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RISING TRENDS IN INDIAN LABOUR MIGRATION TO GCC COUNTRIES: A TIME-SERIES PERSPECTIVE

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ABSTRACT
Globalisation around the world has allowed the labour movement between the countries. International migration i.e. migration between one country to another country has become a common phenomenon. India has seen a significant number of people migrating to different regions across the world under different circumstances. The upward trend in labour migration to the Gulf countries started when large-scale development activities took place due to an increase in oil prices in the 1970s. The lack of employment opportunities, poverty, low wages and poor standard of living in India caused many Indians to migrate to Gulf countries to gain economic benefits. The six countries like Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia (SA) and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are grouped and it known as Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). There is a rapid growth rate of 79 percent in the Indian migrants who were migrated to GCC countries over the two decades. India was the leading country of origin of international migrants with 17.5 million globally. This study is based on the international migrant's study done on the Panel data for five years interval from 1990 to 2020. It also analyses the total number of males and females migrating to Gulf countries. We used the secondary data from the publications of the United Nations Organizations (Department of Economic and Social Affairs). In this paper we used Compound Annual Growth Rate and Compound Growth Rate for time series analysis, to interpret and the result showed that there is a rapid increase in migration of people to Saudi Arabia from India compared to the other Gulf countries.

KEYWORDS: *Migrant labour, Gulf countries, GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council), Male and Female*

INTRODUCTION

The distribution of the world's population is significantly influenced by migration. Migration is defined as a shift in residential location, whether it be temporary or permanent (Husain M, ed. 2020). International migration is important for the growth of both sending and receiving nations. India stands first rank in terms of highest absolute remittances ($ 63.5 billion) in world (Population Association). According to 2009 Global Human Development Report, migration and a country's socio-economic development have historically been closely correlated. This movement has gone through multiple phases, encouraged by shifts in immigration laws and economic situations in the nations of host massive migration from India to the Gulf countries occurred during the early to mid-1990s. Nearly 90% of international migrants from India have settled in various high-income group countries as per the recent data. Interestingly, apart from USA and UK, most of their remittances came from the six GCC countries. In these six GCC countries, Saudi Arabia and UAE are the major two nations that contributed significantly to the economy of India according to the definition noted by United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA). In current estimates, there are 281 million international migrants worldwide in 2020 or 3.6% of the world's population. Over the previous fifty years, there has been an estimated rise in the number of international migrants. In 2020, there were an estimated 281 million people living abroad, which was 128 million more than in 1990 and more than three times the estimated amount in 1970. A complicated and dynamic part of India's global engagement, the developing nature of this migration continues to shape millions of lives and strengthen ties between the Gulf states and the Indian subcontinent.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To evaluate the growth and distribution of Indian labour migrants to GCC (Gulf) countries between 1990 and 2020.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Kohli N (2014) This study proposed that in recent events, it is necessary to investigate whether Indian migration to the area would stay the same over the next 20 years. In light of this, the chapter looks at the demographics of Indian migrants in the area, the amount of remittances they send home, the immediate effects of new indigenization policies, political unpredictability's and potential future events, bilateral and multilateral initiatives the Indian government has taken to promote mutually beneficial migration to the region, and finally the socioeconomic and cultural effects of migration on India as well as the potential ramifications of a large-scale migration back from the Gulf. ***Chitti Babu Chandramalla (2022)*** In this article he says over the past 20 years, the number of Indian migrants to GCC countries has increased at a quick rate of 79%. India accounted for 17.5 million of all international migrants, making it the most common country of origin. There are 9.3 million migrants living mostly in the Gulf countries. The article outlines current patterns of labour migration from India to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries. The present analysis draws upon extant literature and secondary data sourced from publications published by national and international organisations. ***Naresh S***

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(2015) The article proposed that in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states employ about 6 million Indians, according to the Government of India's most recent estimate. Their primary occupations are unskilled or semi-skilled. Nearly 60% of the remittances that India receives come from Gulf or Middle Eastern nations. This paper's primary goal is to examine the current migration trend and pattern from India to the GCC nations and how it has affected the local as well as the advancement of the country at the emigrants' home.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

In order to accomplish the goals of the research, quantitative approach has been used, particularly Compound Annual Growth Rate and Compound Growth Rate with the use of Secondary data gathered from multiple sources and prior scholarly works. The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) Migration Reports for the years 2017 and 2019, these were the sources of the information about international migration. The study's interpretation has made use of descriptive statistics.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 01: Compound Growth Rate and Compound Annual Growth Rate for the year 1990-2020

Country	Male Migrants		Female Migrants		Total Migration	
	CGR	CAGR	CGR	CAGR	CGR	CAGR
Bahrain	4.240392	0.21396293	4.726245	0.263819984	4.522147	0.241512891
Kuwait	3.760636441	0.1623395	2.952569	0.124459968	3.425333037	0.14637653
Oman	2.570691	0.11262048	2.289102	0.09584274	2.437659	0.104662564
Qatar	2.791147753	0.118079358	2.605686	0.10721382	2.699180681	0.112664139
Saudi Arabia	3.6054377	0.162178547	3.615693935	0.15345183	3.608755	0.158203418
UAE	2.798496	0.13359332	3.606511	0.155447327	3.156922	0.143476971

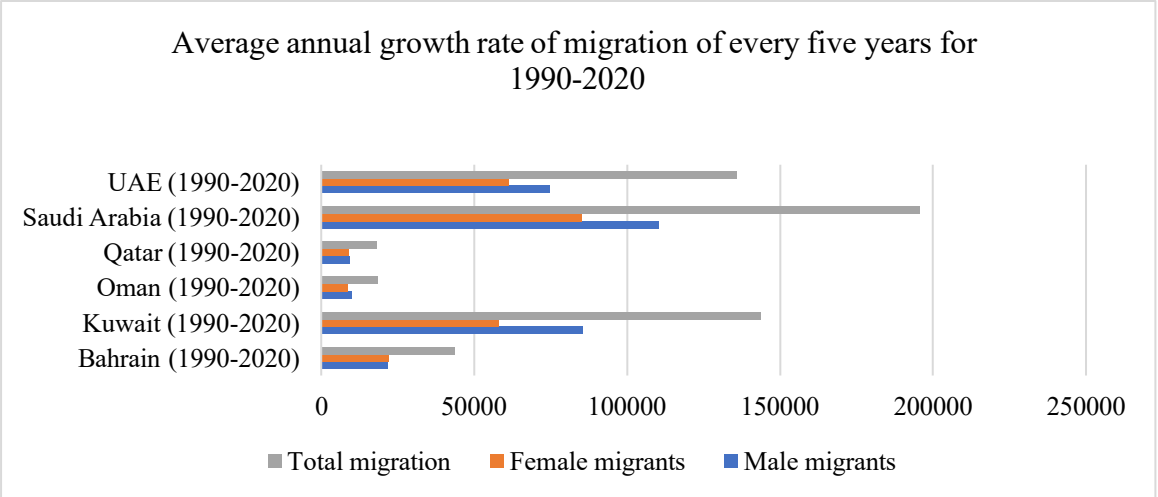
Source: United Nations (Department of Economic and Social affairs), 2019.

The table 01 represents the Compound Growth Rate and Compound Annual Growth Rate from 1990 to 2020. In this, we observed that there is a positive CGR and CAGR for all Indian labour migrating to Gulf countries. The data shows that in both CGR and CAGR for male and female, people migrate more to Bahrain followed by Kuwait and least preferred to Oman. The female migrants are more than males in the countries of Bahrain and UAE. From the total migration results, it states that people migrate more to Bahrain and given least preference to Oman. From this table we concluded that people migrate gradually more to Gulf countries and it is moving in an increasing rate.

Table 02: Average Annual Growth Rate of Every Five Years of Migration

Country	Male Migrants	Female Migrants	Total Migration
Bahrain	21766.3	21894.9	43661.1
Kuwait	85695	58038.3	143733
Oman	9800.71	8691.14	18491.9
Qatar	9267.43	8909.86	18177.3
Saudi Arabia	110380.1429	85023.5714	195403.7143
UAE	74801.9	61094.4	135896

Source: United Nations (Department of Economic and Social affairs), 2019.



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The table 02 represents the Average Annual Growth Rate of the countries of every five years were calculated. It is apparent that Indian people are migrating more to Saudi Arabia than any other countries from the period 1990- 2020 followed by Kuwait.

CONCLUSION

The main focus of this study discussed that migration studies continue to be international migration from India. Over the past 40 years, a number of GCC counties rather than the USA or the UK, they have emerged as the primary destination for Indian immigration. There has historically been a male predominance in Indian International migration. Given that India continues to be the world's leading recipient of remittances, after China and Mexico, the number of remittances received by India is substantial. Remarkably, the six GCC nations accounted for the majority of their remittances, with the exception of the USA and the UK. Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates are the two countries that made substantial economic contributions to India. More than 3 per cent of India's GDP is came from remittances. It is noted that there has been a 50 percent increase in the migration of blue-collar workers from India to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) nations in the first seven months of 2023.

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