MIGRATION THE CONCEPTUAL ISSUES

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Introduction

Migration is a form of geographical or spatial mobility. It is concerned with the movement of people from one area to another during a given interval of time. According to Demographic Dictionary of United States, "Migration is a form of geographical mobility or spatial mobility between one geographical unit and another, generally involving a change in residence from the place of origin or place of departure to the place of destination or place of arrival. Such migration is called permanent migration and can be distinguished from other forms of movement which do not involve a permanent change of residence". Migration can be bifurcated into internal and international. Internal migration refers to migration within boundaries of a given nation, such movement from one district to another, from one state to another, from one region to another, from rural area to urban centers etc. within a country. The movement of people by changing the place of residence in a particular locality is not migration rather mobility. International migration refers to movement across the national boundaries. It is termed as emigration from the stand point of country where the movement starts and termed as immigration at the place of entry to another country. Movement into a country is called immigration and movement out of a country is called emigration. Total volume of flow of emigration and immigration relates to gross migration and difference between emigration and immigration at a particular point of time is termed as net migration. The net migration is also referred to as the balance of migration. The net migration rate indicates the contribution of migration to the overall level of population change. In-migration means migration occurring within an area only, whereas out-migration means migration out of the area. Both types of migration are called internal migration occurring within the country. Migration from Baripada to New-Delhi constitutes in-migration for Baripada whereas it is out-migration for New-Delhi. Migration stream refers to total number of people migrating from one region to another or from one country to another for residing during a time period. It is related to the movement of people from a common area of origin to a common area of destination, e.g. migration of Indians to America during a time interval. Migration may occur continuously over a period of time. The division relating to a particular period is known as migration interval. The place which people leave is the place of origin and the person is called out migrant. The place of destination is the place where the person moves and the person is called an in-migrant.

The present paper exerts an ingenious endeavour to comparehend various conceptual issues relating to migration.

Factors leading to Internal Migration: Internal migration can be attributed to pull and push factors.

Pull Factors: Pull factors are favourable factors which attract people towards a particular place or region. They comprise –
1. Prospects of employment opportunities.
2. Health facilities
3. Education facilities
4. Conducive climate
5. Development of trade and industry
6. Commercialisation of agriculture
7. Access to means of transport and communication
8. Allurement of modern amenities
9. Proximity of the city
10. Security of life and property
11. Healthy business environment
12. Presence of kin and relatives
13. Establishment of power projects, new industries, growth centers, industrial estates etc.
14. Emergence of new industrial and business centers e.g. Bhilai, Durgapur, Rourkela, Bokaro, Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Chennai, Kolkata, Mumbai, New-Delhi, Hyderabad etc.

Push Factors: Push factors are unfavourable factors which push people to move from one place or region to another within a country. They comprise-
a. Lack of employment at the place of residence and moving out in search of jobs or better employment opportunities.
b. Lower per capita income.
c. Shortage of land

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d. Poor quality of land
e. Unequal distribution of land
f. Lack of modern amenities
g. Lack of educational and training facilities
h. Natural calamities like earthquake, super cyclone, drought, flood etc.
i. Fear of persecution of law.
j. Displacement by SEZs industrial projects or Hydro electric projects or any mega project.
k. Deteriorating law and order conditions leading to insecurity of life and property.
l. Discrimination on grounds of race and religion
m. Political maneuvering or victimisation
n. Break up of joint family system.

Factors Leading to External or International Migration
1. *Economic Condition:* In case of natural resources being deficient or agricultural yield rate being low, people prefer to migrate to favourable places. When raw materials become inadequate or when demand for labour decreases due to mechanisation process, labour migrates from one country to another to elevate economic conditions.
2. *Climatic Condition:* People prefer to migrate from the place of atmospheric pollution to a place with better climatic condition, people also migrate from a place where frequent earthquakes or super cyclones or floods occur. Deleterious effects of chemical plants induce people to migrate to better off places.
3. *Social and Cultural Factors:* People migrate to those places where they find favourable social conditions and stable values, which provide security to life and reduce conflicts. People renunciate those places where social conflicts are recurring which lead to loss of jobs, strikes, agitation, riots etc.
4. *Religious Factors:* Religious values are important for migration. Sikhs prefer to migrate to a place where they find a Gurudwara. Buddhists are observed more in Nepal and Northern India, Muslims migrate more to Arabian countries where they find similar religious perceptions.
5. *Industrialisation:* Industrial growth centers attract skilled personnel. Urbanisation stemming from industrialisation tend to provide modernised amenities for which people being enamoured by developed means of transport and communication, health, education and employment prospects migrate to urban areas.
6. *Political Factors:* Political turmoils induce people to migrate to peaceful country where political equilibrium prevails. In the absence of law and order situation people migrate to that country where political stability prevails.
7. *Demographic Factors:* In a country where there are less medical facilities, low literacy rate, less availability of basic amenities, high density of population, high unemployment rate, high mortality rate compared to birth rate etc. people migrate to more advanced countries where they find better socio-economic conditions.

Measurement of Migration
The migration of any country from the available data can be had from three points of views –
1. From the stand point of the effect on the sending area.
2. From the stand point of the effect on the receiving area.
3. From the stand point of the migrants as a separate group.

The number of migrants from the above three view points may not be the same. Therefore, common standard formulee used in the above point of views can be summarized in these forms.
a. The number of migrants and the ratio to the population of sending place.
b. The number of migrants and the ratio to the population of destination place.
c. Any absolute value of migrants.

Sources of Data: The migration data can be obtained from transit statistics i.e. population register, periodic national census and sample surveys.
a. *Transit Statistics:* Information relating to internal migration involving residential changes is recorded in a continuous population register. The data available from these registers are advantageous in the analysis of internal migration.
b. *National Census:* The periodic national census which collect information by direct questions relating to place of births, place of last resident, duration of residence in the place of enumeration and place of residence on a specified data before census are useful source of data for internal migration.

c. *Sample Surveys:* Census data can be supplemented by the information obtained to characteristics, motives and attitudes towards migration can be useful in the intensive studies of internal migration.

The technique used for measuring or estimating internal migration can be classified into two categories i.e. direct techniques and indirect techniques.

Direct Measures of Estimating Migration
a. *Place of Birth Method:* This is based on the data collected from direct questions asked during census on the mobility of persons. These questions are asked about the place of birth from which migrants and non-migrants can be classified. A migrant is defined as a person who is enumerated in a place which is different from the place where he was born. A non-migrant is defined as a person who is enumerated in the place where he was born. The migrants are again grouped according to migration streams on the basis of place of residence and place of birth.

b. *Duration of Residence Approach:* The migration at the place of enumeration under the duration of residence approach includes all who have ever migrated:
1. Those born outside the area of enumeration and
2. Those born in the area of enumeration who had at sometimes lived outside. It (return migrants). In this approach return migrants are included where as in place of birth approach it is excluded.

c. *Place of last Residence Approach:* In this method information is collected about the place of last residence, which is classified in to (1) the migrants whose place of last residence and place of present residence do not ressemble. (2) non-migraants who have never migrated outside of their birth place categories. Last residence statistics identifies all migrants and covers all persons who had migrated at any time during their life time. The volume of in-migration, out-migration and net-migration between the place of origin and place of destination can be had after cross classification of last residence data. It reflects a direct movement from the place of origin to the place of destination.

d. *Place of Residence at Fixed prior Date:* The census or sample surveys in few countries also collect information about the residence on a specified date. These data are relevant as migration interval is clear cut. Migration status is determined by a comparison of residence at two definite points in time and a migrant is defined as a person whose residence at the census date differs from his residence at the specified prior date. It is very useful in the analysis of current migration and for computing the period migration rate.

Indirect Measures of Estimation of Net Migration: In this method population data of two successive census are used for the estimation of net migration. Four techniques used for migration estimation are mentioned below:
a. *Vital Statistics Method:* This method is adopted where reliable information related to vital statistics like birth, death rate etc. are available to compute natural growth rate of population between two successive census operation The formula devised for vital statistics method is $M = (P_1 – P_0) – (B - D)$

Where in any given area
M denotes net internal migration
P_o denotes population according to previous census.
P_1 denotes population according to post census
B denotes births in that area during time period of two census.
D denotes number of deaths in the same area during the period of two census

b. *Survival Ratio Method:* The estimation of net migration under this method is based on the survivorship probabilities obtained from existing life-tables. Expected population for the second census can be obtained by applying survivor ratio on the first census. Then net migration in the second census will be the difference of expected population and enumerated population. The net migration can be estimated by knowing the survival ratio of two consecutive census operations, in case of lack of appropriate life table or where its use is banned for unknown reasons. The estimation of net migration for children born between two census can't be estimated neither by census survival ratio method nor by life table survival ratio method.

c. *Migration Rate :* It is computed like other natural rates by the formula
$$m = \frac{M}{P} \cdot K$$
Where m represents the migration rate for the specific interval;

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M represents the number of persons migrating during the interval
P represents the mid year population
K denotes constant 100 or 1000

d. **Net Migration Rate:** Under the condition I>E the net migration rate is defined as

$$\text{Net migration rate} = P_1 - \dfrac{I - E}{\left[\dfrac{P_1}{P_0 + P_1}\right]} (B - D)$$

For I < E

$$\text{Net migration rate} = P_1 - \dfrac{I - E}{\left[\dfrac{P_0}{P0 + P1}\right]} (B - D)$$

Brain Drain: Brain drain refers to the migration of highly qualified, trained and talented persons from one country to another. It implies outflow of human capital from developing countries to developed countries. It involves international migration of surgeons, scientists, engineers, technologists, business administration financial experts etc. to developed countries like U.K., U.S., Germany, Australia etc.. Developing countries are great losers due to brain drain when professionals and technical persons emigrate to other countries. They subsidise the educational costs of such personnel but unable to tax their income. The money which a few remit is insignificant as compared with the above two types of losses. The best of brains settle abroad which is a permanent loss to the home country. Mihir Desai, Devesh Kapur and John Mc. Hale of Harvard University have estimated that the total income of Indian born residents in the US accounts for 10% of India's national income, though they are only 0.1% of the American population.

Factors Leading to Brain Drain
1. In developing countries, job opportunities are limited for which qualified persons migrate to developed countries like U.S. to take advantage of wider and better job opportunities.
2. Even though similar skills are needed in both developing and developed countries, people migrate and settle permanently in the later countries because they pay lucrative salaries. The adage "brains go to where money is" has relevance.
3. Some persons go abroad for higher studies and research because academic and research facilities are not of international standards in UDCs. For instance there are first rate facilities for research in social and natural sciences and technology. These allure persons from UDCs who after acquiring higher proficiency in their respective fields permanently settle there. Another adage, "Brains go where brains are" has relevance in the context of brain drain.
4. A few highly skilled person migrate and settle permanently in developed countries attracted by a comfortable standard of living as against their own country.
5. Some are persuaded by friends and relatives already settled abroad to get higher education and training. They ultimately settle in that country by joining firms in their respective fields of study.
6. Another vital factor is the excess supply of specialized and trained persons at home over the demand for them in developed countries which encourages people to migrate to developed countries permanently.
7. Brain drain is also encouraged in developing countries because of unfriendly, non-motivated constrained and non-creative work environment in developed countries.
8. In developing countries good jobs are filled and promotions are made on the basis of family connections, political influence and corruption. In public sector institutions there is stifling and unresponsive bureaucracy, corruption is rampant which encourages brain drain abroad. On the other hand freedom of occupation, better job opportunities, possibilities of professional growth, financial security and congenial work environment attract highly qualified and skilled personnel to developed countries.
9. US entice talented manpower from developing countries by liberalizing their immigration policies to permit and encourage such migration.

Measures to Reduce Brain Drain
1. Prof. Parthasarathi in an article, "Brain in Developing Countries", suggested that every student should be allowed to go for higher study abroad only if he has attained the highest possible level of education in the specialized field of study in his own country. After this he should be employed in the country for at least two years before being permitted to go abroad.

2. Prof. Dandekar in an article "The brain Drain" suggested that the inequality within the intellectual ranks both interms of status and income should be narrowed down to reduce brain drain.

3. Besides, an intellectually stimulating environment should be created in the institutions where the talented persons work in the home country.

4. An organisation should be set up to provide information and advice to highly qualified persons on job opportunities within the country.

5. There should be a scientists pool scheme to help the young talented scientists for placement in various institutions and to attract those who are working or studying abroad to bounce back to their country.

6. Besides good pay and perks, they should be provided such amenities as housing, schooling for children, conveyance etc. For those who are willing to return from abroad should also be paid the TA/ travel fare where they join.

7. Prof. Jagdish Bhagwati suggested the levy of an international tax on professionals settling abroad. The country to which the person migrates permanently should collect this tax and remit it to the country from which the person comes. Such a tax would be sufficient to cover the revenue deficit of developing countries. Recently Mihir Desai, Devesh Kapur and John. Mc. Hale of Harvard University have empirically carried forward Bhagwati's idea of the immigration tax. They have estimated that the net fiscal loss of India from emigration of skilled persons to US was between 0.24% and 0.58% of India's GDP in 2001. According to them, Bhagwati Tax can yield an annual revenue of about $ 500 million. They prefer an 'exit tax' on all skilled persons who emigrate. The problem is of collecting such a tax.

8. Prof. Bhagwati has also suggested the setting up a world migration organisation in conformity with WTO to develop a coherent policy on the movement of individuals across borders.

To prevent brain drain and to attract those who have already settled abroad. It is imperative that there should be a congenial working environment which provide financial security, professional growth, based on meritocracy and free from bureaucratic corruption and nepotism. Coming back home of successful émigrés, some of whom get fabulously rich will invest capital to start industries in developing countries, thereby leading to reverse brain drain.

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