



INDIA'S LABOUR MIGRATIONS: HISTORICAL TRAJECTORIES AND PERSPECTIVES SINCE THE EARLY NINETEENTH CENTURY

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Migration pattern in Madhya Pradesh

ABSTRACT

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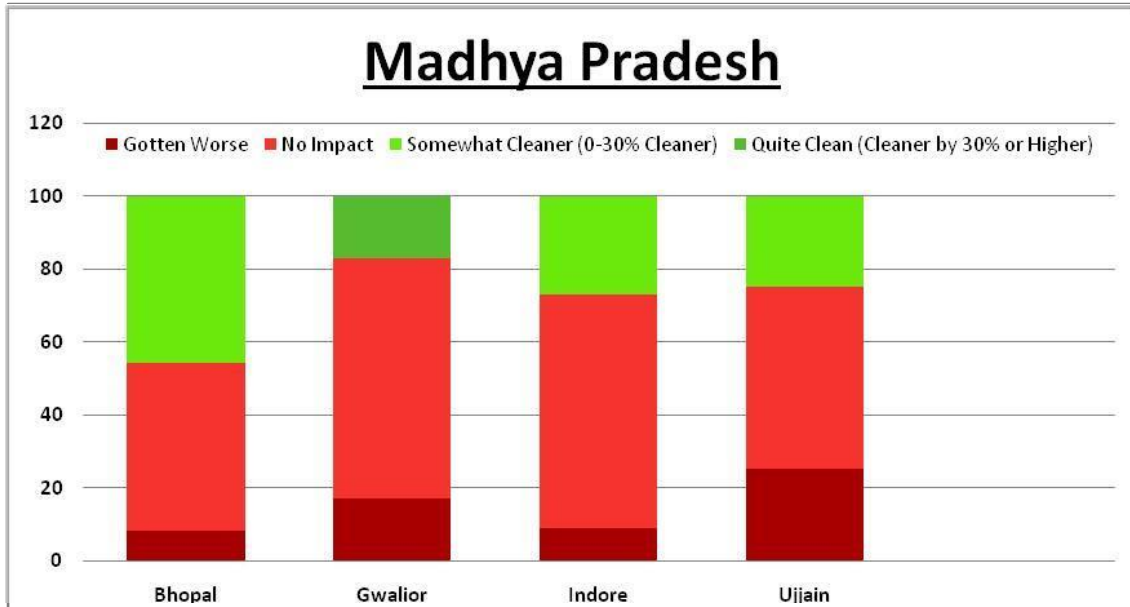
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This paper examines the pattern of migration in Madhya Pradesh. It tries to explore ground realities concerning migration and its impact on the livelihood of migrants in Madhya Pradesh. The historical view reveals that migrants are among the poorest and the backward section of the society and the search for better work opportunities, improved livelihood and higher wages led people to migrate from rural to urban regions.

INTRODUCTION

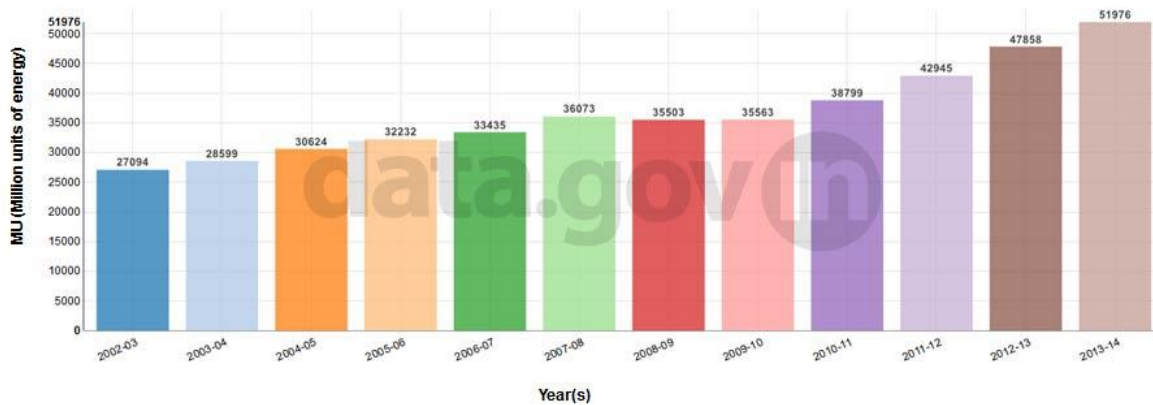
This paper attempts to analyze the migration pattern in Madhya Pradesh. Geographical mobility that is when we move from the place of residence or origin to some other city, state or country it is particularly known as "Migration" and it could be of two types, one is International that is, from one country to some other country or secondly Internal that is, when movement takes place within the same country or place of origin. There are certain Push and pull factors that led people to migrate, Push are the

ones that Force people to migrate, such as lack of employment opportunities, poor living conditions and poverty etc therefore considered as negative. On the other hand, pull factors Encourage people to migrate such as better work opportunities, opportunities of higher education and better living conditions. Therefore we can say that Migration has a bearing on both, firstly the place that has been left behind or we can say that initial place of residence or place of origin to the one where they finally settle. It occurs only when the benefit of migration is more than the cost of it.



There are certain factors that cause migration to happen, including urbanization, which impacts rural-urban disparities that is higher urban wages attract rural labourers, second main cause is education, in search of better or higher education facilities people from rural areas move to urban one. As per 2011 census, approx 1.77% moved from rural to urban areas for education purpose. Next main cause is employment opportunities, in search of employment in unorganised sector such as industrial or transportation people move to urban areas as rural

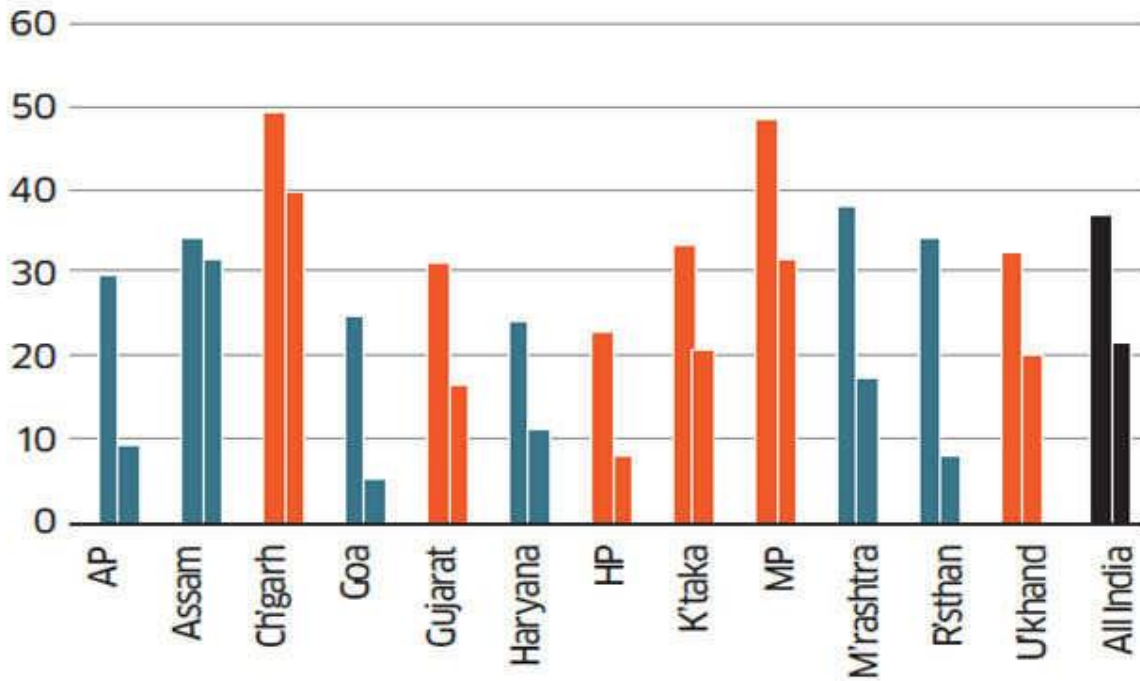
areas even the unorganised sector does not provide enough job opportunities to the workers, as per 2011 census approx 10.22% were migrated in search of work, and the last one is lack of security, disturbing conditions due to political parties led people away from their house. The consequences of migration could be demographic, that is change in the attributes of the population or sex and age composition in regions of in and out migration. Next is social consequence, which means mixture of different cultures that broadens the mentality of people.



Then there is environmental, that leads to overcrowding and utmost pressure on local resources for the public usage, and the last one is economic, that is if there is transfer of people from over populated areas to the under populated one it results in the

equality of resource population ratio, and vice versa if there is transfer of people from under to over populated, then it would be a harmful situation for both of the countries that in turn affects the overall structure of occupations of population.

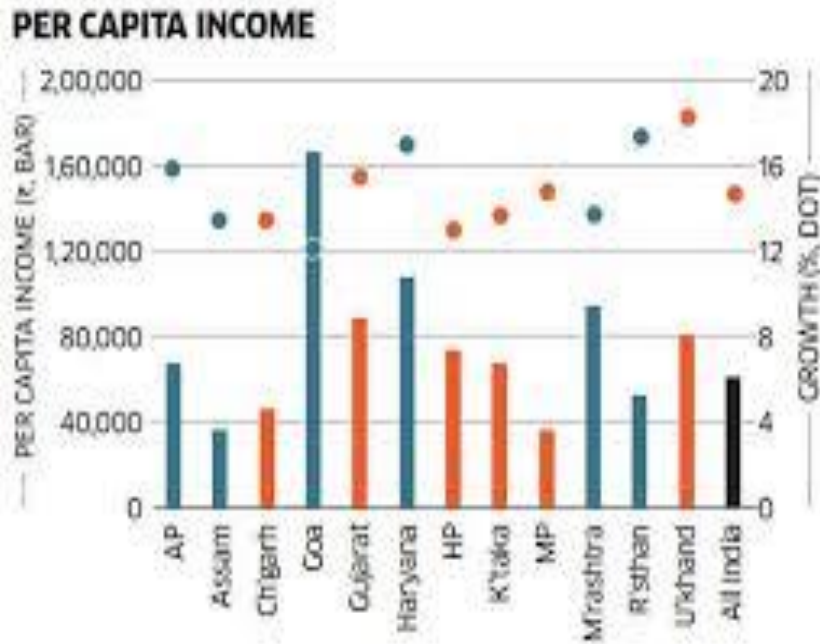
PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE BELOW THE POVERTY LINE



HISTORY AND WAVES OF MIGRATION

As per the census estimates, Madhya Pradesh is listed fourth with respect to people, who move out of their states to grab employment opportunities for their survival. Unemployment, irregular monsoon, growing debt burden, differential wage payments, water logging due to rain, scarcity of water for irrigation purpose, growth in population and failing crop that is weather related catastrophe has led such large number of people to migrate. Due to increased economic and financial factors like separation of big and joint families, youths desire to encounter metropolis life, reduction in the per capita land possession, migration persist despite of several attempts made by the government. Even the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act scheme, proved unsuccessful in providing the helping hand to the unskilled labourers in unorganised sector looking for job opportunities due to corruption and unfair preferential treatment. In 2012, a significant

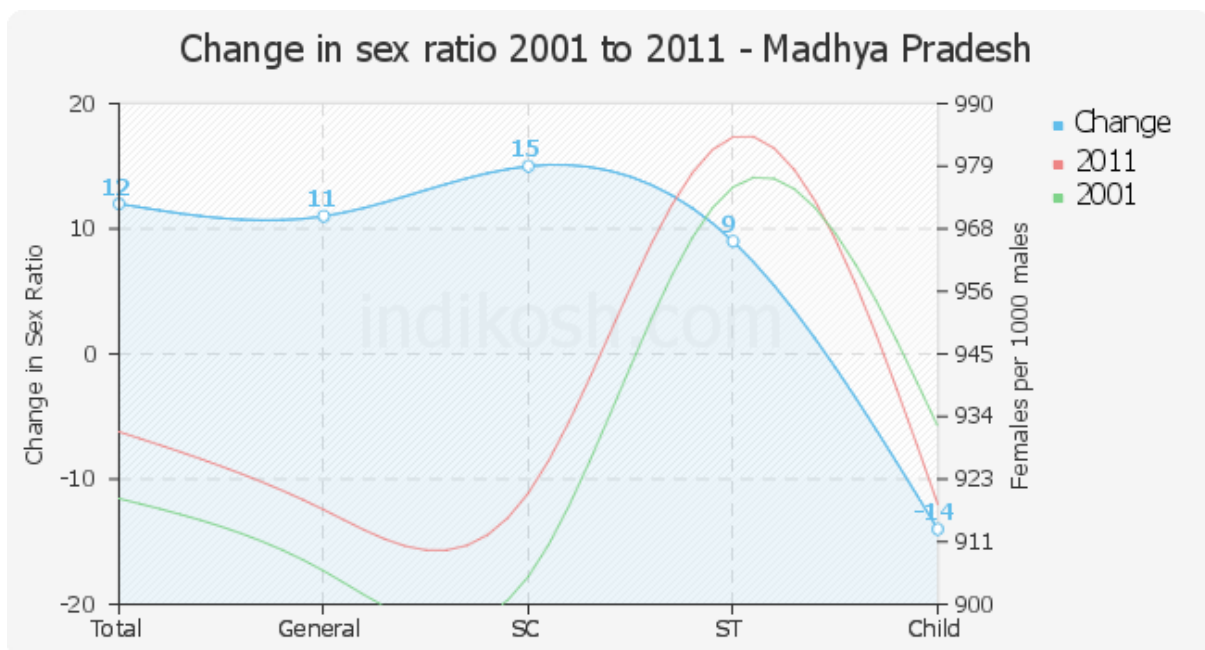
percentage of population was subsisting under the poverty line and had restricted access to basic utility. The illiteracy rate in Madhya Pradesh was around half of the population. As per 2011 census, in rural areas of the Madhya Pradesh only 14% had access to drinking water eventually vulnerable to water paucity. Despite of the thing that they have been involved at a big scale as contractors and labourers, they are usually not taken care of that has a bearing on their aggregate development. Around half of the population of scheduled tribes comes under the category of landless individuals. Approximately 75% workers of rural areas depend on agriculture that contributes to less than 35% of the GDP of the state. Since 80s, employment in non- farm sector in rural areas has almost declined. Around 20% of them got opportunities of livelihood. The state has the lowest percentage of non-farm employment. As per economic survey state's growth has slowed down and reduction in the employment.



Acute water Scarcity in Madhya Pradesh led such large scale migration in rural areas. In search of water, majority of people have moved to some other place. Major rivers have dried up. Absolute mismanagement led water crunch. Dearth of water and thirst of people forced them to migrate as they have to walk 2 to 3 km to bring water. Most of the people who have migrated belong to tribal community. The family members of the migrants in Madhya Pradesh survive on the cash being sent their migrant member from some other place where they are working. The revenue department recently declared one third of Madhya Pradesh drought-hit. Due to rainfall shortage, crops of two hundred farmers got wasted.

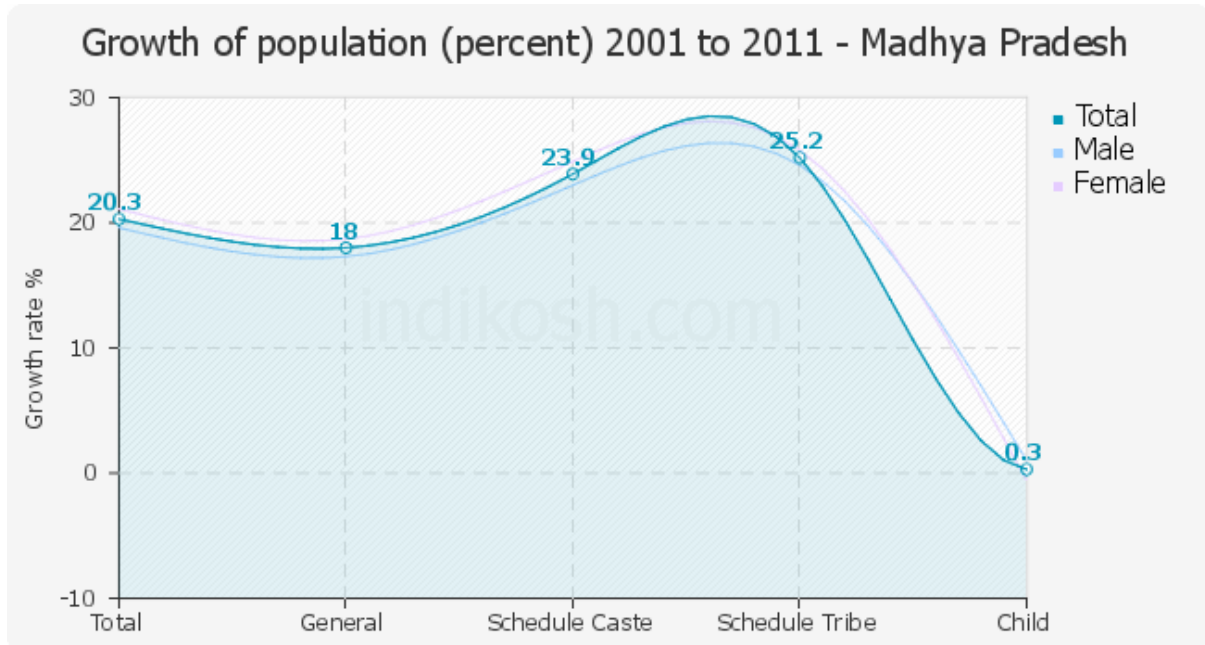
POPULATION DYNAMICS

Madhya Pradesh being recognized as the Labour Surplus State has the substantial population of scheduled tribes and scheduled castes too. The primary scheduled tribe community of the state lives mostly in hilly and forest areas. Over a decade, the total population of Madhya Pradesh has gone up over ten million and is considered as the second biggest state situated in central India and fifth biggest as per population. As per 2011, it includes 75 million occupants approximately. Yearly growth rate of population is 24%. Each year around a million people got added to its population.



As per the census 2010, approximately 310 million people of the state or in other words more than 30% of it are considered as migrants in India. Similarly according to the findings of the National sample survey, short term migrants contribute to approximately 13 million of the population. As per the recent research of overseas development institute, from the majority of the migrants in Madhya Pradesh,

70% of them are circular migrant that is repetitive and temporary moving migrant workers rural-urban or cross- country. Madhya Pradesh having a tribal population of 15,316,784 in persons that contributes to 21.1% of the total population on the other hand scheduled castes represents 11,342,320 in persons that contribute to 15.6% of the total population.

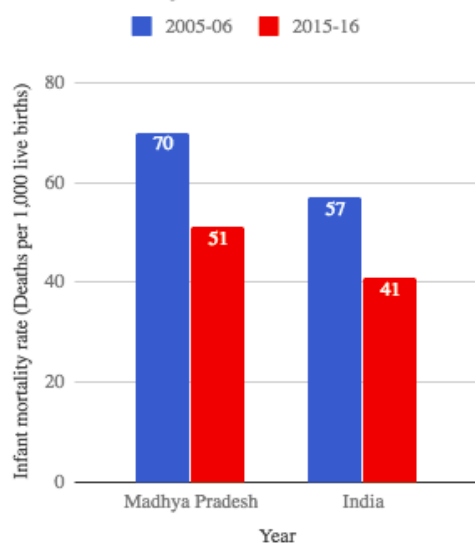


36.69% in total is constituted of both scheduled tribes and scheduled castes. There has been increase in the reposition number as people migrate here in search for work from different states. The in-migration percentage from rural areas is too high that is about 84.83 comparable to urban areas which is 15.17 and

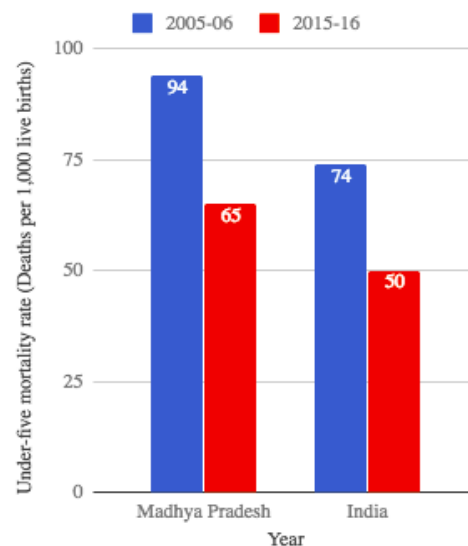
that is due to opportunities of higher education and urbanization. Everyday people in hundreds move to Gujarat. Over 14.11lakh youths are repo reported as unemployed.

Madhya Pradesh Failed To Achieve Its Goal Of Reducing IMR To 28 By 2012

Infant Mortality



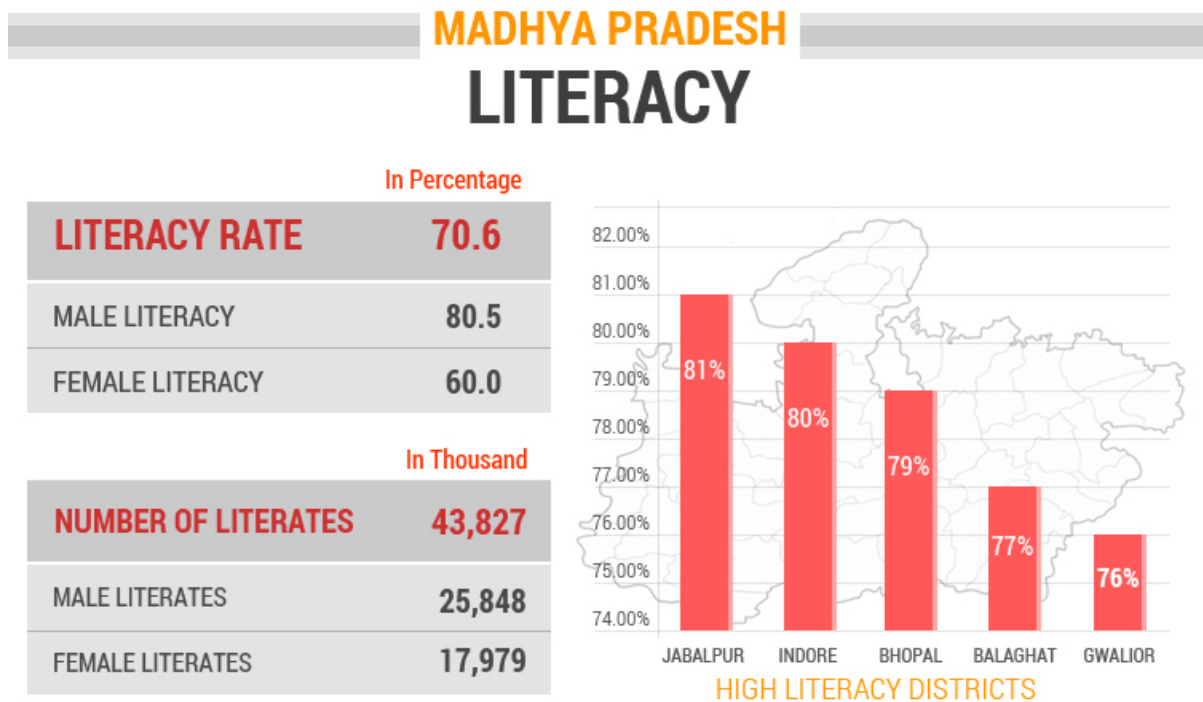
Under-Five Mortality



URBANIZATION IN MADHYA PRADESH

Urbanization that is moderate increase in the proportion of people living in urban regions which means shift of population from rural to urban regions and the way they adapt to this change which leads to further development. Though migration is the key aspect other factors such as better educational and health facility, demand for employment and higher living standard contributes to the upward movement of urbanization. According to 2011 figures, Madhya

Pradesh has a total population of 72,597,565 persons of which population in urban areas consist of 20,059,666 persons which is an increase from 26.5% to 27.6% as per 2001 and number of towns have increased from 394 to 476. Data from 1901 to 2001 shows that number of towns has grown promptly. There are 33 towns where more than 1lakh population lives that includes four vital cities of Jabalpur, Bhopal, Gwalior, and Indore that contributes to more than a million of population.



Though urbanisation contributes to economic development it can prove to be a restraint too because such gradual inflow of population puts pressure on persisting local services of urban regions which is a concern for policy makers. Data 2001/2 reveals that rates of migration were high. In 3 villages, at least more than half the residents had minimum one person migrating. Rural to urban sector migrants were in significant number and the largest number of people were reported employed in construction sector.

Impact of migration

Moneylenders are ready to lend money to the family members of migrants as they know that they will be able to pay back their money on time although it may vary based on the wages received and the type of work done by them. The government have decided to bring change in many fields and will work for problems like water, education, job and health to curb migration situation. Better living is the main cause of migration. Before migration, People were engaged more in agriculture sector, their major commodities are pulses, oilseeds, grams, soy beans and food grains and the highest percentage was mainly from labours and workers from the poorest and backward section of the

society, after that people started engaging as labourers in unorganised sector. Migration has improved the livelihood of the migrants to some extent but this was not enough. The housing condition of migrants reveal their livelihood conditions as most of them were residing in a rented house which does not mean that those people are living a better lifestyle who have their own. Their condition has improved to some extent as they now have better job opportunities, higher wages, standards of living, access to drinking water, education facilities and sanitation. The government had also taken initiatives through skill India to generate employment opportunities in Madhya Pradesh.

CONCLUSION

It is clear from the migration pattern in Madhya Pradesh that the outcome did improved significantly between 2011 and 2006 and 2007. The trends of migration that yield only for the existence before have now begin growing by gradual increase as opportunities of getting certain work and better wages has been improved. The confidence of migrants has built up as they know how to tackle fake contractors

and employers. The government of Madhya Pradesh is taking initiatives to deal with the migration by providing basic utility services. 70% of population of Madhya Pradesh lives in villages. After being considered as backward state in terms of development, rapid advancement have been seen in Madhya Pradesh with respect to infrastructure and farm structure. Every year approx 1 million jobs had to be created to engross the increasing work force in the state. In a set of circumstances where both farm and non-farm economy has been stationary, migration persist as an important source for their survival with respect to wage work. When substantial percentage of people have not completed their primary education broadly categorised as unskilled labourers and workers in the unorganised sector, migration becomes necessary, they just need assistance from intermediaries. Migrants need to find the jobs where unskilled labourers are in demand. Intermediaries of labour appear more significant and are required in this rapid changing development mechanism. Migration remain as a significant part of unskilled labourers as their survival strategy. There is an urgent requirement to make effective migration system as it will eventually led us towards the quality instead of forced migration. If it happens, it would bring better livelihood for such majority of migrants and their members of family too. The Madhya Pradesh has shown prompt growth with respect to urbanization even higher in comparison to national growth. This growth forces local govt to make provision for basic services. Investment in areas like water, electricity and sanitation has gone up. Migrants have to deal and adjust within the different communities and had to face many problems therefore their life is not that easy. Migration happens only because of disparities of rural and urban areas therefore in order to achieve higher living standards migration happens. So, finally I conclude my term paper here.

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