

# Chapter 1

## Prologue

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Migration is one of the three basic factors affecting the social ecology, other two being fertility and mortality. Mortality and fertility which work in a biological framework whereas migration is influenced by the wishes of the persons involved. Migration can be defined as the movement of individual or groups of people from one place of residence to another who have the intention of staying in the new place for a substantial period of time.

Rural-urban migration plays a vital role for the social ecological balance. Migration is a response of human organisms to economic, social, political and demographic forces in the environment and an important symptom of social change. The term migration is so broad that it lends itself to various connotations and interpretations which are due to the differences in the nature, scope, purpose of the study or discussion. Sociologists have emphasized social and cultural consequences of migration. While geographers have laid stress on the time and distance significance of migration, economists give importance to the economic aspect of migration. Dictionaries generally refer to migration as a change in residence from one place to another. According to the Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of current English, to migrate means to "move from one place to another (to live there)." According to the Webster's New World Dictionary, it means "move from one place to another, especially to

another country." or "to move from place to place to harvest seasonal crops." According to Demographic Dictionary, "migration is a form of geographical mobility or spatial mobility between one geographical unit and another, generally involving a change in residence from place of origin or place of departure to the place of destination or place of arrival." The Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 defines a migrant workman as any person who is recruited by or through a contractor in any state under an agreement or other arrangement for employment in an establishment in another state whether with or without the knowledge of the principal employer of such establishment.

### **PATTERNS, FORMS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF LABOUR MIGRATION**

Four broad patterns of internal migration are

- i. Rural-to-rural migration
- ii. Rural-to urban migration,
- iii. Urban-to-urban migration
- iv. Urban-to-rural migration.

Within these different streams rural-to-rural and rural to urban migration have been the predominant patterns of migration. The forms of labour migration can broadly be schematized as (i) permanent, (ii) circular or seasonal and (iii) commuting. Within these different forms, seasonal/circular and commuting migration of predominant. The nature of contemporary labour migration can be examined at various levels depending on the degree and extent of vulnerability to which the migrant worker is exposed such as

- a. Migration for survival
- b. Migration for subsistence
- c. Sponsored migration
- d. Voluntary migration.

## **Types of migration**

### **Internal Migration**

Internal migration implies moving to a new home within a state, country, or continent.

### **External Migration**

External migration implies moving to a new home in a different state, country, or continent.

### **Chain Migration**

Chain Migration is a series of migrations within a family or defined group of people. A chain migration often begins with one family member who sends money to bring other family members to the new location. Chain migration results in migration fields, the clustering of people from a specific region into certain neighborhoods or small towns.

### **Return Migration**

Return migration implies the voluntary movements of immigrants back to their place of origin. This is also known as circular migration.

### **Population Transfer**

When a government forces a large group of people out of a region, usually based on ethnicity or religion. This is also known as an involuntary or forced migration.

## Seasonal Migration

The process of moving for a period of time in response to climate conditions (e.g., farm workers following crop harvests or working in cities off-season; "snowbirds" moving to the southern and southwestern United States during winter).

Migration of human beings had taken place from time immemorial and it indicates the inherent tendency of human being to move from one place to another in search of better life. The transitional stage of development, which is characterized by development of towns and cities, growth of manufacturing infrastructure and the advent of modern transport and communication, induces large scale movements of people from rural areas to urban centers. Such forms of migration take place in response to the creation of new livelihood opportunities in the newly developed and rapidly growing cities and towns. At present, when nearly all of the less developed countries of the so called third world are in their transitional stage of development, rural to urban migration is the predominant migratory stream of the world.

Migration of workers is a human phenomenon which has historical roots and wider implications. The search for the source of survival or quest for Eldorado, the blissful life, has ever remained the inspiring and the dovetailing force of migrations. Migrations have economic genesis but resulting socio-political cultural ramifications. Indeed, mingling of different cultures has had positive consequences as well as placing strain on the culture and life of the upcoming society affected in either way by migration. In economic parlance, migration is perceived as when a person is engaged or likely to engage in a remunerative activity in a place of which he is not a native or national.

Migration is an important feature of human civilization. It reflects, human endeavour to survive in the most testing conditions both

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natural and man-made. Migration in India has existed historically, but, in the context of globalization and opening up of the world economy it has assumed special significance for the country and the society. As a consequence of historical and economic factors, there are serious income disparities, agrarian distress, inadequate employment generation, vast growth of informal economy and the resultant migration from rural areas to urban, urban to urban and backward to comparatively advanced regions in the most appalling conditions. Migration is a global phenomenon. Uneven economic development, inter-regional disparity and differences in living standards between socio-economic groups are some of the important reasons responsible for migration.

### **Rural-Urban Migration**

The last few decades have observed massive seasonal or permanent migration of peasants from rural to urban areas in the third world countries. This has been extensively documented, and there has also been an enormous growth of theoretical literature and empirical evidence towards an understanding of the realities of rural-urban migration. The phenomenon has also led to a considerable debate on the process of capitalist penetration into rural areas and its role in influencing the existing socio-economic differentiation in the countryside. One of the prominent theoretical arguments on rural-urban migration views it as individual utility maximization behaviour (Todaro 1969; Hariss and Todaro 1970), where wage differentials between the urban and rural sectors are considered to be the prime determinant of migration. The neoclassical expected income model of Todaro, with its numerous variants, seems to focus on individual potential migrants, and argues that holding much less constant; people will migrate if they expect to do better than they would if they did not move. The neoclassical theory of migration is largely based on the Lewis model, where the institutionally given urban

wage rate and the wage differential between the urban and rural sectors form the basis of framework. This implies that migration from the rural to the urban sector results when the actual rural wage rate falls short of the expected urban wage rate. However, the neo-classical model, which is the most dominating framework in the context of rural-urban migration, assumes that rural migrants are a homogeneous category of poor people, ignoring the fact that their migration is not always based on a strategy of maximisation, but of survival. The circulation of labour or migration from rural to urban areas is at times a response to economic necessity. Of land-owning and other institutional mechanisms that lead to migration from rural to urban areas.

### **Agricultural production and Migration**

Many factors have been contributing to this poor performance of agricultural sector but one of the major factors is the rural-urban migration (especially by youths) which involves the shifting of labour force from rural areas to urban centers, in search of employment, better living standard, freedom of religion and others too numerous to mention, one of the factor affecting rural urban pattern of migration is the shortage of agricultural. Labour supply needed for agricultural production (White 2000). Bull (2001) pointed out that the rural-urban pattern of migration takes more young men than women out of the rural areas, resulting in many women becoming the heads of the household and being responsible for agricultural production. White (2000) pointed out that the youths perform the most tedious jobs in the farm. It is also documented that, in most cases, the works of rural youths include, clearing of the farm, road, clearing of the village streets crops and animal processing, livestock raising artisan production etc. With more youth's migration into urban areas to earn a living, more aged people are now left to accomplish the tasks associated with farming, especially the tasks which are reserved for

the youths. Therefore, there is no doubt that the added responsibilities will reduce the agricultural production, (Ekwu and Eje 2004). Among the factors responsible for the decline of agricultural production is the case of rural-urban migration which involves the movement (especially the youths) from the rural areas to the urban areas in search of better living such as employment opportunities conducive environment etc. since the youths, who constitute the labour force in the rural areas, are actively involved in the rural-urban migration. Therefore there will be a shift of labour force to the urban centers.

### **People who migrate:**

- Emigrant person who is leaving one country to live in another.
- Immigrant a person who is entering a country from another to make a new home.

### **Causes of Migration**

It is interesting to know why some people migrate while others do not. A number of factors, such as the presence of relatives and friends in urban areas who mostly provide help, desire to receive education which is available only in urban areas are factors responsible for migration. Migration is considerably influenced by factors such as the closeness of cultural contracts, cultural diversity etc. Great vitality, strong self-assertion, individualistic attitude etc. are personality traits associated with a high propensity to migrate. Some of the important factors which motivate people to move are discussed below:

### **Demographic Factors**

The differences in the rates of population increase between the different regions of a nation have been found to be a determinant in the internal migration. Fertility and the natural increase in population

are generally higher in rural areas which drift the rural population towards the city. Paucity of domestic labour supply promoted immigration to a number of countries. Other important demographic factor in internal migration is marriage. The female migration is largely sequential to marriage, because it is a Hindu custom to take brides from another village. The custom of women returning to her parents to deliver her first child also accounts for significant internal migration.

### **Socio-Cultural Factors**

Social and cultural factors also play an important role in migration. Sometimes family conflicts, the quest for independence also cause migration especially, of those in the younger generation. Improved communication facilities, such as, transportation, impact of the television, the cinema, the urban oriented education and resultant change in attitudes and values also promote migration.

### **Political Factors**

Sometimes even political factors encourage or discourage migration from region to another. For instance, in India, the reservation of the jobs for 'sons of the soil policy' by the state governments sometimes will certainly discourage the migration from other states. Hence, the political background, attitudes and individual viewpoint of the people exercise a significant influence on the migration of the people.

### **Economic Factors**

Despite the relevance of non-economic factors most of the studies indicate that migration is primarily motivated by economic factors. In large number of developing countries, low agricultural income, agricultural unemployment and underemployment are considered basic factors pushing the migrants towards prosperous or dynamic areas with greater job opportunities. Even the pressure of population



resulting in a high man-land ratio has been widely recognized as one of the important reasons of poverty and rural out migration. Thus, almost all studies concur that most of the migrants (excluding forced and sequential migrants) have moved in search of better economic opportunities. This is an accepted fact in both internal as well as international migration. The basic economic factors which motivate migration may be further classified as 'Push Factors' and 'Pull Factors'. In other words people migrate due to compelling circumstances which pushed them out of the place of origin or they are lured by the attractive conditions in the new place.

**The Push factors** are those that compel a person, due to different reasons, to leave that place and go to some other place. For instance, low productivity, unemployment and underdevelopment, poor economic conditions, lack of opportunities for advancement, exhaustion of natural resources and natural calamities may compel people to leave their native place in search of better economic opportunities. In most developing countries, due to population explosion land-man ratio has declined resulting in significant increase in unemployment and underemployment. Introduction of capital intensive methods of production into the agricultural sector, and mechanization of certain processes reduce labour requirements in rural areas. The non-availability of alternative sources of income (non-agricultural activities) in rural areas is also important factor for migration. In addition to this, the existence of the joint family system and laws of inheritance, which do not permit the division of property, may also force many young men to move out to cities in search of jobs. Even sub division of property leads to migration, as the property become too small to support a family.

**The Pull factors** refer to those factors which attract the migrants to an area, such as, opportunities for better employment, higher wages, facilities, better working conditions and amenities etc. There

is generally city ward migration, when rapid growth of industry, commerce and business takes place. Migration from the country side to the cities bears a close functional relation to the process of industrialization, technological advancement and other cultural changes which characterize the evolution of modern society in almost all parts of the world. Under the capitalistic model of development, there is a tendency for large proportion of investments to concentrate in the urban centers which encourage people to move to urban areas in the expectation of higher paid jobs. Thus, pull factors operate not only in the rural-urban migration, but also in other types of domestic as well as international migration.

But the push and pull factors are different and it is not specific to all community, society. Even persons in same locality the perception differs. The perception towards migration, determinants of migration depends on the socio-economic, personal and communicational variables.

In the recent era migration is playing a pivotal and critical role in case of sustainable livelihood management in the rural areas of our country. The importance emerges not only from the movement of people between places but also from its influence on the lives of individuals in the rural areas. Broadly migration is a relocation of residence of various duration and various natures. But, generally, migration dominates the domain of research and planning as its role in changing the lives of migrant families both at the place of origin and destination. The incidence of migration in any developing country from rural areas is higher, a distinct selectivity with respect to age, sex, caste, marital status, education, occupation *etc.*, occurs and the propensity of migration differs significantly among these socio-economic groups (Lee 1966; Sekhar 1993 and Yadava 1988). Long rural development efforts neither could reverse the trend in rural-urban migration nor could it minimise uneven economic

opportunities such as off-farm employment and earning (Robert and Smith 1977). Migration differentials have significant role in identifying the nature and strength of the socio-economic and demographic impacts of the population concerned. Generally, the differentials in migration (selectivity of certain person or group to distance and duration) have been studied mainly by age, sex, marital status, education and occupation. Several studies reported that determinants of migration vary from country to country and even within a country, it varies depending on the socio-economic, demographic and cultural factors. High unemployment rate, low income, high population growth, unequal distribution of land, demand for higher schooling, prior migration patterns and dissatisfaction with housing have been identified as some of the prominent determinants of rural out-migration (Bilsborrow *et.al* 1987; Kadioglu 1994; Nabi 1992; Sekhar 1993 and Yadava 1988). The propensity of migration is usually influenced by a combination of push-pull factors. People migrated to cities and towns because they are attracted by livelihood opportunities. Keeping these in view the following specific objectives are delineated for the present study:

### **Specific Objectives**

- To study the socio-economic attributes of the migrant households in the study area.
- To identify the differential limits of migrants in terms of their selectivity, determinants of migration and destination of migrants with respect to their socio-economic attributes.
- To assess the migration rate in the study area with respect to their socio-economic attributes.
- To develop a policy implication for migration in the rural areas.

## Need For the Study

Keeping these in view the present study is conducted to focus on the socio-economic attributes of the Migrant households in the study area and to identify the differential limits of migrants in terms of their determinants of migration and destination of migrants with respect to their socio-economic attributes .The study also give an emphasis To assess the migration rate in the study area with respect to their socio-economic attributes .The study try to make an analysis Determining the differentials and determinants of migration process in the rural area which will be immense help for policy makers and Rural Development Programme initiators to develop a policy implication for a overall development in the rural areas .

## Layout of the book

The book has been divided in to eight chapters. The first chapter deals with introduction, **Prologue**, related to the present study. The second chapter deals with **Theory and Interpretation**. The third chapter deals with **Literature and citation** related to the present study. The fourth chapter deals with the **Setting and social ecology** used in the study including the measurement of different variables has been described. The fifth chapter deals with **Methods and Techniques**. The Sixth chapter,With finding and discussion, is **The Empirical Study**. The summary and conclusion along with future scope have been presented in seventh Chapter, **The Epilogue**.