



AN ANALYSIS OF INTERNAL MIGRATION TYPES IN INDIA IN PURVIEW OF ITS SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS

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ABSTRACT

Migration is an extremely emerging phenomenon especially in the developing countries. It has a number of pros and cons. The present paper is an effort to observe the internal migration in India. We will also try to focus on growing migration patterns and issues of migration in India. When migration happens it leads to several complications. An attempt has been made to cover migration in India in relation to its social and economic impacts on both source and destination areas. The paper also collects some information on migration trends from 1991 onwards. The source of information for the present paper is Census of India and NSSO.

KEY WORDS: Migration, Migrant, Pull and Push Factors, NSSO, Mobility.

INTRODUCTION

Movement of people from one place to another is a common phenomenon in both developed and developing nations (Oyeniya, 2013). Weeks (1999), defines migrant as a person who leaves one place and settles his daily life in another place. On the other hand migration is a broader term than migrant which incorporates all kinds of the movements of people from one location to another (Haider 2010, p. 309). UN (1993) defines migration as a movement involving crossing of administrative boundaries during a given period of time. We are dealing with internal migration in India which has been defined by Dang (2005), as a movement involving change of residence within the national borders. Migration also includes the disturbance of work, interruption in schooling, social life, and other patterns of life (Adzei A. and E. K. Sakyi, 2014). Migration is a cyclic behaviour that involves the regular, seasonal or annual journey from one place to another and back again. People have been migrating from times as it has been a major source of their survival, adjustment, and growth from corner to corner. Earlier, human migration was accompanied by expectation, enthusiasm, and fright, the

fracturing of long-standing social relationships, heartaches, tensions, and even bloodshed between the migrants and the local people, and the agreeable or reluctant exchange of ideas, skills, and attitudes (Adler L. L., Gielen Uwe P., 2003). In the twenty first century, migration touches the lives of more people than ever before. With more than 160 million people estimated to be living outside their country of birth, almost no country is untouched by international migration or is immune to its effects. "Today, the number of people living outside their country of birth is larger than at any other time in history. International migrants would now constitute the world's fifth most populous country if they all lived in the same place" (UNFPA). People are rational; they often move to seek economic openings in more prosperous countries. The fastest growth in immigrant numbers has taken place in developed countries and only about a quarter of all international migrants are thought to have moved from non-OECD countries to OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) countries.



In India migration of people is an important factor in affecting the course of social and economic development. People's migration is considered an important livelihood strategy in India. The labour market in Indian scenario has mainly been identified by the movement of people mainly from the rural and backward areas towards developed areas in search of employment. This movement of people has resulted in a number of concerns for these people such as social, economic, and political marginalisation of these workers. It is especially for the unskilled people who move from relatively destitute and miserable areas in search of productive employment and higher living. In India major participation in migration is relatively from the poor households (Connell, 1976). Fixed or semi-permanent movements of people and workforce in India co-exist with the circulatory association of populations between wadding and urbanized areas, and between rural and metropolitan areas, mostly being captivated in the unorganized sector of the economy. Such movements of people indicate a small signal of deteriorating with development. Migration in India is mostly limited to short distances, with around two-thirds of migrants shifting their residence within the district of record, and over one-fifth within the state of listing, with the remainder moving across state borders. India is the largest recipient of international migrants' remittances and hosts the second largest domestic migrants' remittance market in the world. At the all-India level, National Disposable Income has been around 4% higher than National Income (NI) mainly on account of Migrants' Remittances. However, at the regional level, since the volume and nature of remittances varies across states, state disposable incomes differ significantly from state income measures (Chinmay Tumble, 2013).

LITERATURE REVIEW

Michael Fix and Jeffrey S. Passel (1994) in their study pointed out that the impacts of immigration on the native workers are almost negligible. It results in less than one percent displacement of native workers. The study shows no relation between immigration and visible effect on wages. At the same time he also concluded that immigration is a declining function of welfare of less skilled workers only and many a times contribute to growth in wage inequality. The native workers are not affected by undocumented immigration and no negative effects are observed on black workers as a whole.

Shamshul Haque (2014) showed that migration in Kashmir Valley is not a new phenomenon. Kashmir has been an abode of people from historical times either for shorter or longer periods. Although the study is confined

to Srinagar and Budgam districts, it gives insights of migration and its causes and consequences in the entire valley. Bihar, UP, MP, West Bengal and Punjab are the major states from which in-migration of workers was experienced. The movement of these people involved both pull and push factors. As per the consequences are concerned, the study concludes that migration has resulted in the positive benefits for these in-migrants. It has added to their incomes, daily consumptions, school enrolments of children, construction of own houses and increased savings. While as the local labourers are facing the problems of lower employment opportunities and are compelled to migrate to other parts of the country.

Borjas et al. (1997), Camarota (1998) have shown that there is a negative effect of immigration on low-skilled native workers and native minorities. Borjas & Katz (2005) have also shown the impact of immigration on native people. According to them immigration has both positive and negative impacts, the positive benefits are taken by the highly skilled workers while as the low skilled workers are negatively affected. Borjas (2003) showed that the wages of competing labour were lowered by 3 to 4 percent for every 10 percent increase in immigrant supply of workers. In this study Borjas stated that immigration "substantially worsened the labour market opportunities faced by many native workers" (p. 1370).

OBJECTIVES

The present study is based on the following objectives:

- ✧ To examine the main streams of internal migration in India.
- ✧ To evaluate the main causes responsible for migration.
- ✧ To examine the impact of migration on the socio-economic life in both source and destination areas.

METHODOLOGY AND DATA SOURCES

The present study has been undertaken to assess the impacts of internal migration in India. It will also look at the main types and causes of internal migration. An account of migration trends is also given. The present study is based on secondary data source. It is drawn mainly from the publications of books, monthly journals, articles, magazines, and official reports published by the central and state governments. Since the study is concerned with internal migration in India, therefore, the data is mainly drawn from two main sources, the decennial population Census and the quinquennial migration surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO). The Census (of India) also provides data on migration, collecting

information mainly on the migration causes, age and sex of the migrant, reasons and duration of migration, place of destination and origin, and the industry and occupation of the migrants. As regards the education, income, consumption and other activities of the migrant's information from NSS has been considered. It also provides data on migrant remittances.

INTERNAL MIGRATION TYPES AND PATTERNS IN INDIA

Mobility of people from one area to another is a basic cause of migration. Today not only goods but also factors particularly labour are mobile. The mobility prevails not only within the country but also between the countries. If we look at the population of a country a person may often live in more than one area during his/her life time. There are several types of movements of people including permanent, semi-permanent (temporary), voluntary, forced (involuntary) and seasonal or circular. Permanent migration occurs when someone moves from one place to another and has no plans to return to his original place. Temporary migration is limited by time (migrants come

back after some time) and could be for seasonal employment. Forced migration involves the migrant having no choice but to move (push factors). Voluntary migration is the opposite of forced migration. In India mainly following four streams of migrations are found:

- i. Rural to Rural,
- ii. Rural to Urban,
- iii. Urban to Rural, and
- iv. Urban to Urban.

Within these different streams rural to rural and rural to urban migrations have been the principal patterns of migration. The Census data reported that 57 percent of the moves are rural-rural, 22 percent rural-urban, 6 percent urban-rural and 15 percent urban-urban (Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India 2005). From the NSSO's survey data 2007-08, we find that the share of the four migration streams is: rural-rural (62 percent), rural-urban (19 percent), urban-rural (6 percent) and urban-urban (13 percent) (S Chandrasekhar, A Sharma, 2014).

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 urban 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

The table shown above indicates that out of the total of about 97.5 million migrants in the country during last 1991-2001, 73.9 million were rural were as 20.6 million were urban. It also shows that out of total 97.5 million, 61.4 million migrants have migrated to rural areas and 36.1 million to urban areas. Out of total rural migrants (73.9million) 53.3 million have migrated to another rural area and only 20.5 million to urban areas. Similarly out of total urban migrants, 6 million have migrated to rural areas where as 14.3 million to another urban area. When we look at the state list Maharashtra stands at the top of the list with 2.3 million net migrants, followed by Delhi with 1.7 million, Gujarat (0.68 million) and Haryana (0.67 million) as per census 2001. Uttar Pradesh with -2.6 million and Bihar with -1.7 million net migrants were the two states with largest number of net migrants migrating out of the state i.e., out migrants (<http://www.censusindia.gov.in>).

Further the stream can be either inter- district, intra- district, intra – state or inter-state. As is evident masses of the migrants move within the state, i.e. move

within same districts or move to other districts of the same state.

Inter-state migration in India is mainly from states having low agricultural productivities and industrial backwardness. Orissa, Bihar, Eastern Uttar Pradesh, parts of Bengal and Telangana region in Andhra Pradesh fell in this category. But recently it was found that migration is also caused by environmental suitability/preference. The pattern of migration in India varies from sector to sector and state to state and is not uniform. For instance the position of migrant agricultural workman from Bihar and UP is slightly better than the constructional workmen from Orissa and Andhra Pradesh. As regards long distance, interstate migrations in the country, a clear sex differential is found from census 2011. Rural to urban interstate stream of migration stands at top in case of male migrants accounting for 47 per cent. On the other hand, rural to rural has remained the major pattern of female movement, with 38 per cent of them migrating from rural to rural areas. The above tables clearly show the differences in the pattern of migration in India.

Why does People Migrate or why does Migration Happen?

People migrate if the present value of expected benefits exceed the expected costs of moving. People have been migrating to the region mainly due to religious, political and economic factors and the outmigration or emigration has also taken place. Indian migration pattern is diverse and as such the reasons and causes also vary. NCRL (1991) says that migration is deeply affected by the pattern of development while as Mosse et al (2002) concluded that migration is affected by the social structure of the society. Working on seasonal migration the National Commission on Rural Labour said that it is the uneven development which is the main cause of migration. Seasonal migration is also often caused by inter-regional disparities and differences between socio-economic classes of the society and development policies which have been adopted by the government after independence. Recently seasonal migrations from tribal populations have also been observed due to intrusion by outsiders, deforestation, settlement pattern and displacement. Marriage has also been found a widespread driver of internal migration in India, especially among women (Abbas R. and Varma D., 2014). The literature available on migration distinguishes between push and pull factors of migration which are often integrated together and not in isolation. People migrate from one area to another when they do not find suitable means of livelihood or employment or might think of fruitful expectations of making such a movement. They may think of improvement in terms of better opportunities, higher incomes, better environment, family links, and better facilities of living.

Migration has also been analysed in terms of pull-push model by many sociologists. The model is based on the distinction between pull and push factors. Push factors are those that drive people to leave their home and settle somewhere else where as pull factors are those that attract migrants to a new location. Migrant sending areas are responsible for push factors to occur while as on the other hand pull factors exist within the receiving areas, that is, areas that receive immigrants from sending areas. Push factors are considered the negative aspects of migration and pull factors attract because of their positive aspects existing in the receiving areas. While moving from one location to another the migrants must consider both the aspects so that the movement will be worthwhile and must have a lot of surplus benefits because migrants are expected to face difficulties due to the presence of local competition.

Push Factors:-

There are a number of push factors responsible for the movement of people from one place to another. Some of these are given below

- ☞ Lack of jobs and poverty often compel people to move from one place to another.
- ☞ Civil conflict, political and religious discrimination such as Pandit migration from Kashmir to Jammu.
- ☞ Environmental problems to cope with.
- ☞ Primitive conditions such as basic necessities of life including poor medical care, transport and water facilities, basic education, standard of life, etc.
- ☞ Frequent occurrence of natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes, etc.
- ☞ Fear of slavery due to presence of dominant classes.
- ☞ Lack of social and political freedom.
- ☞ Desertification and pollution.
- ☞ Loss of wealth and death threats.
- ☞ Condemned housing (radon gas, etc.)

Pull Factors:-

The following are some of the pull factors that result in migration:

- ☞ Expectation of getting higher wages or at least higher standards of living.
- ☞ Labour demand providing chance of a better job.
- ☞ Political and religious freedom
- ☞ Superior medical care, education and other facilities.
- ☞ Presence of family links or a personal fondness of a certain place.
- ☞ Social security, peace, and safety.
- ☞ Attractive climates.
- ☞ Better chances of marrying.

THE IMPACT OF MIGRATION

Migration has significant implications for development. It affects social, economic and political life in both sending and receiving areas. Both the areas are having positive as well as negative implications. Not only the areas are affected but migration is having its impacts on the migrants and their families. Let us examine these impacts.

On migrants and their families:-

The following are some of the important impacts of migration on migrants and their families:

When people migrate their personal assets are small due to which they have to face a lot of deprivations. They are the victims of deplorable conditions.

In many areas they often face the challenges of proper sanitation and clean drinking water and survive in open uncovered spaces (Rani and Shylendra, 2001).

Crowding of the labour markets brings down their wages and they have to make their living on almost subsistence wages. They hardly enjoy the luxuries of life.

Employers do not follow safety measures and as such diseases and accidents are quite frequent. They often suffer lack of access to free public health care facilities and programmes. Workers, mostly in the brick kilns and similar factories are victims of sunstroke, body irritation and other health problems (NCRL, 1991).

Migrants are often provided with dangerous and dirty jobs, having more risks.

Rogaly et al, 2001 and 2002, is also attracting our attention towards other major migrant problems such as deprivation of schooling and educational life of students of these migrants.

Males are more mobile than females. This has resulted into the material and mental insecurity of the elderly, females and children left behind. This has also increased the burdens on the women compelling them and their children to work under severe conditions (Rogaly et al, 2001; 2002). Impact on Source Areas

For a sending country, migration and the resulting remittances may lead to increased incomes and poverty reduction, improved health and educational outcomes, and promote economic growth. Migration has its several impacts on the supply areas that take place through changes in the labour market, earnings and property, changes in the structure of spending and investing. The major impacts of migration on source areas include

- Tightening of the labour market.
- Push up in the acceptable level of wages.
- Balancing the employment structure for the year (seasonal out-migration).
- High degree of changes in the present worker relations (return migrants are expected to be more skilled).
- Reduction of internal dependencies may eliminate the causes of debt (Abdihet *et al.* 2009, IMF 2010, Ratha *et al.* 2010).
- Accelerates labour mobility and reduces unemployment.
- Helps in the alleviation the poverty in their native areas, at least in the short term (Adams 1991, Lachaud 1999).
- Gaining of new ideas from returned migrants and mitigating brain drain (Dustmann *et al.*, 2010).

- Creates imbalance of gender in population structures (males have higher mobility than females).
- Loneliness and increasing burden of family responsibilities.
- Reduction in pressure on land.
- Reduction in the number of highly educated and qualified workers in the labour market (brain drain).
- Migrants bring remittances which form their major source of livelihood (remit or bring home savings) (World Bank 2006, Yang and Choi 2007, Mohapatra *et al.* 2010).
- Migration from rural areas affects the existing production links (Standing, *ibid.*)

Impact on Destination Areas:-

Economists suggest that the welfare advantage of immigration for the destination country is widespread due to the fact that immigration increases the supply of labour, which increases employment, production and thus GDP. There is no limit in the destination areas for the use of the labour of migrant workers. This may be because of the local labourer shortages (Singh and Iyer, 1985. This is shown by most of the evidences that employment of immigrants is highly encouraged by wage-cost reduction and labour control policies. However, immigrants many a times bring along with them lot of consequences for these countries. The following are the important impacts of migration on receiving areas

- The labour of migrants can be controlled easily and can be put to hard conditions.
- Migrant labour force fills in positions which citizens might regard derogatory (Massey *et al.*, 2002).
- Migrants can be used for long working hours and can be flexibly decreased or increased when needed (Ortega and Peri 2009).
- The wages of the migrants are provided on the basis of suiting minimum wage laws which are often lower than the local wages (Dustmann *et al.*, 2007).
- Migration reduces labour cost to employers.
- The entrepreneurs are always in favour of the labour immigrants shifting their load and risk upon them.
- Migrants help the economy making a net fiscal contribution (Gott and Johnston, 2002).
- Poor neighbouring countries bear the heaviest burden.
- Unemployment in host country in a recession (Blanchflower *et al.*, 2007).
- Immigrants occupy natives' jobs (Papademetriou *et al.*, 2009).

- Costs of Housing Asylum Seekers.
- Halt rural depopulation and ageing populations.
- Cultural enrichment or destruction.
- Rural-urban migration creates ghettos in cities.
- Pressure on resources.

MIGRATION TRENDS IN INDIA

From beginning till now migration has experienced an increasing trend at both national and international level. The number of international migrants, or people residing in a country other than their country of birth, has increased more or less linearly over the past forty years, from an estimated 76 million in 1965 to 188 million in 2005 (IOM, 2005). The vast mainstream of the population move inside their own nation and as such it is revealed by the data that internal migrants are four times more than the global migrants (UNDP, 2009). When we talk of internal migration, case of Indian country is of a meticulous interest. This is because the economy is characterised by strong heterogeneity across almost all areas in terms of their income and population features (Cashin, P and R. Sahay, 1996).

The Census data of the year 2001 reported that there are 309 (29.9 % of population) million internal migrants (NSSO 2007-08, 26.1 percent of rural and 35.4 percent of urban residents can be classified as migrants), of these migrants, 70.7 per cent were women (According to NSSO 2007-08, women constitute 80% of total internal migrants). There has been an increase of 36.7% in migration from 1991 (226 million) to 2001 (309 million). Of the total migrants 32.8 percent were urban and almost 67.2 percent rural. In urban stream, male migrants are dominant compounding to almost 53.2 percent while female migrants constitute a meagre of 24.5 percent. Male and female migrants were both high in case of intra district migration consisting of almost 52 percent and 70 percent respectively. The two sources of migration in India that is, Census and NSSO provide almost similar pictures. However, their data figures differ somewhat in case of migration trends. It has been revealed by the data that the stock of migrants has increased during the decade 1991-2001 by almost 37 percent (Ravi Srivastava, UNESCO, 2011).

Stream-wise internal migration in India (percent) and change over time, 1981–2001

Census Year	Rural-Rural	Urban-Rural	Unclassified-Rural	Total Rural	Rural-Urban	Urban-Urban	Unclassified-Urban	Total Urban	Total
1981	65.03	6.11	0.08	71.22	16.59	12.1	0.1	28.79	100
1991	64.21	5.97	0.29	70.47	17.67	11.7	0.16	29.53	100
2001	55.51	4.2	7.45	67.16	16.71	11.82	4.32	32.85	100

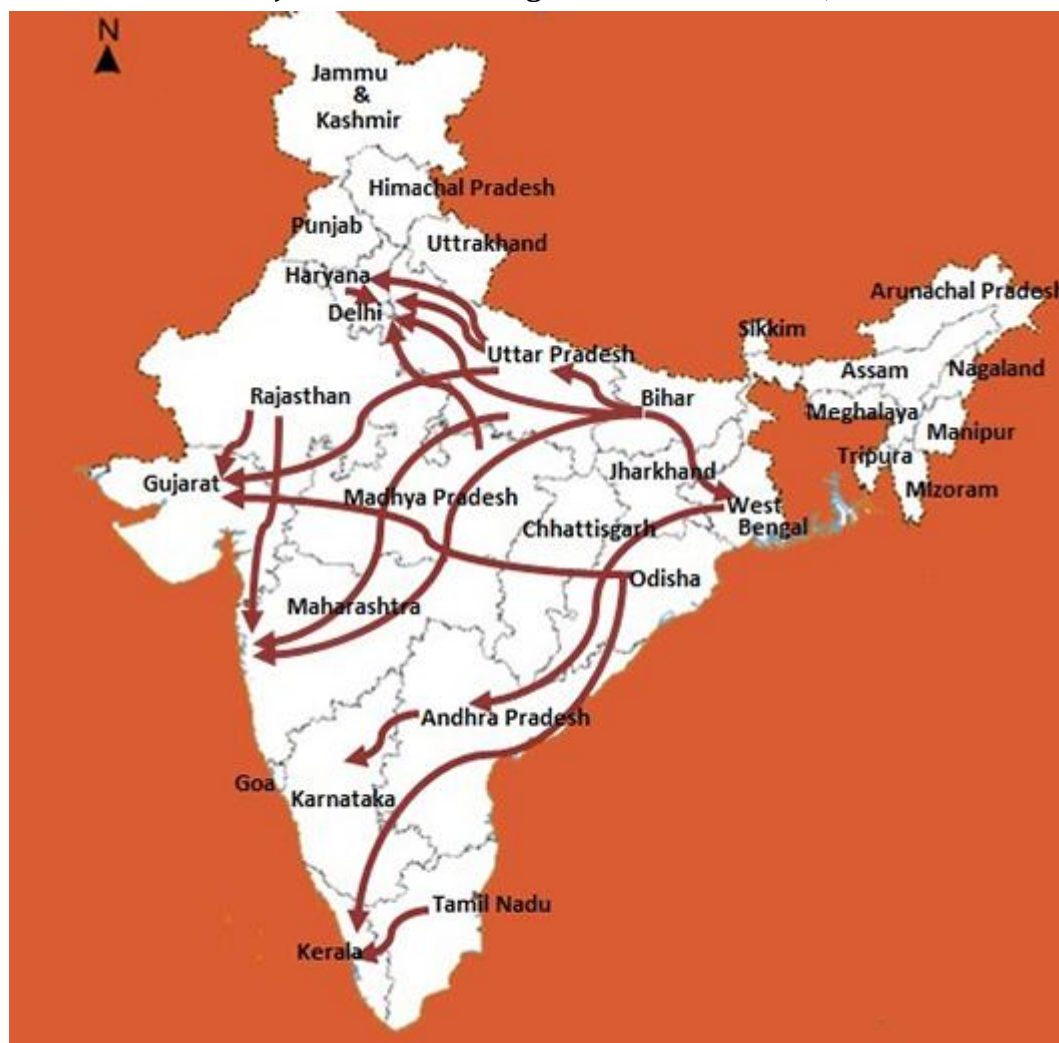
Note: Unclassified indicates neither rural nor urban.

Source: Census of India, 1981, 1991, and 2001, Table D-2.

The largest number of migrants comes from the states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar which are categorized by very low societal and financial development indexes. However, recently newer openings like Orissa, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and newly North Eastern areas have become key sending areas of blue-collar workers. As against this the cities of Kolkata, Mumbai, Delhi, are the leading destinations for internal migrants in the country (Abbas R. and Varma D., 2014).

We have provided the map below showing the main migration paths in the country where a rush of labour movement is taking place. The largest number of migrant labour employers is found in the construction sector which is almost forty million and is followed by domestic/home work, textile, work in brick kiln, transport sector and agriculture activities.

Major net Internal Migration Flows in India, 2001



Internal Migration Flows, 2001 (Source: IIPS, Mumbai)

LIVING CONDITIONS OF MIGRANT WORKERS

The migrant workers in almost all informal sectors live in unsatisfactory conditions. They often face poor provision of safe drinking water facility; the sanitary conditions are unhygienic and most live in open spaces or make shifts shelters (Rani and Shylendra, 2001). The Contract Labour Act although providing housing and other protections to the labourers, they still continue to live in sub-human environment. Apart from the wandering labour, labour who migrate to the urban areas for work survive in pavements and parks, and the slum dwellers, who are mostly migrants, stay in dreadful situation, with scarce supply of water and worst drainage services. Foodstuff expenses are higher for migrant labour, as they can not avail of the PDS since they are not provided with temporary ration card as they are not legally registered. Working circumstances of seasonally migrant labourers are seriously inadequate. Wages, working hours, safety

standards do not conform to any minimum standard and where advances have been given, there is no concept of a standard wage. Existing labour laws, including those specifically meant for them, are observed generally not in their favour (Sangappa S. R. and Shanta. B. A., 2015). Inter-State Migrant Workers Act, 1979 is a legislation built to protect the interests of the migrant workers. However, it is outdated and is scarcely imposed anywhere. One of the important constraints in making an effectual policy is the lack of reliable information on occurrence of seasonal migration. Both the significant sources NSS and Census are not capable to capture seasonal and circular migration. BPL Surveys are also lacking in covering migrants. The migrants are also not able to take part in the formal electoral system and are not provided with certain fundamental rights like their right to vote (Aajeevika Bureau, 2014).

CONCLUSION

This paper explores the causes, consequences and effects of internal migration in India, particularly in the informal sector. Internal migration in India is having enough potential to improve human capital investment, particularly among the needy and disadvantaged. The evidence on internal migration in India shows that young teens get higher benefits from private transfers. It is also identified that there are barriers to mobility across states, particularly when we talk of the poor and low-caste households. It is also envisaged that attention to such issues may be relevant for the design of future poverty-reducing policies (Mueller V., Shariff A., 2009). Internal Migration is considered to be one of the schemes of development. The factors highlighted pushed poor people in migration to city to earn more money to fulfil basic essentials of their family. The extent and diversity of internal migration flow in India as well as the sufferings connected with them are vast. A crucial overview of internal migration in India shows that migration phenomenon is complex and in spite of the vast contribution of migrants to India's economy, the social protections available to them still remain negligible. It can be concluded from what has been discussed above that the peoples mobility in the country improved after the adaptation of new economic strategy which was declining till 1991. Agriculture is the main supporting pillar of the economy in the country as a consequence rural to rural stream of migration leads in the migration process. The reasons for migration that have been found in the country were marriage for females and economic employment among males (Manju Singh, Seema Shandilya, 2012).

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