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MIGRATION A PROCESS OF URBANISATION AND GIVING RISE TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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ABSTRACT

Global economic, political, and social policies are significantly shaped by the expanding phenomenon of migration. Even if migration has historically brought about cultural and economic advantages, current global trends highlight the absurdities that people who travel because of conflict and a lack of food security must deal with. However, environmental deterioration, climate change, and the growing amount of land being used for non-agricultural purposes are already putting strain on agriculture. Additionally, the triple burden of malnutrition—the coexistence of hunger (insufficient caloric intake to meet dietary energy requirements), undernutrition (prolonged inadequate intake of macro- and micronutrients), and overnutrition in the form of overweight and obesity has been accelerated by the shift in population centers brought on by migration. Due to a lack of perspective, less social mobility, and the perception of higher living standards in other areas or nations, inequality has a direct impact on migration. High levels of inequality put a society's social cohesiveness at risk, which can lead to violent conflicts and social instability, hence escalating the demands on migration. Additionally, migration creates opportunities for rural development, sustainable agriculture, and food security. For example, crop productivity and food supply may suffer from the loss of agricultural labor and human capital. Developing comprehensive national policy and institutional frameworks for migration; managing migration for long-term positive development impacts at the sub-national and local level; and developing resilience-based development solutions for migration and displacement in times of crisis to protect development gains and deal with and recover from the impact of large movements are the main areas of work for UNDP.

1. INTRODUCTION

Migration has existed for as long as human civilization. Geographical barriers were crucial in providing opportunities for the migration event in the early periods of history (Aniche, 2020). Migration can contribute to sustainability transitions, as it enhances welfare while not aggravating structural inequalities and uneven burdens on ecological resources (Adger et al., 2024). The migration was restricted to short distances due to a lack of language proficiency and transportation infrastructure (Isphording & Otten, 2014; Robertson, 2017; Wang et al., 2018; Alhalahmeh et al., 2025). However, in the early 19th century, migration was not defined as movement inside a state; rather, it was defined as crossing state lines (Livi-Bacci, 2018). However, modern migration is a reaction to urbanization, industrialization, and technical advancement, and it is made easier by easy access to transportation (Massey, 2019; Aslam et al., 2025). A person is classified as a migrant by the Indian Census if their place of birth differs from the location where they are being counted (Jeyashree et al., 2018; Kusuma et al., 2018; Kirchberger, 2021). Additionally, if the location where he is listed during the census differs from his place of immediate last residency, it utilizes his place of last home (Mast, 2023). In India, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Punjab, Delhi, and Haryana attracted a significant number of interstate migrants between 1991 and 2001 (Singh & Biradar, 2022; Ghatak, 2025). Numerous changes to India's market, trade, and education policies in recent years have affected the country's migratory patterns (Gaikwad, 2025). It has gradually widened the divide between the agricultural and non-agricultural sectors, between rural and urban regions, and between labor turnover and employment (Singh & Pattanaik, 2025; Wang & Tan, 2025). Due to the abundance of economic prospects, metropolises have become the primary destination for people looking for work, despite their hefty infrastructure burden. Major cities also attract migrants due to their connectivity to adjacent districts' housing and transportation infrastructure (Zhuang, 2020).

Based on their last place of residence, 455 million people were classified as migrants in the 2011 census, making up almost 37% of the nation's overall population (Singha and Firdos, 2021; Chatterjee, 2024). This number represents a 97% increase from 1991 (231 million) and a 44% increase from 2001 (314 million). The Indian Constitution grants its citizens the fundamental freedom to relocate anywhere in the nation, granting them the complete right to live and work anywhere they choose (Mirza, 2021). The decision to relocate is influenced by a number of political, social, cultural, and economic reasons. The effects of these variables vary by location and time. Because it is influenced by economic, political, and cultural factors It is the most difficult to comprehend and the most unpredictable aspect of population expansion. Migration pattern analysis is crucial for planning strategy. This paper's primary goal is to bring our understanding of the new migration volumes and trends from the 1991, 2001, and 2011 Indian censuses up to date.

1.1. Types of Migration

Based on the person's birthplace, last home, and length of stay at the enumeration location, census data were categorized by migration status. In India, these divisions were established according to administrative borders like district and status. Aids in comprehending the distance component in relation to the four categories of migrants

1. Intra-district Migrants: Individuals who were born in the district but are listed somewhere else.
2. Inter-district migrants: People who are listed in one district but were born in another district within the same state are known as inter-district migrants.
3. Interstate migrants: People who are listed in one state but were born in another are known as interstate migrants.
4. International Migrants: Individuals who were born outside of India yet are listed there.

Based on data regarding birthplace and last residence, as well as rural and urban residences, we have displayed the migration stream. According to public census data, there are four distinct types of migration streams. These are the migration streams from rural to rural, rural to urban, and urban to rural. This study examined and calculated work participation rates, educational attainment, and literacy rates by intra-district, inter-district, inter-state, and international migration streams in India from 1991 to 2011 in order to better understand migration trends and features.

1.2. Sustainability towards Future

Global economic, political, and social policies are significantly shaped by the expanding phenomenon of migration. Even if migration has historically brought about cultural and economic advantages, current global trends highlight the absurdities that people who travel because of conflict and a lack of food security must deal with. A significant portion of migrants are from rural areas, where over 75% of the

world's food insecure and impoverished rely on livelihoods based on agriculture and natural resources. For these reasons, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization has chosen "Change the Future of Migration" as this year's World Food Day theme. Invest in rural development and food security.

One important development that will influence food security and nutrition in the near future is migration towards urban areas. Rapid internal migration is shown by the urban population's annual percentage change, which is higher than the global average. It is projected that over half of India's population would live in cities by 2050. By 2050, just three nations - China, India, and Nigeria are predicted to have 900 million more urban dwellers. Given that the majority of migration in India occurs from rural to urban regions, how we handle the future growth of urban areas will be crucial to maintaining agricultural productivity and global food security.

Fostering rural-urban economic ties, expanding

and diversifying rural employment opportunities, particularly for women and young people, empowering the impoverished to better manage risks through social protection, and using remittances for investments in the rural sector as practical ways to improve livelihoods and reduce distress-induced migration are all important components of a sustainable solution to the migration problem.

1.3. India's Internal Migration

One important demographic phenomenon in India is internal migration, or the movement of individuals within the nation. It mostly happens within states, and a significant amount of it is migration from rural to urban areas motivated by economic opportunity. According to the EAC-PM study, the trend indicates a slowing down of the migration pace, possibly as a result of improved conditions in origin areas, even if the total number of migrants is expected to have declined.
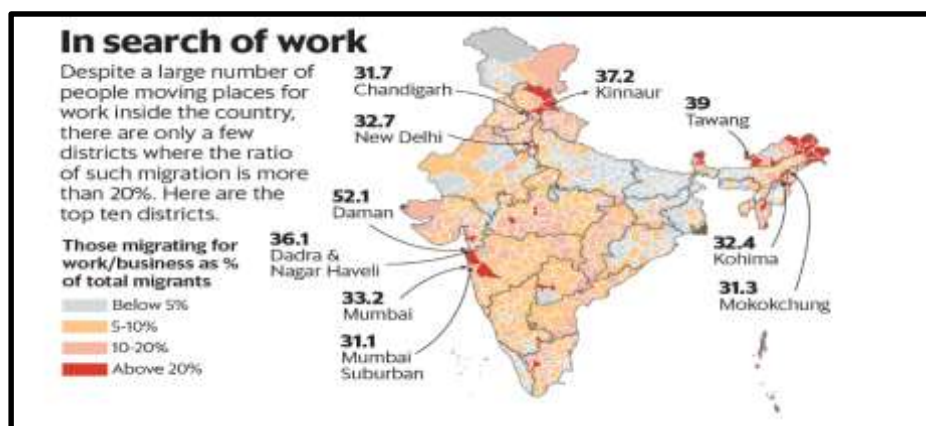

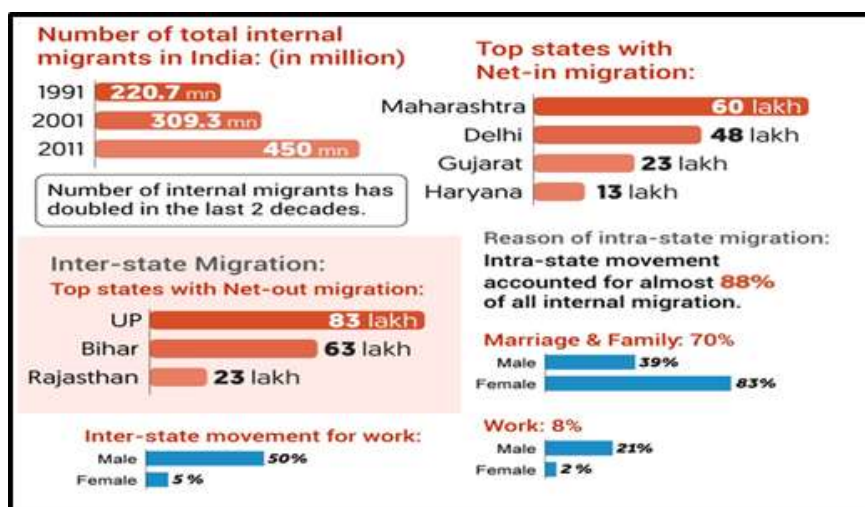*Figure 1: Migration for Job.*
Picture Reference: https://www.drishtiias.com/to-the-points/paper1/human-migration-in-india

Figure 2: Inter State Migration.

Reasons for Covid-induced migration after March 2020

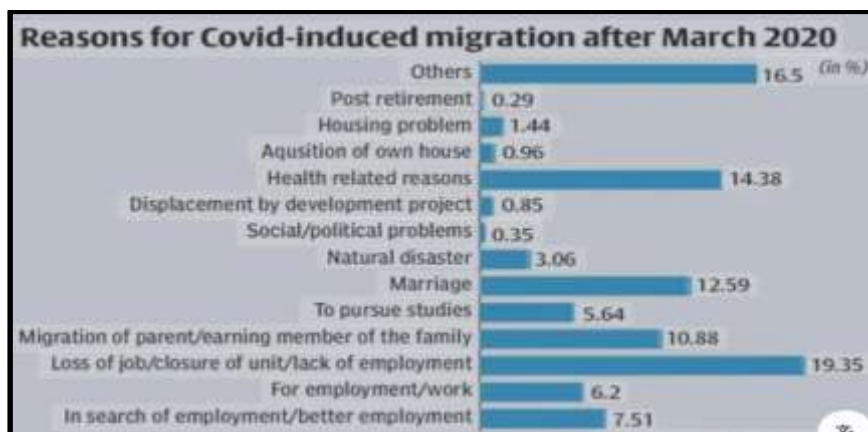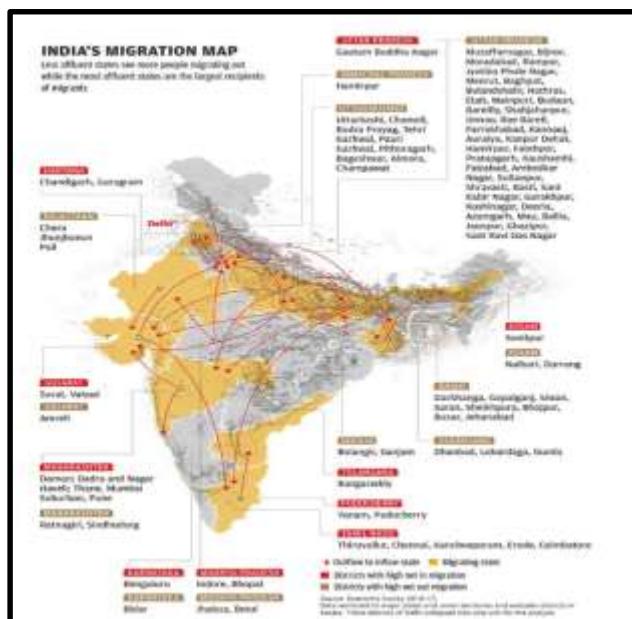| Reason	Value (in %)
Others	16.5
Post retirement	0.29
Housing problem	1.44
Aqusition of own house	0.96
Health related reasons	14.38
Displacement by development project	0.85
Social/political problems	0.35
Natural disaster	3.06
Marriage	12.59
To pursue studies	5.64
Migration of parent/earning member of the family	10.88
Loss of job/closure of unit/lack of employment	19.35
For employment/work	6.2
In search of employment/better employment	7.51

Figure 3: Purposes of Migration.

Figure 4: Internal Migration Pattern.
Source: An article on downtoearth.org

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

According to the 2017 Economic Survey of India, there were 60 million interstate migrants, and between 2011 and 2016, the average yearly movement of migrants across states was projected to be 9 million (Sharma, 2017). Delhi, Kerala, Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu are some of the primary destination states for these migratory laborers, whereas Uttar Pradesh (UP), Bihar, Madhya Pradesh (MP), and Rajasthan are some of the key origin states (Kamal, 2018). With 8.4 million migrant workers in the Gulf countries alone, India has the largest diaspora (18 million) (Ministry of External Affairs, 2021; UNDESA, 2020). For the Emigration Check Required (ECR) category from India, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait are the most popular destination nations among the Gulf nations.1 With USD 78.6 billion in

remittances, India is also one of the biggest recipients (International Organization for Migration, 2020).

While low-skilled labor outflows from more affluent states like Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka have decreased recently, those from comparatively poorer regions like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and West Bengal have surged significantly in recent years (Sasikumar & Thimothy, 2015). Low-skilled and semi-skilled workers migrate abroad to improve their financial well-being due to low wage rates in less developed states, ongoing wage disparities between regular and casual workers, and a lack of formal employment opportunities (Karan & Selvaraj, 2008; Sasikumar & Thimothy, 2015).

The reliance on low-skilled or semi-skilled labor, which makes up about 85% of the workforce and is primarily employed in the construction and service sectors, from India and other Asian and African

nations will continue to be high due to the infrastructure development and rising demand in key sectors of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries (GIZ and ILO, 2015).

2.1. Historical Overview of International Migration from India

Despite caste barriers, extended family structures, traditional values, low national educational attainment, and the prevalence of semi-feudal relationships all of which may indicate a resistance to international mobility India remains the world's largest migrant-origin nation. The British colonial era, which ended in 1947 with independence and partition with Pakistan, is the source of the nation's migration trends. This history can be divided into three main periods of emigration: colonial design, which included the forced migration of indentured workers to other parts of the British empire; anti-colonial struggle and the subsequent fall of colonial rule; and more recent employment-driven migration, especially to the Persian Gulf and affluent Western nations.

1. Colonial Rule and Indentured Servitude Rapid colonial expansion starting in the early 19th century led to a major demand for laborers for building, railroad, and road construction projects as well as for labor on plantations. A major turning point in the plantation economy was the United Kingdom's 1833 abolition of slavery, which encouraged the importation of numerous Indians and other people throughout the empire. Slavery was later abolished in France and Denmark in 1848 and the Netherlands in 1863, which led to a sharp decline in agricultural productivity and an urgent labor scarcity in plantation agriculture, especially in the production of sugar.

Under the coercive coolie system, peasants from India and other regions who agreed to become indentured servants were sent to colonies around the empire. Similar kangani recruitment practices were employed in Malaya and Ceylon, where colonial overseers paid an Indian migrant known as a kangani an anglicized form of the Tamil word kankani, meaning overseer or foreman to recruit other Indians, act as their minder, and give them advances that frequently turned into debts. The first Caribbean area to which the empire compelled Indian laborers to migrate was British Guiana in 1838. Later, imperial rulers sent Indians to neighboring Caribbean and other regions, following suit. During this period, millions of Indians migrated to Mauritius, and between 1838 and 1917, over 500,000 indentured Indian laborers were sent to the Caribbean (see Table 1).

Table 1: Indian Indentured Laborers Brought to Select European Colonies, Various Years.

Colony	Period	Indentured Laborers
British Guiana	1838-1917	238,900
Dutch Guiana	1873-1916	34,300
Fiji	1879-1916	61,000
French Guiana	1856-1895	4,400
Grenada	1857-1885	3,200
Guadeloupe	1854-1885	42,300
Jamaica	1854-1889	36,400
Martinique	1854-1889	25,500
Mauritius	1834-1871	More than 5,000,000
Natal	1860-1911	152,200
Saint Croix	1862	300
Saint Kitts	1860-1865	300
Saint Vincent	1860-1880	2,500
Trinidad	1845-1917	143,900

Sources: Kenneth L. Gillion and Kenneth Lowell Oliver Gillion, Fiji's Indian Migrants: A History to the End of Indenture in 1920 (London: Oxford University Press, 1962); S. Irudaya Rajan and Prabhat Kumar, "Historical Overview of International Migration," in India Migration Report 2010: Governance and Labour Migration, ed. S. Irudaya Rajan (New Delhi: Routledge, 2010); G.W. Roberts and J. Byrne, "Summary Statistics on Indenture and Associated Migration Affecting the West Indies, 1834–1918," Population Studies 20, no.1 (1966): 125-14; Hugh Tinker, The Banyan Tree: Overseas Emigrants from India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1977).

2. Partition and Postwar Movement Following familial and friendship links, a large number of Indians, particularly from Punjab, emigrated to the UK in the ensuing decades. Because they were Commonwealth citizens, Indian nationals were free to migrate to Britain, which at the time was suffering from a labor shortage due to the war. In the years that followed, rules enacted between 1962 and 1971 placed additional restrictions on movement from other Commonwealth countries, making migration to the UK more challenging. India continued to be the most common country of birth for immigrants in the UK as of 2020.

3. Migration at Present Era Thus, migration offers

migrant workers and their families a promising means of subsistence and boosts the economy of the destination state or nation, while the origin state or nation gains from the remittances and the skills they learn while migrating. In the Gulf, migrants from Kerala, a southern Indian state, are paid well as highly trained laborers, which enables them to send more money home. During this crisis, issues in genders for inequality were being highlighted (Singh & Akhtar, 2019).

Workers in low-skilled, labor-intensive industries face practices like wage-related abuse, working overtime without pay, lack of social security coverage, and lack of protection during recruitment and employment, despite the fact that labor migration makes up for labor shortages in the destination states/countries (Srivastava, 2013; International Organization for Migration, 2020). This highlights these migrant laborers' precarious situation, which was made worse during the COVID-19 pandemic.

India initiated a rigorous statewide lockdown on March 24, 2020, both domestic and international migrant workers were taken aback by this. In a similar vein, the Gulf economy was also interrupted by the spread of COVID-19, leaving migrant workers stuck without food, a means of subsistence, or a safe place to remain.

A "crisis within a crisis" resulted from the government's failure to plan for the welfare of migrant workers both inside and outside of India. In light of this, the study compares the difficulties associated with reverse migration of both domestic and foreign migrant workers from India. Three main research questions have been addressed: a) what social and economic obstacles do they face when they migrate backwards? b) how do different government policies react when both types of migrant workers return home? and c) how do reverse migrants integrate economically?

2.2. Objectives of the Study

The proposed study is designed with the following objectives
1. To understand the causes and nature of internal migration.
2. To examine the socio-economic factors of migration.
3. To understand the opportunities and challenges of the Migration.

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This paper is solely based on Primary information - Interviews, FCD and Case studies.

Secondary information collected from different sources like books, journal articles, reports of various government organizations and commissions, websites (census) etc.

Data collection was done with the help of an open ended questionnaire.

Sampling - 77 - Internal Migrants and 16 International Migrants is taken.

Data analysis is done with the help of a Grounded Theory Approach.

Table 2: Profile of Interviewees.

Profile of Interviewees				
Category	**Internal Migrants**		**International Migrants**	
Gender	Male	55	Male	11
	Female	20	Female	5
Occupation	Construction	10		
	In Fnb Industry	5		
	Tech/IT Jobs	10	Tech/IT Jobs	6
	Media	6	Media	1
	Medical	2	Medical	1
	Govt Sector	4	Govt Sector	1
	Driving	15	Textile	1
	Small Business Owners	8	Small Business Owners	4
	Maids	13		
	Textile	4		
Origin State	Bihar	30	UP	15
	Kolkata	15	Delhi	1
	UP	22		
	MP	4		
	Chhattisgarh	4		
	Uttrakhand	2		
Destination State/Country	Mumbai	1	Canada	2
	Delhi	10	USA	6
	Noida	55	Dubai	3
	Karnataka	6	Singapore	1
	Pune	4	UK	1
	Daman	1	Australia	2
			Kenya	1
Total	**77**		**16**	

4. CASE STUDIES AND INTERVIEWS

Latika belongs to Kolkata. Latika and her family moved to Noida in search of a job for households

after getting fights from husband and family molestation. She moved to Noida with her two daughters in 2019. She works at 5-6 houses daily and earns 25k to 26k monthly. Now she is settled here and running her house successfully. She married one of the daughters and also purchased some land at her hometown with this income. Along with this she supports her mother and father as well.

Figure 5: Caption.

Noor Bano and his husband came from West Bengal to Noida. They are since 2021, with their two kids. Noor bano works in 5 houses and monthly earns upto 15k and his husband works in a construction firm and earns upto 15k to 17k monthly. This is how they run their family, giving good education to their kids, getting support from owners whenever needed.

Chanda belongs to Bihar, shifted to Noida in search of work. When interviewed she told me the whole story: her husband died and she was bearing 3 kids. But she got engaged with another man and got married again to settle her life with him. Later on something went wrong between them, so she decided to live separately and work for her kids. She joined full time maid work and now earns 12k to 15k monthly. She shifted her two kids to a hostel for studies which is a Government NGO School and daughter lives with her. Now she is living happily and providing facilities to her family with her earnings.

Figure 6: Caption.

5. ANALYSIS

India has seen a sharp increase in the number of people moving from rural to urban areas since economic reforms began in 1990. In developing nations, the urban population is growing at a much faster rate than the overall population; migrants from rural areas are responsible for around half of this expansion. Urbanization and migration are essential components of economic growth and social change, and past experiences have demonstrated that they cannot be prevented. By providing inexpensive labor for industry and services, internal migrants boost the GDP of the country. In actuality, migrants are a subsidy rather than a burden and a drain.

At this juncture in a nation like India's economic development, researching population movement across the nation aids in better understanding how people move through society, particularly as many states experience faster economic development. Data on population migration has become increasingly significant in sectors like manufacturing, services, and information technology. Greater employment, educational, and other opportunities are created in urban regions. One of the main factors drawing migration from rural to urban areas, as well as from smaller towns and cities to larger metropolitan areas in various states, has been employment. The following table provides a summary of all interstate migrations that have occurred in the nation over the past ten years:

Note: 2020-21 refers to the period July 2020 – June 2021.

Table 3: Migration from period July 2020 – June 2021.

category of migrants	last usual place of residence in			
	rural areas	urban areas	other countries	all
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
rural				
male	44.6	51.6	3.9	100.0
female	88.8	11.0	0.2	100.0
person	83.8	15.6	0.6	100.0
urban				
male	53.7	44.1	2.3	100.0
female	54.0	45.6	0.4	100.0
person	53.8	45.0	1.0	100.0
rural+ urban				
male	50.0	47.0	2.9	100.0
female	78.8	21.0	0.2	100.0
person	73.4	25.9	0.7	100.0

Figure 1: Percentage distribution of migrants migrated from rural areas, urban areas or other countries
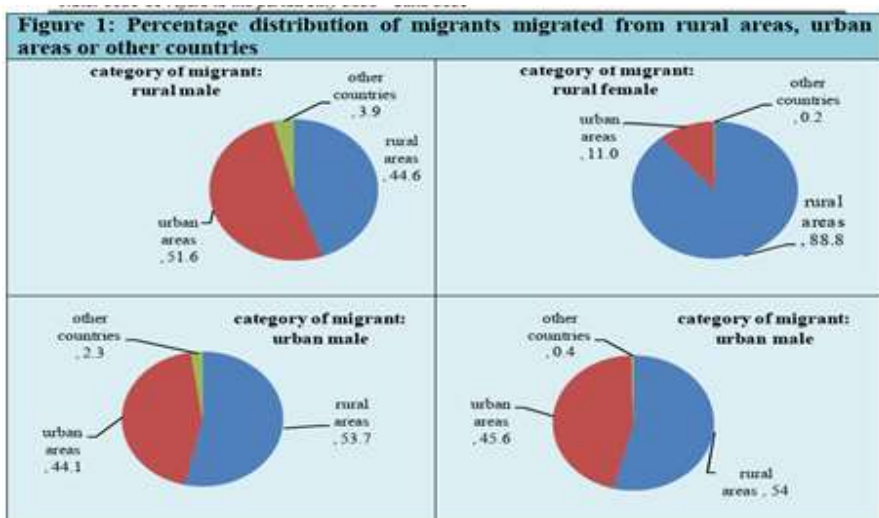
Figure 5: Graphical Distribution of Migrants.

For each migrant, the reason for migration was ascertained and recorded. In the Below mentioned table, the percentage distribution of migrants by reasons for migration has been presented.

Table 4: Reason for Reason for Migration.

reason for migration	rural			urban			rural+urban		
	male	female	person	male	female	person	male	female	person
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
in search of employment/better employment	11.8	0.2	1.5	29.9	1.5	10.8	22.8	0.6	4.8
for employment/ work (to take up employment/ to take up better employment/ business/ proximity to place of work/ transfer)	14.6	0.3	1.9	23.6	1.7	8.9	20.1	0.7	4.4
loss of job/closure of unit/lack of employment opportunities	12.5	0.3	1.7	3.0	0.4	1.3	6.7	0.4	1.6
migration of parent/earning member of the family	12.2	2.4	3.5	20.8	19.4	19.9	17.5	7.3	9.2
to pursue studies	4.9	0.4	0.9	4.5	1.3	2.4	4.7	0.6	1.4
marriage	11.8	93.8	84.4	2.7	69.5	47.5	6.2	86.8	71.6
natural disaster (drought, flood, tsunami, etc)	1.0	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.1	0.2
social / political problems (riots, terrorism, political refugee, bad law and order, etc)	1.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.1	0.2
displacement by development project	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.2
health related reasons	4.7	0.3	0.8	1.2	0.4	0.6	2.5	0.3	0.7
acquisition of own house/ flat	3.2	0.3	0.6	3.2	0.9	1.7	3.2	0.5	1.0
housing problems	5.5	0.4	1.0	4.3	1.8	2.6	4.8	0.8	1.5
post retirement	2.1	0.0	0.3	1.2	0.1	0.5	1.6	0.1	0.4
others	14.1	1.4	2.9	4.7	2.5	3.2	8.4	1.7	3.0
all	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Economic and Social challenges during reverse migration The working class, particularly low-income migrant laborers, have been the most negatively impacted by the COVID-19-induced lockdown (Pandey, 2020). They were forced to return to their home states after being laid off in great numbers and having their wages not paid in the destination states. According to one of our responders, Chottan, a construction worker who moved back to Uttar Pradesh from Mumbai, pay theft and a lack of work forced him to return to his home state during the lockdown.

Likewise, Rajesh, who was employed at a hotel at the time of the lockdown, **said**

I spent the last thirteen years in Mumbai. I received my entire March salary during the lockdown, and very little for April. For the month of May- June, the pay was not paid. Without a job, I can't live in Mumbai on my own. Consequently, I returned to Uttar Pradesh in July.

Table 5: For Categories, Concepts, Codes and Items.

Categories	Concepts	Codes	Items
Demographic Factors and Social Infrastructure	Community Growth Indicator (D1)	D1a	Stable Population
		D2b	Population Reduction
		D3c	Ageing Population and Welfare Benefits to the State
		D4d	Academic Establishments
	Individual Social Development Indicator (D2)	D2a	Social Security
		D2b	Health Care/Medicare
		D2c	Connectivity of transportation
Economic Factors	Community Economic Indicators (E1)	E1a	Growth in GDP
		E2b	The flow of liquids increases
		E3c	Demand for labor
		E4d	High incomes
	Individual Economic Indicators (E2)	E2a	Improved Well-Being
		E2b	Commodities with high consumption
		E2c	Better living standard
Political factors	Community Political Indicators (P1)	P1a	Democracy
		P2b	Peace
		P3c	Rule of law
		P4d	Diversity
	Individual Political Indicators (P2)	P2a	Political stability
		P2b	Defense of civil and human rights
		P2c	Protection of minorities
		P2d	Safety
Ecological factors	Ecological Indicators (E)	E1a	Improved surroundings
		E2b	Policy for the environment
		E3c	Preservation of the environment and natural resources
Migrant flows and migrant stocks	Community Migration Flow Indicators (M1)	M1a	Diaspora
		M2b	Information flows
		M3c	Possibilities of (ir)regular immigration (right of residence)
		M4d	Ethnic group
	Individual Migration Flow indicators (M2)	M2a	Better media of communication
		M2b	Transferred image of the country of destination

Instances of discrimination were reported by the migrants interviewed against them and being perceived as the virus's propagators in the state or city where they are going, on the way home, in quarantine centers, and in their towns. A week prior to the lockdown, Usha, the wife of a migrant

construction worker, was stigmatized upon returning to her Bihar hamlet from Mumbai.

She explained: "We had to go to a wedding in March, so we began our trip in a bus before the closure. But even at that time, people were avoiding us because of the news of the Covid outbreak. Some even covered their mouths and noses with a handkerchief as they went by".

Based on the case studies and interviews table for findings was prepared, which is mentioned as table 5.

Both the growth of agriculture and urbanization are being negatively impacted by the trend of rural-to-urban migration, which is growing daily. In the meantime, "migration" is a multifaceted, worldwide phenomenon. The social sciences made an effort to comprehend the different aspects of migration in the early nineteenth century. These include migratory kinds, mass rural-urban movement, fast urbanization, causes and effects, the labor market, employment concerns, the transition from an agricultural to a non-agrarian labor market, migrant refugees, human rights abuses, social security concerns, and displacement. The process of industrialization is accompanied with a form of spatial movement known as rural-urban migration. The primary drivers of their travel continue to be economic factors for men and associational and marital variables for women. Natural disasters like floods and droughts caused about 2% of males and fewer than 6% of females to relocate. The fact that the job was cited by the migrants as their primary motivation for moving indicates that state migrants had higher levels of education than interstate migrants. Male migrants had an employment participation rate of almost 80%, while female migrants had a rate of 54%. This suggests that even though over half of women cited jobs as their reason for migrating, they were either unable to find employment or may have chosen to remain unemployed.

In the Madhya Pradesh region of Bundelkhand, migration has also resulted in a change in social and power dynamics. "There has been a shift in power because of migration and education," observes Dr. M.M. Rehman of the V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, who has been researching the region for a number of years. Interview with Suman Maid from Katni District - "These days, young people labor outside while sporting jeans and cell phones. It is evident that migration has resulted in a change in power dynamics and decreased reliance on the local elite. The impoverished no longer have to endure degrading subservience to their employers in order

to work and live."

Economic Factors of Migration Rural land tenure and inheritance patterns, urban employment possibilities, and other factors are some of the factors that contribute to rural-urban migration. According to a country like India, which is primarily an agricultural nation, there is a great deal of inequality and an unfair distribution of wealth among farmers. People living in rural areas are extremely unlikely to embrace change when offered alternatives to farming that might not be more lucrative than farming overall. Rural populations will probably migrate if a policy does not offer them viable economic alternatives. A disparity in income would cause people to relocate in search of higher incomes, which would raise their standard of living. Out-migration is also encouraged by the success tales that rural residents hear and see about those who relocate to cities.

Social Factors of Migration Migration has significant socioeconomic effects. As cash flow in rural economies is improved by migrant workers returning from their home country, income disparity may be lessened. Additionally, the migrant workers' family income and purchasing power may rise. Because of their extended absence from the home, women are empowered by migration and take on a key role in family decision-making. The 2021 census data for India shows that the overall literacy rate is 77.7%, with urban areas having a higher literacy rate (87.7%) compared to rural areas (73.5%). Male literacy is higher than female literacy in both rural and urban areas. The adult (15+ years) literacy rate is 69.3%, with males at 78.8% and females at 59.3%. This greater dropout rate can be explained by three factors

1. A lack of infrastructure in each of the district's communities, and
2. Children migrating for employment.
3. An increase in the family income.

Due to the dearth of healthcare services in rural areas, people choose to migrate to metropolitan areas where they may access better healthcare facilities.

Concept Generation - Migration give path to sustainability First, a major factor in the patterns of economic globalization is worker mobility. While remittances from overseas migrants contribute funding for investments, labor mobility leaves those countries experiencing net out-migration with lower levels of working-age individuals, possibly resulting in skills shortages and lower public revenue. There is some evidence that the combined economic effects of migration, including brain drain, remittance flows, filling skills gaps, and return migration, are generally favorable and many times greater than the

advantages of deregulation of international trade.

Second, by forcing people to relocate involuntarily away from environmental or societal hazards, migration may improve the security of their life path trajectories. According to the evidence available, migration is a widespread and successful response to environmental deterioration. It is effective in that it generally improves individual well-being, but it frequently exacerbates already-existing disparities in terms of access to resources and migration possibilities. Third, the underlying environmental resource base may be affected in a number of ways by shifting population densities in particular regions brought about by global migration, urbanization, and industrialization. It has been demonstrated that urban migration flows perpetuate spatial inequality by concentrating newcomers, especially, in underprivileged areas. Even when taking into consideration net migration between origin and destination locations, there is compelling evidence that movement can improve the net well-being of persons involved. Economic models of labor market efficiency and empirical research on the effects of migration on both material and subjective well-being provide evidence that migration leads to a more fulfilling existence. It is also commonly known that upward social mobility — the relative improvement in material living conditions and social status that people and families experience — is another way that migration can promote well-being.

Migration and Sustainable Development Pathways: Connections Overall, migration is important for sustainability because it affects social and environmental outcomes as well as long-term prospects for those who relocate from areas where social or environmental stresses threaten their livelihood security to areas where they can expand their economic and life opportunities. Migration decisions are adaptations to potentially disruptive change and disparate opportunities at the individual level. Potential long-term changes in economies can be represented by aggregate migration flows, which encompass transitions from one regime and the development pathways that go along with it, as well as the substantial environmental effects of expanding or contracting people.

6. CONCLUSION

The most common migration trend among Indian women has been short-distance migration. This kind of widespread female migration may be caused by traditional village exogamy. Another important migration trend for both men and women has been from rural to rural areas. According to reports, both sexes have contributed significantly to the rise in urban migration between 1991 and 2011. There is also a notable rise in the mobility of people from one urban area to another. According to this pattern, long-distance rural-to-urban and urban-to-urban migration streams are probably going to become the most common in the future. Moving with the home surfaced as

Another significant factor for migration among both males and females, in addition to jobs for males and marriage for females, according to the reasons for migration statistics. Three decades of data indicate that women's migration for work, business, and education is gradually but steadily expanding. In a similar vein, women are also relocating to cities for work and educational opportunities, which helps close the gender income gap. It is also clear that there is a rise in migration from urban to rural areas due to employment or work-related factors. As a result, two-thirds of male interstate migrants from urban to rural areas have found employment. The study also discovered a strong correlation between the migration rates of men and women, indicating that women migrate in tandem with men as associational migrants. Migration is a significant means of escaping poverty, according to both primary and secondary evidence. Opportunities and advantages of migration include the ability to efficiently allocate both skilled and unskilled labor and to bridge the gaps between the supply and demand for labor. It offers disciplined labor at a low cost. New skills are acquired from coworkers and disseminated from the distribution location.

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