

TRENDS AND PATTERN OF RURAL-URBAN LABOUR MIGRATION: A CASE STUDY OF UPPIN BETAGERI VILLAGE OF DHARWAD DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT:

Labour migration has a significant impact on household and local economy in varying degrees depending on the types of migration, the employment situation in urban areas, and the characteristics of the migrants themselves. As will be seen later, the trend and pattern of internal migration in India significantly changed since 1991. It is, therefore, expected that analysis of migration will cast some light on the socio-economic changes in both rural and urban areas that have been taking place during the post-reform period. Internal labour migration 45.36 crore (37 percent) of Indians are migrated within the country. In this paper the study is based on the primary data; the data were collected through an exhaustive field work from the selected respondent in the study area. For the purpose of collection of data a well structured questionnaire was prepared and personal interviews were conducted with 720 respondent migrants from Uppin Betageri village of Dharwad District, Karnataka State.

KEYWORDS: Migration, Education, Work status, Housing Condition.

INTRODUCTION:

Labour migration is closely associated with the process of economic development, Brainely Thomas (1973) express the view that all sorts of development may lie behind the decisions of individuals or families to leave one country in order to in other. "History shows the influence of threat of starvation, political oppression, religious persecution, eviction, a sense of adventure, an urge to make a future a desire to join relatives abroad or to get away from those at home." But in India it is a symbol of crucial and serious problems like poverty, unemployment and underemployment, very low wages, starvation, indebtedness, inability or more employment in farm sector etc. Which pushed the labourers out from their permanent native place. 45.36 crore (37 percent) of Indians are migrated within the country. In 2001, the figure stood at 31.45 crore most of the migrants around 70 percent are females. Most people, 49 percent, migrate for marriage. Lesser Indians are now relocating for work and employment 10.2

percent in 2011, down from 14.4 percent in 2001. Between 2001-2011, marriage was the dominant reason for migration among women, as was the case in previous two decades. Around 21.7 crore of the 31.2 crore female migrants 69.7 percent cited this reason. 65.9 percent women in 1981-1991 and 64.9 percent in 1991-2001 migrated due to the same reason.

For men, 'work and employment' was the top reason mentioned by 3 crore of the 14 crore male migrants. Further, data show that bulk of the migrants(64percent) moved more than 10 years ago, up from 54 percent in 2001.

TYPES OF MIGRATION:

There are mainly four types of migration namely-

1. Rural-Urban migration
2. Rural-Rural migration
3. Urban-Urban migration
4. Urban-Rural Migration.

These all types of migration are existed in India. But major and main from is rural-urban migration. Therefore, Indian labour migration is basically a rural-urban migration, which is a problem. This is pushed type of migration. Because economic problems pushed labour into urban area from rural area (M.V. Joshi 1999).

REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

Joshi and Padasia (1991) pointed out that migration process is in the form of a) rural to urban industrial centers and rural semi urban areas and b) semi urban areas to urban industrial centers. Migrants from rural areas are absorbed in the urban informal sector and migrants from semi urban areas are absorbed by formal sector jobs in the urban industrial centers. Informal sector is a supplementary source for migrants of semi urban areas. The study stated that rural migrants stayed in the small cities and towns in their initial stage and their next generation only moved from those cities to large industrial metropolises. Thus, the dominant migration pattern was not only rural to urban but also it was urban to urban.

Sekhar (1993) revealed that the proportion of migration was taken place among the middle income groups rather than rich and poor since the rich did not migrate due to the risk and hardship and the poor did not have the required resources at their disposal to meet the cost of emigration.

Amal Datta (2003) focused their study the expectation of society and regional disparities in the context of economic and social development has not received adequate attention all through the plan scheme. They have observation deploring migration to cities and towns and other facilities are providing and create the problem. Certainly it also includes live hood employment and wage, technology, attitudinal and cultural changes and modernization, and development of sparsely as well as densely populated areas, and the tensions in the political, economic and cultural fields.

METHODOLOGY:

Uppin Betageri is one of the biggest villages in Dharwad tahasil of Dharwad district in Karnataka, India. It is entry point of Dharwad district from Bailhongal. A culturally rich village and typical village in terms of structure of the society and economy. The village economy is mainly depending upon the agriculture. Non-form activities are secondary. Village is called as 'Uppin Betageri' or 'Lavanagiri'. The village is located at hill and where ever we dig the bore well in the village region, we get salt water, and hence the name "Uppin Betageri".

The study is based on the primary data; the data were collected through an exhaustive field work from the selected respondent in the study area. For the purpose of collection of data a well structured questionnaire was prepared and personal interviews were conducted with 720 respondent migrants from Uppin Bategeri Village of Dharwad District, Karnataka State.

TRENDS AND PATTERN OF UPPIN BETAGERI VILLAGE:

AGE-GROUP

Age is the key variable to understand the status of an individual. In terms of occupation age has got some more significant role to play. The table No.01 provides information regarding the age group of respondents.

Table No.1:

Distribution of the Migrant Labourer on The Basis of Age

Sl. No.	Age Group	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	15-29	286	39.72
2	30-44	322	44.72
3	45-60	92	12.78
4	Above 60	20	2.78
Total		720	100.00

Source: Collected from Field Survey (2016-17)

Age wise composition is also dealt within this particular study where in it is found that about 85 percent of the migrant labourers are the relatively younger population who belong to the productive age group of 15-45, Remaining accounted by the relatively older population. The first point is regarding the gender, caste, religious etc.

EDUCATIONAL STATUS:

Education is one of the major tools, which provides individuals the necessary qualifications to fulfill economic roles and consequently improve their socio-economic status. The following Table No.02 explains educational background of respondents.

Table No. 2:

Educational Status of Respondent

Sl. No.	Education	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Lower Primary	142	19.72
2	Upper primary	95	13.19
3	Secondary	83	11.53
4	Higher Secondary	91	12.64
5	Graduate	21	2.92
6	Post Graduate	16	2.22
7	Technical Education	31	4.31
8	Professional Education	25	3.47
9	Illiterates	216	30.00
Total		720	100.00

Source: Collected from Field Survey (2016-17)

Educational level of the respondents is exhibited in the Table No -2. It elucidates that 19.72 percent of the respondents have received education up to lower primary level. 13.19 percent of them up to upper primary level, 11.53 percent received secondary, 12.64 percent higher secondary and 2.92 percent completed graduation. 2.22 percent respondent have received post graduate, 4.31 percent respondent technical education and 3.47 percent respondents professional education completed. Remaining 30 percent respondent of them are illiterates, which is quite above the national level. Illiterate migrants are depending on mestris who take some percent of the wages.

TREND AND PATTERN OF RESPONDENTS:**Table No.3:****Place of the Migration**

Sl. No.	Place of Migration	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Intra District	512	71.11
2	Inter District	123	17.08
3	Inter State	66	9.17
4	Inter National	19	2.64
Total		720	100.00

Source: Collected from Field Survey (2016-17)

It is clear from the table no-3 above that cover 70 percent of the migration that is taking place from Uppin Betageri Village is within the district. Majority of the people are working within Dharwad District and most specifically these labourers go to Dharwad city in search of work another about 17 percent of the labourers are also moving out of the district in search of economic opportunities. These labourers are mainly go to Belgaum district. Inter-district migration mainly includes the Devang community where majority of them have migrated to Belagavi. About 10 percent of the labourers also moved out of the state mainly to Goa and Maharashtra probably in search of seasonal type of employment. Also a small i.e., about 3 percent of the migrant labourers resulted to international migration. This is mainly by minority Muslims community who are going to Dubai and other Arab countries in search of semi-skilled and manual kind of work.

Table number 4 below which deals with nature and the type of the work which the migrated labourers to at the migrated place. The table number 4 clearly shows that about 40 percent of the migrant labourers are into construction work followed by casual work and industrial work which accounted 17.36 and 16.94 percent respectively. It is also interesting to note that as small percentage of about 4.3 percent of the labourer are also involved in the household work. And about 7 percent of them also owned their own business at the migrated place and rest of the thing is accounted by the other kind of the works.

Table No.4:**Type of the work at the Migrated Place**

Sl. No.	Work Status	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Hotel Work	19	2.64
2	Household work	31	4.31
3	Construction Work	295	40.97
4	Casual Work	125	17.36
5	Industrial Work	122	16.94
6	Own Business	48	6.67
7	Other Work	80	11.11
Total		720	100.00

Source: Collected from Field Survey (2016-17)

It is clear that the majority of the workers. i.e. about 3 percent are involved in the hotel work and about 5 percent in the house hold work. Taken together about 40 percent in the constriction work and about 18 percent in the household work, that is almost about 70 percent of them are involved in the unskilled works at the migrated place. And only about 17 percent of them are into industrial work, which could be the skilled or semi-skilled kind of a work. This particular aspect, whether they are in to constriction work, household work or industrial work etc., can be further analyzed across the caste as well as the religious.

NATURE OF WORK: PERMANENT, SEASONAL AND TEMPORARY:

Now once the kind of work they do and whether they do skilled work or unskilled work in terms of whether that doing permanent work, seasonal work or temporary work. This is evidenced by below table.

Table No.5:**Type of the Work of the Migrated Labourer**

Sl. No.	Type of Work	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Permanent	91	12.64
2	Seasonal	171	23.75
3	Temporary	458	63.61
Total		720	100.00

Source: Collected from Field Survey (2016-17)

As is the seen from the table no-5, 64 percent i.e., about two third of the total migrant laborers are involved in the temporary work. It is not a permanent work of any kind wherein the labourers are supposed to stay in the place of the work.(It is not to tent to 5 kind of job either in the job. Either in the any of the original sector). About quarter of them also involved in the seasonal type of work. These temporary workers are basically the workers who are also involved in the intra-district jobs. Seasonal workers are the workers, who are migrated to other state for the work. Permanent workers include both in intra-state as well as the internationally migrated labourers.

Table No.6:**Work Status of Labourer in Migrated Place**

Sl. No.	Work Status	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Self Employed	48	6.67
2	Contract Labourer	93	12.92
3	Daily Basis	344	47.78
4	Others	235	32.64
		720	100.00

Source: Collected from Field Survey (2016-17)

The aspect is seen from Table No.6 that over 50 percent of the migrant labourers as are the daily basis workers or the contractual labourers. Only about 7 percent of them are self employed. One third of the remaining is accounted by the other kind of workers.

Table No. 7:**Monthly Income of the Labourer After Migration**

Sl. No.	Monthly Income	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Less Than Rs.5,000	158	21.94
2	Rs.5,000 to Rs.8,000	324	45.00
3	Rs.8,000 to Rs.12,000	199	27.64
4	Above Rs.12,000	39	5.42
Total		720	100.00

Source: Collected from Field Survey (2016-17)

The table above deals with monthly income of the labourers after migration. As per the data collected from the respondents it is found that about half of the migrant population was in income blocked of Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 8,000 after migration and about 1/3 (27.64 percent) migrant population said that the earn between Rs. 8,000 to Rs.12,000. That is almost ¾ of the migrant population is now earning in excess of Rs. 5,000 per month. Migration has definitely lead to increased in the income levels of migrant population and by logical extension, this must also have led to the overall increase income levels of the Uppin Betageri village as a whole as the wage rates in the Uppin Betageri village must have also gone up in the post migration period. This increase in income though cannot be completely attributed to the migration. They could also be attributed other factors at work. But the migration does have significant role to play in increase of the income levels. The economic rational also further states that increase in income also leads increase savings and investment rates also.

Table No.8:**Housing Condition of the Migrant Labourer at Native Place**

Sl. No.	Housing Condition	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Kaccha	219	30.42
2	Semi Pakka	403	55.97
3	Pakka	98	13.61
Total		720	100.00

Source: Collected from Field Survey (2016-17)

However it is important to note that not just owning house is sufficient. The kind of houses they own or the dwell upon or they live in also important. That takes us to analyse about the types of houses in which the migrant laboures live. And this shows an interesting phenomenon. As explained more the 80 percent of them migrant laboures including 73 percent own house and 10 percent live in government provided houses. That is they are the owner of one or the other type of houses. But 85 percent of the houses either kaccha or semi-pakka houses. Only about 14 percent of the migrant labourers lived in pakka houses.

PROBLEMS FACING AT THE MIGRATED PLACE:

The study also analyzes the problems which migrated labourers from Uppin Betageri may be facing at the migrated or work place. It may be in terms of salary, language, food, work condition as well as the harassment at the work place. These conditions the language barriers, food barriers the bad working conditions as well as harassment would have some unintended social consequences.

Table No. 9:

Problems Facing at Migrated Place

Sl. No.	Problems	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Salary	94	13.06
2	Language	48	6.67
3	Food	144	20.00
4	Work	172	23.89
5	Harassment	288	40.00
6	Other Problems	387	53.75

Source: Collected from Field Survey (2016-17)

About 40 percent of the respondents felt that they are harassed at the work place or in the migrated place. Another 25 percent (quarter) of migrant labourers are said that there are work related issues. Language was the barrier for a small percentage of the people (about 7 percent) and they were also salary issues on the part of 13 percent labours who felt that they had issues with the salary it is quantum the wage distribution etc. But possibly they have no choice but to just accept it lying down. 20 percent of the respondent also felt that food was also an issue for them. At the migrated place. So all said and done picture need not the rosy and bed full of roses. So as it happens in the case of other economic phenomenon, migrant labourers also face several issues at the migrated place.

The migrant labourers also have to bear with some kind of inconvenience, social as well as economic in order to earn better wages, and incomes, so that they have better future and better economic status at their native village.

MAJOR FINDINGS:

The main findings from this study are summarized in the following points.

- The main reasons for migrants of respondents lack of work opportunity and wages in their native place and they migrated for livelihood and better income.
- The primary data collected during the field survey have shown that most of the labour migrants fall into the young age group.
- The majority of 30 percent of respondents are illiterates and low standard of education, which is quite above the national level. They are unable to get good work in their native place and neither gets benefit under government schemes.
- The majority 30.42 percent of the respondent resides in kaccha houses only few 13.61 percentage of respondents residing in pakka houses and good commentary upon their economic and living conditions.
- It is found from our study that migrant do not get more income even migrated from their native place. Only skilled persons are paid good wage and regular work that have got more income from construction, business and hotel work.
- It is also found in the study, that every migrant have faced problem at migrated place.

CONCLUSIONS:

Migration is an integral and regular part of livelihood strategies and production systems and also migration is a diverse phenomenon with various non-economic determinants. Most of the migrants receive little support and live in very difficult conditions. In this paper, it reveals that migration is very serious and destructive problem. Government's false planning, policies, priorities, strategies of development is responsible for this serious problem. Government gives topmost importance and priority to industry instead of migration of agricultural, to urbanisation instead of rural development, to giant mega industries instead of small scale, cottage and agro-based industries. Therefore the government should divert these towards small urban and rural areas, it is provide job opportunity for unemployment which will ultimately reduce the migration. There are several different position in what should be done to address view is that of migration should be reduced by creating employment in villages.

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