

RURAL TO URBAN MIGRATION IN SEARCH OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH: PROS AND CONSEQUENCES

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Abstract: Increase in rural to urban migration flows in recent decades has been an important element of economic integration at both the global and regional levels, notably in India. The global financial crisis has put a temporary halt to this trend and even in India also global crisis impact was there tremendously. This paper looks at the susceptibility of rural to urban migration India and response of such regimes towards sustainable inclusive growth. Further the paper highlights with the pros and cons of rural to urban migration in terms of social development, economic development and human development index pattern in rural India. In this backdrop the paper also deals with the Rural to urban migration which usually leads to a loss of necessary man power to work on the farm lands. It also leads to congestion in the urban centres, thus a high unemployment level, poor housing situations and an increase in crime levels. On the other hand, increased man power in urban centres provides cheap labour to the industries in these areas. Finally in conclusion the India's inclusive growth policies in the country while transformations of this kind are most evident among long-term absentees (and their families), similar processes are beginning to emerge among non-migrant resident families that are adopting attitudes and lifestyle choices that take them away from traditional occupations and potentially lessen overall interest in community ideals.

Keywords: Migration, Inclusion, Consequences, Rural Development, Human Resources

INTRODUCTION

Rural-urban migration, or internal migration, is in essence a change in the spatial distribution of population in a given country over time. Migration and the change in population distribution are influenced by specific characteristics of the

economic development process (Ammassari, 1994), and by various stages of development in a country (Tabuchi, et al., 2002). Akindelly (2009) one noticeable issue in the society today is the rate at which people (including youths and adults) migrate from the rural to the urban areas. Like a paradox, while the cities (urban areas) are increasing in population, the rural areas are decreasing. One of the factors that is responsible for rural -urban migration is lack of inadequate social amenities and facilities in the rural areas. These include pipe borne water, electricity, good roads, hospitals, schools, recreational centres (like Stadium, Zoo, Amusement park) among others. Inadequate jobs in the rural areas also make many youths to migrate to the urban areas that can provide better opportunities for them. Rural-urban migration has negative consequences. It leads to overpopulation of the urban areas thus encouraging crime in the society. Those who engage in crime prefer the urban areas being turgid with wealthy individuals. Rural -urban migration slows down the rate of development of the rural areas. In view of the negative consequences, Government of each country in the world should strive to provide social amenities and facilities in the rural areas and also provide jobs for the citizens in the rural areas.

“It is not acceptable that migrants should be made to pay with their lives for seeking to escape poverty or discrimination,” said UN Human Rights Chief Navi Pillay during a High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, which was held in October during the United Nations General Assembly's 68th Session in New York, the same morning that the Lampedusa boat tragedy claimed the lives of hundreds of migrants. The overcrowded vessel was carrying 500 migrants, mostly Eritreans and Somalis, when it caught fire and sank into the Mediterranean Sea. Only 137 migrants are reported to

have survived (OHCHR 2013). The face of migration is changing. Today, there are more than 232 million migrants throughout the world and almost half of them are women. One of every ten migrants is under the age of 15. It is estimated that 50 million of them are irregular migrants. While migrants continue to move from developing countries to North America, Australia and Europe, there are just as many migrants today moving between countries in Africa, Central and Latin America and Asia. "If they came together to form a country, it would be the fifth most populous in the world. And yet, this population remains largely invisible and silent," Pillay said. Pillay also highlighted the issue of migrant detention where both children and adults are held indefinitely or for long periods of time in substandard conditions. "Migrants are often the only people in a country who can be detained without having committed a recognizably criminal offense, and without judicial oversight and review," Pillay said. A human rights-based approach encourages States to develop and implement alternatives to detaining irregular migrants. "It is not morally defensible that children and their parents should remain in detention for months or years because they do not have the right visa."

DEFINITIONS OF MIGRATION

Definitions of some concepts used in this paper are necessary at the outset. The concepts identified are 'migration', 'urbanisation' and 'health challenges'. Simply defined migration is a form of geographic or spatial mobility between one geographical unit and another, generally involving a change of usual residence from a place of origin or place of departure to the place of destination or place of arrival (van de Walle, 1982: 92, quoted in Oucho, 1998: 91). Distinction is often made between internal migration which occurs within national boundaries and international migration in which movement crosses internationally recognised national borders. In SSA, three features of internal migration are relevant: 'circular migration' has been the rule of thumb for first generation migrants who often move from and return 'home' that they identify with during their sojourns and where they often have 'location-specific capital', such as land relatives (Oucho, 1998:91). Although migration scholars often distinguish between voluntary migration (on the basis of individuals' decisions) and involuntary or forced migration impelled by circumstances beyond migrants' control, the distinction is rather academic as the two are but a continuum (Oucho, 2009).

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Myrdal (1957) notes that in an underdeveloped economy, a process of circulation causation is sure to commence. The resulting effect of migration will be

similar to the vicious circle of poverty idea. This adverse effect is referred to as backwash effect. Backwash effect is usually generated by factors like migration, capital and trade. These factors are favourable for growing regions but unfavorable for other regions. Economic expansion in a locality requires skill and efficient labourers who are brought from outside. The workers are helpful for that growing society where they work but unfavourable where they came from. In a poor country like Nigeria, fertility is higher and the diversion of population will lead to unfavorable age distribution. The situation in such localities may be worse when the relation between total population and resources would be unfavourable in the long run. Hence, Silvia (2007) notes that there is continuous brain drain which takes developing countries in sub-Saharan region of their skilled human capital at costs consisting of their lost value and productivity in their home country but also of their training and education costs. The demand for capital is higher in a progressive region because of the better opportunities for investment. The human and physical capital belonging to a developing country is withdrawn from migration. Hence, the poor regions will have increased inequality. Scholars such as Callaway (1967), Caldwell (1969), Adepaju (1974), Greenwood (1975) and others have noted that rural-urban migration, to a great extent, depends on several factors and indicators such as level of income, sex, age, education, among others. Besides, the psychological analysis of the advantages realizable on getting to the destination of migration vis-a-vis the initial settlement plays a role.

The argument also on negative effect of migration is that the rate of outflow of emigrants is calculated to be colossal losses of critical human capital, which a country has invested resources through education and specialised training and it is not compensated by the recipient economy. On this basis, brain drain is viewed as international transfer of resources in the form of human capital which is not accounted for in the balance of payments statistics. The cost can be seen on the estimate of UNCTAD that a highly trained African migrant between 25 and 35 years, the age group of Africans who usually travel abroad represents a monetary value of US \$184,000 at 1997 prices (Kartz, 2000; Rena, 2008). The equivalent of this contribution to receiving countries cannot be remitted back home and aggregate costs sacrificed and subsidized in training the emigrated members cannot be recovered. It also presupposes that expenditure on education in developing countries is to an extent more beneficial to the Western countries that enjoy the best and brightest brain of poor countries and continue to be richer at the expense of the poor nations.

Oladeji and Udoh (2012) studied rural-urban migration: migrants' perceptions of problems and benefits in Oyo state of Nigeria and among their findings are that several 'push' and 'pull' factors encourage the migration of single youths who are ill equipped in terms of education and skills acquisition to combat the difficulties associated with moving into a new location. It also shows that newly migrated youths are more focused on the immediate personal benefits in terms of regular cash income generated without considering the problems it might pose to the society or the agricultural sector. Older and longer established migrants however see the problems created in the society rather than the benefits. Among the problems created are decline in production and manpower reduction.

In their study of causes and effects of rural-urban migration in Borno state: a case of Maiduguri metropolis, Gimba and Kumshe (2012) revealed that the major causes of rural urban migration are search for better education, employment, and business opportunities; others include: poverty, unemployment, famine, and inadequate social amenities in the rural areas. While some of the effects of rural-urban migration are; rural-urban migration brings pressure on urban housing and the environment, high rate of population growth in the urban centres also lessens the quality of life, overpopulation encourages crime rate in the society and rural-urban migration slows down the pace of development of the rural areas. This implies that if tangible development has to take place, it is imperative something is done to migration.

The push factors that usually compel educated people and others to leave their home country are: low wages, lack of satisfactory working conditions, social unrest, political conflicts and sometimes wars while the pull factors include intellectual freedom and substantial funds for research. Brain drain has its negative effect on the home countries' economic prospects and competitiveness. The highly skilled, dynamic and creative individuals who are capable of contributing significantly to the country's development are drastically reduced. Besides, more entrepreneurs who prefer investments abroad deny the home country of wealth creation, unemployment reduction, tax revenue generation and underutilization of resources (Urve, 2012).

Brain drain is also referred to as 'capital flight' and usually all developing countries including India are suffering from brain drain and developed countries like USA are having brain gain from this phenomenon (Heena, 2010). Nigeria has experienced brain drain due to poor policies. Rena (2008) in his study notes that there are two divergent schools of thought who see migration as having negative and

positive effects. The harmful aspect concerns loss of brightest minds from developing economies with associated debility on the advancement of a developing economy. On the other hand, he points the beneficial results of migration for both receiving and sending countries and that out of 200 million potential immigrants in the world; ten million are Africans in the Diaspora engaged in economic activity. The aggregate migrants' remittances to their home countries amount to \$264 billion in 2006. Rena further referenced Aljazeera English TV channel, which announced that in 2006, Asia, the biggest continent got \$115 billion as remittance, Africa and Latin America received 40 and 70 billion dollars respectively in that year. In his study of brain drain and inequality across nations, Docquier (2006) reveals that brain drain is a major source of concern for origin countries as it induces positive effects through various channels such as remittances, return migration, diaspora externalities, quality of governance and increasing return to education. He also showed that a limited but positive skilled emigration rate, between 5 and 10% can be good for development. This implies that external migration is advantageous if few people who migrate are able to support their home countries considerably.

Ozden (2005), in his study of brain drain in Latin America, reveals, that the large number of migrants from smaller and poorer countries is losing a large chunk of their highly educated citizens; in wealthier and larger countries, a smaller number of educated people migrate; a large chunk of the college educated citizens of Latin America migrate mainly to complete their education and large number of migrants who finished their education at home fail to get jobs that is equivalent with their education levels which is due to low quality of education.

ISSUES OF MIGRATION

Bacre Waly Ndiaye (2013) Migration in the context of today's globalizing world brings opportunities but also important challenges of vulnerability and discrimination. And while many migrants are able to live and work safely in their host countries, millions are less fortunate. If fundamental rights are not guaranteed, if migrants lack access to their human rights, such as health, education, housing, non-discrimination and equal treatment in employment, freedom of expression, freedom of association and access to justice, their ability to benefit from migration is compromised. A glance at the state of the world's migrants paints a grim picture. At this time of global financial crisis, measures are being taken that impact on the rights of the most vulnerable migrants; austerity measures that discriminate against migrant workers, xenophobic rhetoric that encourages violence against irregular migrants, and immigration

enforcement laws that allow the police to profile migrants on the basis of race or religion. An increasing message of xenophobia has permeated both fringe and mainstream political movements in many countries and resulted in a climate of exclusion and rising violence against migrants. Migrants are criminalized and subject to harsh, even inhumane, penalties for doing nothing more than crossing a border or remaining in a country without administrative authorization. At the same time, it is a fact that the legal and normative framework affecting international migrants cannot be found in a single instrument or mechanism. Contemporary migration is multi-faceted and multi-causal. It implicates the mandates of a wide variety of actors.

Cross-cutting issues in this regard include: (a) the interface between asylum and migration; (b) the human rights of smuggled migrants; (c) the exploitation of migrant workers; (d) the access of irregular migrants to essential services such as health and education; (e) the increased feminisation of migration entailing growing gender specific risks and (f) the situation of children in the context of migration.

We believe that the basis for a new consensus on migration lies in the human rights framework and the human rights-based approach. Census and sample survey data normally report only a limited range of population movements. One limitation is the number of movements documented per person. Full life mobility histories are rarely gathered. More typically a census or survey may record place of birth as well as place of enumeration, though occasionally a place of prior "residence" is reported. Much of the policy interest in internal migration derives from concern, for even alarm, with respect to the rate of growth in urban populations and that of the larger cities in particular (Robert E. B. Lucas 2012; p.723).

Amar Kumar Chaudhary (2013) explained in his paper that the aspect of linking village's with new strategies with urban areas, it would be meaningful to see the current trends inequality, consumption, poverty, performance of income/employment generation programme etc. at the macro level. Poverty and inequality has widened to a great extent in recent years. Poor becomes poorer and rich becomes richer. In between 1993-94 to 2000-01, top 20% of rural and urban population increases their per capita consumption by 20% and 40% respectively. In comparison to this, the rest 80% of the rural people's per capita consumption has increased by only 3%. In both rural and urban areas the poverty ratio and absolute number of poor increased significantly. The growth of employment was 2.67% in 1993-94 whereas it fell to 1.07% between 1993-2000.

However, the areas of agriculture, faced much worse sinking from 2.2% to 0.02%. The employment programmes are not performing well as in many states. There is only 50% utilization is reported in the case of S.G.S.Y. There is also enough evidence about the slow pace of PRIs, the failure of Panchayati Raj and urban local Governments in addressing poverty, inequality and regional disparity. Thus, the problem of regional imbalance, rural-urban divide and poverty continue to be a major concern, despite nearly 50 years of economic planning over a decade of economic reforms and democratic centralization. Although a major percentage of workforce dependent on agriculture has declined in 2001, the absolute number has increased from 185 million in 1993 to 2001. The share of agriculture in the GDP declined sharply from 34.93 per cent in 1990-91 to about 18.5 per cent in 2006-07. The widening gap between GDP per worker in agriculture and nonagricultural sectors provides a clear indication of marginalization of agricultural workforce and widening gap between the rural and urban areas. The ratio is above 5 in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu. Punjab, Kerala, West Bengal and Assam have a relatively lower magnitude of ratios. In brief, the share of rural areas in national income is now falling to a lower magnitude of ratios. In brief, the share of rural areas in national income is now falling faster than its share in population. This has led to widen the rural urban per capita income in the 1990s.

RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION AND INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

Khosla & Atanu Dey (2012) The Rural Infrastructure & Services Commons (RISC) would slow down the rural-urban migration and could reverse it as well. People are forced to migrate in search of economic opportunities. It is often the most educated among rural populations that migrate to cities and thus are a drain to the rural economy. RISC would be a most attractive location for the educated rural people to look for employment. They will be able to facilitate and mediate the interactions between the services and the rural population. Over the next 15 years, India would need something like 50 billion sq ft of new housing and billions of sq ft of commercial construction. Much of this will have to be located in currently rural areas. The required investments will be astronomical. Therefore the need for coordination, allocation of capital, logistics etc. is critical. Since real estate requires inputs from various sectors of the economy, the features of RISC, such as economies of scale, scope and network are ideally suited to this end. Affordable housing will be a very big issue. RISC can help focus the efforts of providing affordable housing in rural India. Because RISC would concentrate a lot of different services at the same location, it would be easy to share many

common resources. For example, consider the computing facilities and internet facilities. They have multiple uses from education and training to conducting business and market access. Distance education classes on a wide range of topics could be delivered. At other times, the same computers connected to the internet could be used for business purposes. Training manpower is one of the most expensive activities in any enterprise. Fortunately, the average costs of this decrease the more people that need to be given some standardized training. Since every service will be provided over hundreds of locations, it will be possible to train people in large batches and thus reduce the cost of training. One can imagine private training firms such as NIIT providing these services. More training and education firms will become viable. Because a RISC concentrates a lot of different activities in one location, people would be more inclined to be located in the rural area. Thus a doctor serving in the health center of the RISC would find that he or she has access to most of the services that he would have expected in an urban area and so be more likely to be there. The same would go for school teachers, and bank employees, and so on. The fuel that powers any modern economy is the pool of entrepreneurs in it. Among the 700 million rural population of India, there must be hundreds of thousands of latent entrepreneurs. Not just that, there must be potentially world-class artists, doctors, scientists, engineers, economists, dramatists, film makers, philosophers, mathematicians, etc., in that huge population. It is an unimaginable loss to the nation and to the world at large that simply because we lack the resources to empower the proper tools and the training, they never achieve their potential. RISC provides a simple cost-effective method of discovering this talent. Being just a bicycle commute away from every rural person, it draws those that are the most motivated to it and makes available the resources that they need to develop. It puts our limited resources in the hands of those best able to use them. The non-agricultural production of rural India is extremely diverse. The internet has lowered the barriers significantly for market access. Even small producers of handicrafts can reach consumers all the way across the world. Information about products and their characteristics that suit the market most will help in driving the rural economy to produce what is needed. This will generate employment and preserve traditional skills, while tuning them to national and global demand (Uma et al; 2013).

CONCLUSION

Past efforts to stem rural migration through several policies have been largely unsuccessful. Beall, J. et., al.; (2012) Over the last few decades, globalization has had a visible effect on urbanization and migration

patterns across much of Asia. Analyses of migration patterns reveal that some of the largest movements of people in the world actually take place in the form of internal migration within certain regions and countries, as people move from rural areas to booming urban centres. With the help of selected case studies from India, China, Japan, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Vietnam, and the Phillipines, this volume examines the following issues: Why do people move from rural to urban areas? In what ways does globalization affect such movements? What are the synergies between globalization, urbanization, and migration? What are the challenges that come with resettlement, especially for minorities and other less empowered groups? effect on urbanization and migration patterns across much of Asia. Analyses of migration patterns reveal that some of the largest movements of people in the world actually take place in the form of internal migration within certain regions and countries, as people move from rural areas to booming urban centres. With the help of selected case studies from India, China, Japan, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Vietnam, and the Phillipines, this volume examines the following issues: Why do people move from rural to urban areas? In what ways does globalization affect such movements? What are the synergies between globalization, urbanization, and migration? What are the challenges that come with resettlement, especially for minorities and other less empowered groups?

From a sociological and an anthropological perspective, the historical structures explaining poverty in rural and urban areas, in particular social structures like ethnicity, caste and patriarchy, would be the first stop in understanding how expenditures would flow to and through communities and households. Migration behaviour would be explained by a broader set of factors than individual choice in the face of differing economic returns. Social networks would be important, imparting a path dependence and stickiness to migration channels that might respond only slowly to public expenditures. Even more broadly, a detailed analysis of social interactions, and the meaning individuals and groups attach to seemingly straightforward acts like house construction or water consumption and use, would be important in guiding the nature of public expenditure and its impact. For the geographer, especially environmental geographers, the national objective would have to include an appropriate valuation of environmental resources and risks, including the built environment.

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