants who had studied beyond the middle school level. He concludes that unless the curriculum is changed, the expansion of education is likely to increase migration (Banerjee, 1986).

Bhende&Kanitkar (2019), migration refers to the process of individuals relocating from one location to another, either within the same country or to a different country altogether. The United Nations Multilingual Demographic Dictionary defines migration as a type of geographical or spatial mobility involving a change in residence, wherein individuals move from their original or departing place to a new destination or arrival place (Bhende, 2019).

Sinha and Zacharia (2005) define migration as the act of relocating or shifting one's residence from one location or settlement to another, which encompasses movement across administrative borders such as a village, district, state, or even a nation. This definition emphasizes that migration involves intentional and non-casual movements with the purpose of establishing a new place of residence (Sinha, 2005).

### **III. METHODOLOGY**

It is precisely a macro time series study. It does not involve any kind of microdata or statistical technique. It elicits data from secondary sources. The sources are mainly the census of India (1971,1981,1991, 2001) and NSSO, various rounds. The method used for the present study is the Quantitative method. A descriptive method has been applied to analysis the secondary data. The secondary data on migration in India has been collected from different volumes of census of India.

### **IV. MIGRATION IN INDIA**

The migration has significantly affected the traditional social and economic structures of rural communities in India. It suggests that livelihood activities in rural areas are evolving beyond farming due to rural-town and international migration. The lack of employment opportunities in rural areas and the allure of improved livelihood opportunities in urban areas are cited as primary motivations for migration. This is attributed to sluggish agricultural growth and limited development of the rural non-agricultural sector, leading to rural poverty, unemployment, and underemployment. Migration patterns are often explained using the concepts of "push and pull factors." Push factors such as poverty, job scarcity, and family influence drive people out of rural areas. At the same time, pull factors such as better employment opportunities and educational facilities attract them to urban areas. Poverty is identified as a significant push factor for both illiterate and moderately educated migrants from rural areas. It implies that economic hardship is a major driver of migration among rural populations.

In its 64th round survey, which covered a random sample of 5,72,254 people and included 79,091 rural and 46,487 urban households spread across 7921 villages and 4688 urban blocks across the nation, the National Sample Survey Office revealed some noteworthy trends in India's rural migration. The survey was conducted from July 2007 to June 2008. The survey covered a large random sample of individuals, rural and urban households, and villages and urban blocks across the country, providing a comprehensive understanding of migration patterns. Migration is portrayed as both desirable and distressing for development. While migration is essential for economic development, it also leads to overcrowding in cities and the proliferation of slums. States with higher levels of investment and resources for development experience significant in-migration.

Conversely, economically backward states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Madhya Pradesh experience heavy out-migration. A large proportion of rural migrants (67% of households) moved for employment-related reasons. The rural poor, particularly from lower-class and backward communities migrate to distant locations in search of employment opportunities, often taking up low-paying jobs in construction projects, commercial complexes, etc. Loss of job opportunities in agriculture is identified as a primary driver of rural out-migration. This highlights the significance of the agriculture sector in less developed economies and the challenges it faces in providing sustainable livelihoods. There is a need for balanced regional development to address the disparities in migration patterns and ensure equitable opportunities across different areas.

In this context, it should be noted that between 1995 and 2009, 240,000 indebted farmers committed suicide, which explains the agricultural crisis. To strengthen agriculture, the rate of migration from rural areas to cities needs to be reduced rapidly. Thus, on-farm and off-farm rural employment is necessary to combat rural poverty and ensure adequate livelihoods for

the families of small and landless agricultural labourers. A sustainable food security bill requires high growth in agriculture. Employment opportunities in rural areas should be strengthened to support agriculture and agro-based industries. For long, rural India has been in the limelight of policymakers as 10.1% of its workforce is unemployed compared to 7.3% in urban areas. Agriculture (52%), followed by construction (7.2%), manufacturing (6.7%) and utility services (6.3%) continued to dominate rural areas. While there is a case for strengthening well-designed schemes that guarantee minimum employment, they can be constructive solutions at best. Skill development of rural manpower to meet the needs of manufacturing and service industries will have lasting results. Agriculture is the most valuable component of rural development.

Farmers account for about 10% of total export earnings and supply raw materials to many industries. Indian agriculture employs 52% of the labour force and accounts for 14% of the country's gross domestic product. One of the most valuable factors in agricultural employment is maintaining high growth rates. India's population grew by 1.9% between 1990 and 2007, while food production grew by 1.2%. Indian agriculture is the mainstay of the economy, and it is important to make it more productive so that more jobs are created. The main problem of slow growth in agriculture is the productivity of several crops. India has several opportunities to increase agricultural productivity, double crop yields and farm incomes, and provide significant growth in agricultural labour demand; as a result of increased productivity, income in rural areas increases, which has a multiplier effect on other related sectors. Production of valuable crops is another way of increasing income in agriculture. In recent years, demand for value products such as fruits, vegetables, milk, meat, poultry and fish has been growing faster than food grains and their demand is expected to increase by more than 100% in the next 20 years. Growing demand for farm and non-farm goods and services will spur rapid growth of employment opportunities in other sectors. In order to create employment in rural areas, emphasis should be placed on the main economic and non-economic sectors.

Migration is the only means of livelihood for landless and marginal farmers against endless debt. Lack of rural livelihood opportunities and a push factor resulting from debt and crop losses pull factors such as withdrawal of livelihoods in lean times. However, migration pays enough to tide over short-term hardship and does not contribute to capital accumulation. The migration phenomenon is believed to have its roots in the drought of the 1960s. Today, thousands of people leave their villages every year across the region in search of food and work. Most workers are paid a minimum daily wage. The driving force behind migration is the acquisition of land, labour and goods. While immigrants and their families may benefit individually, these individual benefits come at the cost of net losses in both rural and urban areas, and social welfare declines due to population growth and urban population growth, regional destination, and greater regional concentration. Wealth, income and human capital.

Since agriculture and related cottage industries have traditionally been the only major occupation, rural areas have not been able to accommodate the growing population. 57% of urban migrant households migrated from rural areas, while 29% of rural migrant households migrated from urban areas.

For most of its history, the land believed to have been reclaimed from the sea by the legendary Parasuram on India's southwest coast, Kerala, was seen by its inhabitants as too good a place to venture out in search of a better way and opportunity. Living conditions outside the border were not very favourable and poor people living nearby from neighbouring states, especially Tamil Nadu, migrated to Kerala for one reason or another until the fourth decade of the twentieth century. Until the 1940s, Kerala gained more people from neighbouring states than it lost through migration.

Unlike Madras (Madras Presidency), the state (Travancore-Cochin) was consistently an area of immigration, with net migration increasing from 10,000 to 67,000 over 30 years (1901-31). Although never very significant in terms of volume, the

**Table 1: Trend in Total Migrants in India: 1971-2001**

Year	Person (In Million)	Male (In Million)	Female (In Million)	Percentage of Total Population
1971	167.8	53.9	113.9	30.6
1981	207.7	62.5	145.2	30.4
1991	232.1	64.3	167.8	27.4
2001	314.5	93.4	314.5	30.6

*Source: Census of India*

Migration flow to Travancore-Cochin has some peculiarities. First, the United Kingdom gained from Madras; Second, there were more women than men among the immigrants in each decade; Third, regardless of direction, the movement continued at an accelerating pace for 30 years. Compared to Madras, Travancore-Cochin's population density and higher rate of population growth did not prevent migration. In many social and demographic aspects, Travancore-Cochin is characterized as an out-migration region. However, its proximity to a high-immigration state and the hospitality extended to immigrants by its rulers made it an in-migration region. The tea and rubber estates of Travancore-Cochin were a source of employment for many Tamilians in Madras who were particularly skilled in plantation work (Zacharia 1964: 208-209).

## V. TRENDS IN MIGRATION IN INDIA

The migration trends in India based on data from the 2001 Census:

According to the Census of India 2001, there were approximately 315 million migrants in the country based on place of last residence (PLR) and 307 million migrants based on birthplace. This constitutes roughly 30% of the total population of the country. The number of migrants in India increased by one-third compared to the census of 1991. This indicates a significant rise in internal migration within the country over the decade. Despite the increase in the number of migrants, the proportion of migrants to the total population of the country has largely remained constant since 1971. There was a decline in the proportion of migrants to 27.4% in 1991, but it resurfaced to 1971 levels by 2001.

The estimates of migration provided by the NSSO are lower than those from the census. This difference can be attributed to definitional discrepancies and sampling issues, which may have resulted in some migrant households being missed out. According to estimates from the NSSO's 55th round conducted during 1999-2000, approximately 245 million people were reported as migrants. These estimates reflect a significant volume of internal migration within the country during that period. The migration rate, defined as the percentage of migrants per 1000 population, showed an increase from 21% in the 38th round conducted in 1983 to 24.4% in the 55th round for rural areas.

Similarly, the urban migration rate increased from 31.6% to 33.4% over the same period. There are notable gender disparities in migration rates. The migration rate among males is nearly 7% in rural areas compared to about 26% in urban areas. This suggests that migration is more prevalent among males, especially in urban areas.

**Table 2: Migration Rates by Categories, 1983-2000**

Year	Urban			Rural		
	Male (Percentage)	Female (Percentage)	Persons (Percentage)	Male (Percentage)	Female (Percentage)	Person (Percentage)
1983	27.0	36.6	31.6	7.2	35.1	20.9
1987- 1988	26.8	39.6	32.9	7.4	39.8	23.2
1993	23.9	38.2	30.7	6.5	40.1	22.8
1999- 2000	25.7	41.8	33.4	6.9	42.6	24.4

*Source: National Sample Survey,*

Various Rounds: In fact, the data furnished from sources like NSSO and the census clearly reveal that migrants have changed over time.

## IV. REASONS FOR MIGRATION

*The reasons for migration are as follows:*

### A) Education:

#### a. Lack of Educational Facilities in Rural Areas:

Rural areas often face challenges in providing adequate educational facilities, including schools, colleges, and other educational resources. This lack of infrastructure may limit educational opportunities for residents, prompting them to seek education elsewhere.

#### b. Migration for Higher Education:

Individuals from rural areas migrate to urban areas to access higher education opportunities available in cities. Urban areas typically have a greater concentration of educational institutions, including universities, colleges, and vocational training centers, offering a wider range of courses and programs..

#### c. Settlement in Urban Areas:

After completing their education, many individuals choose to settle down in urban areas rather than returning to their rural hometowns. This decision may be influenced by factors such as better job prospects, higher earning potential, access to amenities and services, and a desire for a more urban lifestyle.

#### d. Livelihood in Urban Areas:

Urban areas offer a diverse range of employment opportunities across various sectors, including manufacturing, services, commerce, and technology. Individuals migrating from rural areas often find employment in these sectors, contributing to the urban workforce and economy

### B) Urbanization:

Urbanization is the main driver of internal migration. The pace of urbanization affects the rural-urban wage differential. Increased labour demand in cities can attract urban wages and increase immigration. Lack of jobs, low wages,

low income, drought, lack of medical care and education force people to move to cities. It is also true to say that good jobs, good wages, higher income, and medical and educational facilities attract rural people to migrate to cities (Kundu, 2012).

**a. Urbanization as a Driver of Migration:**

Urbanization, the process of population concentration in urban areas, is identified as a major driver of internal migration. The growth and development of urban areas create opportunities for employment, education, healthcare, and other amenities that attract migrants from rural areas.

**b. Impact on Rural-Urban Wage Differences:**

Rates of urbanization influence wage differentials between rural and urban areas. As urbanization progresses and the demand for labour in urban areas increases, urban wages may rise relative to rural wages, creating an incentive for migration from rural to urban areas.

**c. Push Factors for Migration:**

Several push factors compel people to migrate from rural to urban areas. These factors include the lack of job opportunities, low salaries, limited income opportunities, environmental factors such as drought, and inadequate access to essential services such as healthcare and education in rural areas.

**Pull Factors for Migration:** Conversely, urban areas offer pull factors that attract rural migrants. These include better job opportunities, higher salaries, increased income potential, improved access to healthcare and educational facilities, and overall better quality of life compared to rural areas.

**d. Balancing Push and Pull Factors:**

The interplay between push and pull factors shapes migration patterns. While push factors may drive individuals away from rural areas, pull factors in urban areas entice them to migrate, seeking better opportunities and a higher standard of living.

**C) Marriage:**

Another significant social determinant in migration is marriage. Every female is required to visit her in-laws' home. As a result, all of India's female population must relocate, either locally or nationally. In 2011, approximately 49.35 percent of people moved after getting married.

**a. Marriage as a Migration Driver:**

Marriage serves as a significant driver of migration in India, particularly for women. Upon marriage, it is customary for the bride to move to her husband's place of residence, commonly referred to as her in-law's place. This migration may involve relocating over short or long distances, depending on the specific circumstances and arrangements.

**b. Extent of Marriage-Related Migration:**

The mention that a substantial portion of the population, approximately 49.35%, shifted their residence after marriage in 2011. This statistic highlights the widespread impact of marriage-related migration on the population dynamics in India.

**c. Gender Disparity:**

While marriage-related migration affects both men and women, it disproportionately impacts women due to traditional cultural norms and practices. In many societies, including India, the expectation for women to relocate to their husband's place of residence is deeply ingrained, contributing to higher rates of female migration for marriage compared to male migration.

**D) Employment:**

People migrate from rural to urban areas in search of work in industry, trade, transport and service sectors. It cannot provide employment opportunities for all those living in rural areas. Even small and cottage industries in villages are unable to provide employment to the entire rural community.

**a. Migration for Employment:**

Many people migrate from rural to urban areas, seeking employment opportunities in various sectors such as industries, trade, transport, and services. Urban areas typically offer a wider range of job options and higher wages compared to rural areas, attracting migrants in search of better livelihoods.

**b. Limited Employment Opportunities in Rural Areas:**

The passage emphasizes that rural areas often face challenges in providing sufficient employment opportunities to their residents. This could be due to factors such as limited economic activities, underdeveloped infrastructure, and a lack of investment in rural industries.

**c. Shortcomings of Rural Industries:**

Even the small-scale and cottage industries in rural areas may not be able to absorb the entire rural workforce due to their limited scale and capacity. As a result, many rural residents, especially those seeking better employment prospects, may opt to migrate to urban areas where opportunities are perceived to be greater.

i) Lack of Security:

Political unrest, ethnic conflicts, communal riots, and theft are driving people to move from their own place to another. People may migrate even for short periods in search of better opportunities for recreation, health facilities, social security, etc.

ii) Pull and Push Factors:

1. Push Factors:

Push factors are conditions in the area of origin that drive people to migrate. These include poverty, lack of work opportunities, unemployment, underdevelopment, poor economic conditions, limited opportunities, exhaustion of natural resources, natural calamities, scarcity of cultivated land, inequitable land distribution, and low agricultural productivity. These factors compel individuals to seek better opportunities elsewhere.

2. Pull Factors:

Pull factors are conditions in the destination area that attract migrants. These include employment and higher education opportunities, higher wages, better working conditions, and improved facilities. Cities like Kolkata, Mumbai, and Delhi attract millions of people from rural areas due to these pull factors.

**d. Consequences of Migration**

The migration from rural to urban areas leads to various consequences, including appalling living conditions such as slums, lack of safe water, absence of sanitation, overcrowding, increased crime rates, insecurity for women, sexual abuse, and exposure to epidemics and diseases like AIDS. These challenges arise due to the rapid influx of migrants into urban areas, often overwhelming existing infrastructure and services.

The consequences of migration can be defined as follows:

i) Economic Consequences:

The ratio of resource population is altered by migration. The resource-population ratio may balance out if people relocate from an area that is overpopulated to one that is less populated. The outcomes seem to be detrimental to both places if migration takes place from a less populous area to an overpopulated or optimally populated area.

ii) Social Consequences:

Migration causes different civilizations to blend and evolve into composite cultures. It expands people's minds and breaks through their constrained thought patterns.

iii) Demographic Consequences:

Population features are altered by migration in the two distinct out-migration and in-migration zones. It modifies the population's age and sex composition as well as its growth rate.

iv) Other Consequences:

Migration enhances remittances to the source region but may cause heavy loss to human resources in terms of skilled labour, technology, etc.

**VII. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS**

Migration is defined as the movement of people from one place to another. The reasons for migration include the search for employment, better educational opportunities, and access to healthcare, among others. Male migration is identified as the dominant form of migration in India, primarily driven by employment opportunities. Females often migrate as accompanists of males, typically after marriage or due to family transfers. Factors such as small landholding, low income, low living standards, and limited agricultural productivity are identified as push factors that compel people to migrate from rural to urban areas. Urban areas offer a diversified economy and urbanization, which provide numerous job opportunities. While urban areas offer economic opportunities, overcrowding in cities leads to environmental problems such as land, water, and air pollution, as well as the overutilization of resources. To address the challenges associated with rural-to-urban migration, there is a call for rural development initiatives. These initiatives should focus on providing employment opportunities, basic amenities (e.g., roads, electricity, safe drinking water, healthcare facilities), and job opportunities in business and service sectors in rural areas.

Overall, highlights the complex interplay between migration, urbanization, and rural development, underscoring the importance of addressing the root causes of migration through comprehensive development strategies aimed at improving livelihoods and opportunities in rural areas. Some Suggestions are given below:

***A) To Address Socioeconomic Challenges and Improve Living Conditions Development Strategies In Backward Areas can be Adopted:***

Here's a closer look at the suggested strategies:

**a. Sustainable Livelihood Opportunities:**

Developing sustainable livelihood opportunities is crucial for promoting economic growth and reducing poverty in backward areas. This could involve initiatives such as promoting agriculture and allied activities, supporting small-scale industries and entrepreneurship, and investing in renewable energy projects. By creating diverse and sustainable sources of income, communities in backward areas can improve their livelihoods and reduce their dependence on migration.

**b. Food Security Programs:**

Implementing food security programs is essential for ensuring access to adequate and nutritious food for residents of backward areas. This may include initiatives such as subsidized food distribution, nutritional supplementation programs, support for agricultural production, and improving access to markets and storage facilities. Ensuring food security helps alleviate hunger and malnutrition, improving overall health outcomes and productivity.

**c. Access to Credit:**

Facilitating access to credit is critical for empowering individuals and communities in backward areas to invest in income-generating activities and entrepreneurship. This could involve establishing microfinance institutions, providing loans at affordable interest rates, and offering financial literacy training to promote responsible borrowing and financial management. Access to credit enables individuals to start or expand businesses, invest in education and healthcare, and build assets, contributing to economic growth and poverty reduction.

***B) To Enable Safe and Secure Transfer of Remittances, Banking Facilities should be provided to the Migrants***

Providing banking facilities for migrants is crucial for enabling safe and secure transfer of remittances, which are funds sent by migrants to their families or communities in their countries of origin. Here's why this is important:

**a. Safety and Security:**

Formal banking channels offer a secure way to transfer money, reducing the risk of theft or loss associated with carrying cash or using informal remittance channels. By facilitating remittance transfers through banks, migrants and their families can have peace of mind knowing that their money is safe and protected.

**b. Convenience and Accessibility:**

Access to banking facilities makes it easier for migrants to send money to their families, even if they are located in remote or rural areas. Banks often have a wider network of branches and ATMs, making it more convenient for both senders and recipients to access their funds.

**c. Lower Costs:**

Banks typically offer competitive exchange rates and lower transaction fees compared to informal remittance channels, helping to maximize the value of remittances sent by migrants. This can have a significant impact on the financial well-being of migrant families, especially in low-income households.

**d. Financial Inclusion:**

Providing banking facilities to migrants promotes financial inclusion by allowing them to access a range of financial services beyond remittance transfers, such as savings accounts, loans, and insurance. This can help migrants build financial resilience and improve their overall financial stability.

**e. Data Tracking and Monitoring:**

Formal banking channels enable better tracking and monitoring of remittance flows, providing valuable data for policymakers and development agencies to understand migration patterns and their impact on local economies. This information can inform evidence-based policies and programs aimed at supporting migrants and their families.

Overall, providing banking facilities for migrants is essential for promoting financial inclusion, enhancing the safety and efficiency of remittance transfers, and supporting the economic well-being of migrant communities and their families.



**C) Special outreach strategies should be designed for migrants within public services and government programmes**

Designing special outreach strategies for migrants within public services and government programs is essential to ensure that migrants have equitable access to essential services and support.

Here are some key considerations for designing such strategies:

**a. Cultural Sensitivity:**

Recognize and respect the cultural diversity among migrant communities. Develop outreach materials and programs that are culturally sensitive and inclusive, taking into account the languages, customs, and traditions of different migrant groups.

**b. Community Engagement:**

Engage with migrant communities directly to understand their needs, preferences, and challenges. Establish community-based organizations or migrant support networks to facilitate communication and collaboration between migrants and service providers.

**c. Information Dissemination:**

Use multiple channels to disseminate information about available services and programs to migrants, including social media, community radio, migrant-specific publications, and outreach events. Provide information in multiple languages to ensure accessibility for diverse migrant groups.

**d. Mobile Outreach Services:**

Implement mobile outreach services to reach migrants who may be living in remote or transient locations. Mobile clinics, legal aid services, and government service vans can travel to migrant settlements, construction sites, and agricultural areas to provide on-site support.

**e. Peer Support Programs:**

Establish peer support programs where experienced migrants act as mentors or community leaders to provide guidance and assistance to newly arrived migrants. Peer support can help bridge cultural and linguistic barriers and build trust within migrant communities.

**f. Capacity Building:**

Provide training and capacity-building programs for frontline service providers to enhance their cultural competence and sensitivity when working with migrant populations. Offer language training, cultural awareness workshops, and intercultural communication skills development.

**g. Legal Assistance:**

Offer legal assistance and advocacy services to migrants to address issues such as immigration status, labour rights, housing rights, and access to healthcare. Provide information on migrant rights and avenues for legal recourse in case of exploitation or discrimination.

**h. Partnerships and Collaboration:**

Forge partnerships with civil society organizations, migrant associations, international agencies, and private sector stakeholders to leverage resources and expertise in supporting migrants. Collaborate on joint outreach campaigns, service delivery initiatives, and advocacy efforts.

By implementing these strategies, public services and government programs can better reach and serve migrant populations, ensuring that migrants have equal access to essential services, protection, and opportunities for socioeconomic integration.

- i) Policies should be adapted to increase financial and human resources in migration-prone areas
- ii) It is important to take care of universal national minimum social security packages, such as the minimum wage and labor regulations, and to incorporate benefit portability into all government programs for social protection and governmental services.
- iii) Re-examine the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act (1979).
- iv) More focus on national development plans (Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission and City Development Plans, Five Year Plans).
- v) Promotion of safe internal migration should be promoted with the help of public-private partnerships.

## VIII. REFERENCES

- [1] Islam.M. *Rural-Urban Migration: A case study of Barpeta Road Town, Assam*, 2019, 1-10. (Unpublished)
- [2] Bala A. *Migration in India: Causes and consequences*, International Journal of Advanced Educational Research, 2017, 2(4) 54-56

- [3] Kundu A, Saraswati LR. *Migration and exclusionary urbanization in India*. Economic and Political Weekly. 2012; 47(26-27):219-227.
- [4] Bogue DJ. *International migration*, in Hauser PM and Dumeau, O (Eds): The study of Population, The University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1959.
- [5] Khullar DR. *India: A Comprehensive Geography*, Kalyani Publishers, New Delhi, 2014.
- [6] Srivastava R. *Labour Migration in India: Recent Trends, Patterns and Policy issues*, The Indian Journal of Labour Economics. 2011; 54(3):411-440.
- [7] Aseeli Hepzibah Julie K. *A Study on Rural Urban Migration in Thoothukudi District*. Thesis of ManonmaniamSundaranar University. 2015(31-39)
- [8] Kaul K. *Migration and society*, Rawat Publications, New Delhi, 2006.
- [9] Singh RN. *Impact of Out-Migration on Socioeconomic Condition: A case study of Khutana Block*, Amar Prakashan, Delhi, 1989.
- [10] Gosal GS. *Internal migration in India-A regional Analysis*, The Indian Geographical Journal. 1961, 36-3.
- [11] Bhende, Asha A. & Kanitkar, T. (2019) *Principles of Population Studies*, Himalaya Publishing House, New Delhi.
- [12] Banerjee, B. (1986), *Rural to Urban Migration and the Urban Labor Market: A Case Study of Delhi*. Bombay: Himalaya Publishing House, 1986.
- [13] Majumdar P.S. and I. Majumdar (1978), *Rural Migrants in an Urban Setting*, Hindustan Publishing House, Delhi
- [14] Shaw, R. P. (1974). Land tenure and the rural exodus in Latin America. *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 23(1), 123-132.
- [15] Sinha, V.C. & Zacharia, E.(2005) *Elements of Demography*. New Delhi: AlliedPublishers Pvt. Ltd.
- [16] Jeyaseeli, K. J. (2015, April). A Study On Rural Urban Migration In Thoothukudi District. Tirunelveli: Manonmaniam Sundaranar University.