

# Behavioral Aspects of Migration & Its Linkage to Human Development: A Outline

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**Abstract:** *Human migration, whether internal or external, has long accompanied the shift in development. This review has attempted to understand the many realities surrounding migration by looking at how migration affects human development, infrastructure, education, health and other sectors. It draws attention to how migration, along with professional mobility, plays a critical role in the spread of sexual illnesses like HIV. The study examines the behavioral characteristics of migrants as well as the patterns and variances in migration trends among states. Higher levels of regional imbalances are caused by rural outmigration rates that are rising. The COVID pandemic has had a remarkable effect on human life, leading to unanticipated patterns of migration. For the general well-being of migrants, the government must implement comprehensive & sound legislative strategies and an efficient social protection program. To lessen disparities between different regions, the study recommended improving infrastructure, facilitating connectivity, offering high - quality education and medical (both physical and mental health) facilities, implementing govt schemes and HIV prevention programs effectively, encouraging cottage industry, agriculture in rural areas, and fully enumerating tribal SC/ST migration and illegal migration, as they were overlooked in the Indian Census.*

**Keywords:** Migration, Human development, Covid Pandemic, Public policy, Socio - economic factors

## 1. Introduction

**“Migration is not a treat, but is an opportunity for societies to be enriched & strengthen by diversity”**

**Kofi Annan**

The movement of humans over decades is becoming a phenomenon, which is known as migration. Any movement is incomplete without migration. In simple terms, human migration can be defined as a transition of people from one place to another place for various reasons. When anyone shifts from a native place to another place within the boundary of a domestic state, it is known as Internal migration. As per the Census 2011, inside migration mostly happens due to the expansion of urbanization & differences in remuneration across different states in India. Sometimes people shift from their domestic state to a foreign state or country, it is known as external migration. Sometimes People willingly choose to move from their residence to another place, which is known as voluntary migration. But only some people want to move from their residence to other places by their own choice, they are forced to move which is known as involuntary migration. Many factors influence migration including social, political, cultural, environmental, health, and education.

Migration has played a vital role in the development & carrying out sustainable development goals (HDI, 2009). In the Global context, there exists a high level of interrelation between migration & education & economic condition of people. In rural areas of India, temporary and seasonal migration is highest among poor people & and illiterates (mostly in the case of scheduled tribe groups) and mobility declines with increasing education. But in metropolitan cities, higher seasonal mobility is found with people with average academic ability & illiterates & people having good academic achievement are less mobile. (Keshri et al., 2010).

In the constitution of India, there is a provision for migration in Article 19, which justifies Indian people to move & settle without any restrictions anywhere in the country according to their choice or need.

The scope of tribal migration was very limited & and didn't get attention in the census of India. There is no complete enumeration of religions, castes, and tribes. For several decades, in India tribes were mostly deprived of necessities & and endured hardship due to a lack of education, and unemployment. One of the important factors of distress of tribal people is a forceful cover of hilly regions & and forests for the sake of development across India. It provokes the tribal people to have mass grievances & and move towards urban areas for livelihood. The study suggests digital intervention for the complete enumeration of inter - state ST migration (Mistri et al., 2023). Regarding public health services in India, Researchers have tried to understand the perspectives of migrant workers with a special focus on daily - wage laborers in India who come from Nepal. The study (Adhikary et al., 2020). found that most of the migrant workers (Dalits) didn't get adequate medical facilities due to a lack of security, very low earnings, identity crisis, unfavorable work situations, Non - cooperation of employers, less awareness about medical facilities, and language barrier. However, those migrant workers who get medical facilities, face quality health care issues, discrimination, and irregularity of continuous care. Due to the language barrier, migrant workers are unable to communicate clearly with doctors & and medical staff. The study suggests to tie - up between the Indian govt & Nepal Govt & and related organizations for better coordination to ensure better health services in India for migrant workers from Nepal by reducing language constraints.

The International Migration Outlook Report 2023 which was released by Organization for Economic Co - operation and Development (OECD), provides a ranking of countries based on migration. This report states that India has become

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the key root of migration to OECD countries. The Covid pandemic badly hit the economic condition of the world by creating a lockdown situation. It adversely affected human life & mostly migrants because migrants neither have jobs/earnings nor have enough money/resources to survive at their destination places. It forces the migrants to go anyhow to their native place. To encounter a threat, it is necessary to accumulate details of migrant workers about their native place, and history of work & and to organize counseling services. The study suggests including Migrant Workers under various govt schemes including health care, and education & distributing civil, legal, and professional security along with promoting medium & and small entrepreneurs to create more employment possibilities (Yadav et al., 2020). Migration has a potential role in restoring globalization & and helping the recovery of the economy through the form of business networks & and ease of the FDI policy framework. The COVID - 19 disaster, which is undoubtedly the largest economic and health disaster shows the importance of the responsibility for financial need for families in need, which motivates Migrants' desire to assist their families. (Chattoraj et al., 2023). The COVID - 19 pandemic affected the estimation of the population including migrated population & and statistics of migration. In the results estimation of the Census of India 2021, population shifts and migration trends weren't adequately captured due to travel bans, economic uncertainty, and fear of infection (Bordoloi, 2023).

In India, migration contains almost 30% of the population as per the Census 2001. Migration causes huge losses due to the lack of effective implementation of law & and ignorance of political commitments. According to a study by (Deshingkar, P., & Akter, S.2009). Census data completely ignore to collection of data regarding short - term migration mainly tribal migration (SC/ST), Women's migration, and seasonal and rural - rural / rural - urban circular migration. Govt data also didn't capture illegal migration due to human trafficking or child labor. Apart from this, there is a misinterpretation of data collected by Govt. As official data states most rich people migrate (considered permanent migration) more than poor people, but field study in rural areas shows migration is higher in the case of poor people. The study suggests strengthening existing labor laws & policies, a better access to education, accommodation facilities, and medical facilities in India to enhance the position of migrants. Another study by the Population Council in India brings to light the increasing number of poor & and illiterate female migrants as sex workers to earn more money this way. Although income earned by migrant workers is less due to the unavailability of govt medical services. Hence, to get the medical benefit, they must pay high fees in private hospitals/clinics. Also, intermediaries exploit migrant workers.

In recent scenarios, migration is mostly influenced by non - agricultural activities like industrial development, business expansion, hostile social environment, etc. There is huge migration from the agriculture sector due to low returns & and once they move to another place like western and south India in search of jobs they don't want to move towards the past destination region due to receiving more benefits (Debnath, 2021). Another case study on migration reveals

that the population of the southern region of India has been increasing rapidly because most of the people face extreme difficulty in finding a job & people who get a job, receive a meager salary from northern India. On the other hand, when people shift to southern India, they find a job with comparatively more remuneration & which helps them to live their life, so they settle down there. But the situation has changed drastically during the COVID - 19 pandemic as people lose their jobs & such a situation forces them to move to their native place as they don't have earnings for living. (Chakraborty et al., 2022).

As per the census 2011, the rank of Gujarat secured the 6th position as the most urbanized state in India, followed by Goa, Mizoram, and Tamilnadu. The recent trend of migration indicates that a rising number of people are moving to Gujarat from other states due to the rapid growth of urbanization. It results in increasing levels of urbanization in Gujarat (Roy et al., 2023). While comparing patterns and reasons for migration among interstate & and international migrants depending on data from the census 1991 & census 2001, a study by (Taralekar et al., 2012) argues that the North Zone has a higher prevalence of interstate migrants as compared to other zones in India due to higher literacy rates, GDP, and urbanization. Regarding rural - to - urban migration a study by (Kumar, S., & Sati, V. P.2023) observed that in Uttarakhand state (Himalaya mountain range), people rapidly shift from rural areas to urban cities to reduce life risk people & to get quality education, and employment opportunities & after that their desire to settle down in cities. It leads to severe shoot up of urban population & very less population in rural areas. As a result of an increase in urban population, it expands slum areas, decreases air quality, and increases pollution. To stabilize these issues both Govt & community need to participate combinely in the process. The study advocated reducing the rate of rural - to - urban migration by restructuring effective infrastructure, providing quality education, job creation through a set of handicraft industries, and research & and innovation of agricultural practices in rural areas. A study (Gogoi, G., & Nath, K.2023) highlights the trend of interstate migration in the North - east region of India. The recent trends show that most people from Assam out of the remaining Northeastern states prefer to live in metropolitan cities including West Bengal, Delhi, and Maharashtra. It leads to prolonged development. The study suggests effective implementation of policies/schemes & and formulation of existing policies with special consideration of immigrants.

Migration is the essence of the development & growth of any nation. It is very important to have a strong legal backup for migrant workers. Concerning this aspect, NITI Aayog has set a draft of the National Migrant Labour policy in 2021. According to this drafted policy, migration is an important element of development & and should increase the minimum wages of migrant workers. The draft also recommends maintaining a fundamental directory so that the administrator can maintain a balance between demand and supply & effective implementation of schemes. To utilize the skill of tribal migration, the draft recommends creating movement support centers in different areas depending on the flow of migration. The draft National Migrant Labour

policy suggests Ministry of Education should initiate to provide education to migrant children under the Right to Education Act 2009. Regarding Housing & accommodation, the policy recommends that The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs should facilitate accommodation facilities for migrant workers in cities. Under the policy, there is a provision for setting up grievance cells for quick response to reported accidents, violence, abuse, and human trafficking accidents for migrant workers. Researchers have tried to understand the behavior of migrants and the nature of migration in India. Generally, most of the migrants live in another place without their families. If the migrant's financial status is good, then they live with families in the destination place. The migrants who live with their wives, their a tendency to have intimacy action comparatively less than migrants who live without their wives.

As per a study, non - migrant men with employment flexibility usually practice hazardous sexual practices more frequently than migrant men in metropolitan cities due to living separately from their wives at an early age. It is important to prevent HIV among men requires extraordinary attention on migrants & non - migrants who have comparatively greater mobility in their profession. Researchers suggest intervention programs for male migrants. (Saggurti et al., 2009). A study regarding migrants being more responsible for spreading HIV infection as compared to Non - migrants due to practices of unprotected sex (30 - 34 age), older unmarried, illiteracy, occupational mobility, consumption of alcohol, and textile industry workers. This study suggests adopting an extensive HIV prevention program for both younger migrants & older migrants including providing a better work environment, capacity building, awareness of safer sex practices & reducing alcohol consumption (Rao et al., 2013). Another study has found that male migrants who are already HIV - infected spread HIV are mostly responsible for the increased frequency of HIV spread. It is because they practice frequently non - marital sex at their hometown & later on they carry on such behavior in the destination place with sex workers. Such unprotected sex increases HIV transmission to migrants. When these migrants return to their home place, it results in higher HIV transmission to their spouse or married life. Such a situation demands urgent demand to control HIV spreads due to unprotected sex (Saggurti et al., 2011).

There are many studies done by researchers who attempted to understand several aspects of migration. Srilata, S. (2014) has pointed out a significant gap between Govt official data & and results of case studies across India due to temporary migration in a few areas & and short - term migration among weaker sections & especially tribes. From the case study, it is observed that an important reason behind temporary migration is a heavy burden of debt. Unfortunately, official data fails to cover informal debt, which results in difficulty in analyzing the outcome of temporary migration. Recently a study by (Kumar et al., 2023) reported Jharkhand has the highest rate of rural outmigration to explore better income, employment, medical facilities, and education. With an increasing rate of rural outmigration, regional balances were affected. It is necessary to improve infrastructure and

provide quality education, and employment in rural areas to reduce out - migration from the region. Due to rural out - migration or rural - to - urban migration, the pressure on the population in urban areas has increased significantly which creates more slums. People mostly move from rural to urban due to the crisis of food, health, education & and other necessities. Sometimes people move for a short period & it has less impact on society than those who move for a long period. Regarding political scenarios, Some govt make policies to attract migration & and sometimes make policies to reduce the force of migration (Singapur et al., 2014).

The Covid - 19 pandemic is known as a huge disaster for Human life. It badly affects life as it completely threatens human life & and completely changes the life circle through various aspects. During a pandemic, people often notice how people try very hard to migrate from the workplace to their native place due to the loss of jobs with the resources to live themselves. They walk on foot with families & and children without food & or any travel means. But this is only a small fraction of the whole story as it reveals only the physical hurdles of their life. During such a horrible situation, the psychological condition of the migrants completely broke down & and they suffered anxiety and depression. In such a situation, it is very important to address the psychological issues faced by migrants. To strengthen their mindset with empathy, a study by Rahyee, Z (2022). Suggest giving importance to fulfilling their needs through charity or by other means, treating them equally, assuring them pandemic situation will be resolved soon & and rewarding them for their contribution to economic development. Govt should facilitate migrants' basic needs & and facilities & and provide awareness about the pandemic. Govt needs to implement an effective social protection policy that will help to achieve all these targets. Through social protection policy, it will be easy to manage migrants by maintaining dignity & and facilitating them to connect with families through virtual mode from their destination place & and be aware of the importance of social distancing. All these efforts will help them to keep mental strength & and feel secure. (Khan et al., 2022) study stated that to enhance the development of the economy it is necessary to take care of the psychological condition of migrants or workers. Due to the outbreak of covid 19, the lives of migrants were affected worst & it requires special care & and recovery treatment. The Study mentioned the importance of social networks, free health check - ups by counselors or psychiatrists for screening & and diagnosis of mental disorders & need to look after older migrants more seriously. According to the study (Khan et al., 2022), among Indian migrants working in UAE approx 52% of migrants belong to the age of 40 & 89.42% of migrants belong to the Muslim community.

Another important aspect of migration is the growing net migration in different regions of India. Net migration can be defined as the difference between several immigrants (coming into a foreign place where people live permanently) & several emigrants (leaving the place to live in a foreign) including citizens & Non - citizens. The motivation behind increasing net migration in different cities is high per capita income, more access to employment, better living style & and improved infrastructure. Alternatively, net migration is negatively affected by unemployment, income inequality,

low air quality, and rising corruption. A Study (Pudryk et al., 2023) focuses on enabling easy access to education with scholarship, and medical facilities, effective implementation of schemes, and creating job opportunities for mindful handling of net migration. There should be special provisions including strong legal backup, provide psychological support to protect female migrants as they face more hurdles for human trafficking & and violence. to achieve sustainability, govt should initiate an information portal regarding job opportunities, legal facilities, medical access, and entrepreneurship to promote the intelligence of migrants. A study by (Roy, N., & Debnath, A.2011) observed an important feature of migrants that is when people move to another place they ignore concern about the safety of life & and only think about fulfilling their basic needs. Although this study shows that increasing net migration is useful for the development of the economy, the reverse situation is happening in Northeastern states. In Northeastern states, people reported that to increase in immigration, badly affected the economic development so restricting the flow of in - migration in Northeastern states has the majority of tribal people introduced Interline Permits.

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