



The Economic And Social Factors Causing The Migration Of Rural Labour to the Industrial Sector

Case Study of Large & Medium Scale Industries

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ABSTRACT- The subject of migration has drawn considerable attention from the economists and policy makers as well. Most studies of migration from a rural area have been concerned with people not living there at the time of study; hence many of their characteristics are undetermined. The migrants have seldom been followed up at their destination; hence the possibilities of return migration, and the details of 'pull' factors are often unknown.

Keywords: the economic, social, factors, causing, migration, rural labour, the industrial, sector case, study, large, medium, scale industries.

INTRODUCTION - In an economy where most people earn their living from the land, its availability must be relevant in determining most village's rates of emigration. A number of studies have shown a positive relationship between high man/land ratios and a propensity to migrate. But that is not the sole issue. What is important is that in general, and certainly in the context of the economics of migrating villages, the significance of land availability lies in its income generating potential. Poor quality of land, or a low level of cash - cropping either because of low demand for cash crops reduces income, or because poverty compels peasants to play safe by growing subsistence crops - means that low levels of income prevail.

Inadequate access to income-generating land in a village also encourages migration. But the chance to improve land may itself be created by, or expected from such migration. This may, after the event, suggest - in part misleadingly that cash cropping encourages migration. Bedford in a study of fifteen villages in the New Hebrides found a positive relationship between migration and the increase in cash cropping.

The nature of relationship between the village and a wider economic network appears, as development proceeds, increasingly to determine the rate of migration. The impact upon migration of rural-urban income differentials has become the focus of many recent migration studies.

Some village situations encourage their inhabitants to seek work elsewhere during slack seasons only, owing to the ecological situations, agricultural labour demands are highly seasonal. Rural mobility generally increases in response to heavy labour demand at the time of harvesting;

labourers often take up harvest work outside their home villages. Such harvest migration was prevalent in nineteenth - century Ireland, and in the Mekong Delta in this century.

At the other extreme, some migrants go away from their home villages for major part of the year. In Kanther Terang, Assam, for example, shifting agriculture (JHUM) provides work for only six months of the year, hence the villagers work as casual labourers in the town for the rest of the year. Such migration patterns are cyclic rural-urban movements.

Growth of village industries and the occupational diversity that usually follows, create additional work in the village, and can thereby reduce the impact on migration of factors like land scarcity, low land quality and concentration of land in a few hands. Migration from villages is affected not only by their transport links with other areas, which may facilitate and encourage the act of migration; but also by the extent to which the village is integrated into the urban network - the degree of commercialized farming and the general reliance on the non-subsistence, monetized economy which provide contacts and information, reduces risk and cost, and in general increases the disposition to migrate. Such a disposition to migrate is affected by historical factors. at both the rural and urban end.

In the context of the village, the traditional (push-pull) distinction between village-based and town-based factors, which has been popular in trying to explain and classify rural-urban migration, is worth mentioning. Some of the push-pull factors causing rural-urban migration are discussed below.

FACTORS AFFECTING THE MIGRATION

(a) ECONOMIC FACTORS

The migration due to lack of land in pre-industrial stage : The countries, which have not yet gone under industrial revolution and depend on agriculture for her livelihood, and whose population is increasing, face many problems like decrease in per capita availability of land, food, shelter, health services, and education. etc. Not only these, due to the decline in per-capita and per acre productivity and decline in employment facilities, people have to think to leave their lovely land for other places.

A huge number of persons migrated from Europe to U.S.A., Africa and Australia to cultivate the unlimited land of these countries, later on they became the resident of these countries. The persons from Kerala in India also migrated throughout the country due to the lack of land. Today also, the U.P. government has an open offer to landless people to come to Saharanpur district of U.P. and to have own land for the purpose of cultivation on nominal rates. They also provide the agricultural facilities to the people of this area.

(b) The push factor is directly related to population pressure on the land. The greater the dependency on the land (Agriculture), the greater will be out migration/emigration for the

livelihood and employment. The wage-earners have accepted lesser payment in India due to this push factor.

- (c) Apart from the availability of land, migrants also keep in their minds, the availability of good climate and natural resources and its freedom of use, housing facility, healthy atmosphere and better socio-economic facilities (like education employment and transportation). This was the reason of migration from Europe to U.S.A., Australia and Africa. One third of Australia, today also, is barren, because it is very costly as well as difficult to cultivate this land.
- (d) The increase in numbers of landless people and frequent famines also become major push factor for out migration/emigration from the area. Sixteen lakhs citizens of Ireland had to leave their land because of "great potato-famine of 1847", as potato is their main food.

Migration due to industrialization the industrialization in a country increases the regional migratory flow and due to the increase in investment, more and more employment opportunities are created. Which attracts the people from the remote areas or from the areas where no industrialization has taken place. The place of industrialization attracts the businessmen, artisans and other persons from other states.

Not only this, agricultural labourers also come to the industrial areas due to the facilities related employment, education, housing, etc., available in these areas. The specific characteristics - like regular and cash payments, working facilities, etc., of industrial employments, also attract farm labourers to these areas.

(B) SOCIAL FACTORS

Besides economic factors, social and cultural factors also play vital role in internal and international migrations.

One of these factors, prevailing marriage systems, occupy important place. The girls are migrant for ever after marriage and have to go to the places where they are asked or accompanied by their husbands.

The dissolution of joint family system also is major reason for migration from villages to towns. The old traditions are breaking very fastly. Similarly, after being employed people stay in cities for months together and they only, come to villages, for participating in marriages and religious functions.

Rural people do want to settledown in cities after completing their education, as they become accustomed of the habits of education life and do not want to leave it which is not available in villages. They prefer to live in cities even at a meagre source of income. They prefer the freedom of

expression. They are admired/liked by people/colleague in cities, which is never found in villages. Thus, they prefer the recognition of their thoughts rather than static life of villages and move to cities. These are the reasons which attract any person interested in technical knowledge to leave his place for other place.

Today, individualism is occupying great importance in the life of people, due to which escapism is seen in plenty everywhere. People, instead of controlling their wants or changing it according to their needs or conditions, prefer to change the environment or place.

In 17th and 18th century, the greatest punishment for any crime was exile and sending the criminal to such a place from where he can not come easily. It was sometimes known as "Kala Pani Ki Saja". This was most popular in British Empiricalism. Besides, the forced migration today is to avoid the punishment. It has been written by Thompson and Lewis in these words "The more recent forced types of migration are motivated chiefly by the desire to escape prosecution. In the recent authoritarian states people are forced to migrate abroad or are forbidden to migrate, according to the needs and purpose of the dictator".

OBJECTIVE - The objective of this paper is to study the economic and social factors causing the migration of rural labour to the industrial sector.

FACTORS AFFECTING MIGRATION OF VILLAGERS TO LARGE SCALE INDUSTRIES

Out of the 427 labourers interviewed, 30 (i.e., 72.13 percent) were migrated labourers and all migrants were male. Migrated labourers were mainly employed in the large scale industries due to the larger scope of employment in those industries.

It can be seen from the Table 1 that the respondent labourers preferred most to be employed in large scale industries in Saharanpur district, rather than staying in their native villages.

In Gangeshwar Ltd., out of the 30 respondent migrants, 28 (i.e., 93.3 percents) migrated because of better employment opportunity and out of the rest 2, one each (i.e., 3.33 %) for better income and children).S education respectively. This was followed by Kissan Sugar Mill Ltd. in which. out of the 10 respondent migrants 9 (i.e., 90 percent) labourers had migrated in the temptation of better employment and only one (i.e., 10 percent) for better income in Saharanpur district. The same reason was also observed in case of Star Paper Mill where out of 100 migrated labourers, that were interviewed, 90 (i.e. 90 percent) labourers had migrated to get better employment in Saharanpur district rather than better income in their native places and only 10 (i.e., 10 Percent). Labourers migrated due to the temptation of better incomelrather than better employment.

Table -1
Large Scale Industries
Economic and social Factors Affecting Migration

S. No.	Name of Industries	Opportunities Of Better Employment	Better Income	Children Education	Medical facilities and Others	total
1.	L.K. Textile Mill	90(81.8)	10(9.0)	5(4.6)	5(4.6)	110
2.	Star Paper Mill	90(90.0)	10(10.0)	-----	-----	100
3.	Indian Tobacco Co. Ltd..	35(87.5)	5(12.5)	-----	-----	40
4.	Gangeshwar Ltd..	28(93.3)	1(3.4)	1.(3.3)	-----	30
5.	Kissan Sugar Mill	9(90.0)	1(10.0)	-----	-----	10

SOURCE : Data collected through questionnaire.

NOTE : Bracketed figures are percentages to number of migrants.

Similarly. in case of Indian Tobacco Company out of 40 respondent migrant labourers, 35(i.e.. 87.5 percent) had migrated to get better employment opportunity rather than better income and only 5 (i.e.. 12.5 percent) has migrated due to attraction of better income rather than better employment opportunity. Last but not the least in the case of L.K. textile mill out of 110 respondent migrant labourers, 90 (i.e., 81.8 percent) labourers had migrated to get better employment in Saharanpur district rather than any other reasons, only 10 (i.e. 9 percent) had migrated to earn a better income in Saharanpur district rather than in their native place and only 5 labourers (i.e., 4.6 percent each) had migrated due to other reasons like children's education and better medical facilities.

FACTORS AFFECTING MIGRATION OF VILLAGERS TO MEDIUM SCALE INDUSTRIES

It can be seen from the Table 2 that the respondent labourers preferred to be employed in medium scale industries in Saharanpur district, rather than staying in their respective villages.

Among the medium scale industries, indana spices and food industry Ltd. accounted for the highest number and percentage of respondent migrant labourer.8 moving into Saharanpur district because of getting better employment opportunities rather than other economic and social factors, out of the 4 respondent migrants all 4 (i.e.. 100 percent) had migrated in search of better employment

opportunity in Saharanpur district, next in order The cooperative Co. Ltd. and U.Y. Cooperative Co. Ltd. where out of 2 respondent migrant labourers, 1 each (i.e., 50 percent) had migrated to get better employment in Saharanpur district and 1 each (i.e., 50 percent) had migrated to get better income in Saharanpur district.

Table-2
Medium Scale industries
Economic And Social Factors Affecting Migration

S. No.	Name of Industries	Opportunities Of Better Employment	Better Income	Children Education	Medical Facilities and Others	Total
1.	Saharanpur Engg works	1(25.0)	3(75.0)	-----	-----	4
2.	Indiana Spices & Food ind.	4(100.0)	-----	-----	-----	4
3.	Rakesh Chemicals	1(33.3)	2(66.7)	-----	-----	3
4.	The Cooperative Co. Ltd.	1(50.0)	1(50.0)	-----	-----	2
5.	Suraj Automobiles	-----	1(50.0)	1(50.0)	-----	2
6.	U.P Cooperative Co. Ltd.	1(50.0)	1(50.0)	-----	-----	2
7.	Hari kishan Flour Mill	-----	-----	-----	1(100.0)	1

Source : Data collected through questionnaire.

NOTE : Bracketed figures are percentages to number of migrants.

Out of the 3 respondent migrants. in Hakesh Chemicals only 1 (i.e.. 33 percent) labourer had migrated to get better employment, 2 labourers (i.e. 67 Rercent) had migrated to get better income rather than better employment. Similar is the case with Saharanpur Engg. Works, where out of 4 respondent migrants 3 (i.e.. 75 percent) labourers had migrated to get better income in Saharanpur district and only 1 (i.e., 25%) labourer had migrated in search of better employment opportunity.

The reasons for migration in the rest 3 medium scale industries were more of social nature than economic. Out of the 2 respondent migrant labourers in Suraj Automobiles, 1 each (i.e., 50 percent) labourer migrated to get better employment and better income in Saharanpur district.

Similarly, the only respondent migrant labourer from Hari Kishan flour mill had migrated to get better medical facilities rather than better employment and better income.

CONCLUSION

It may be concluded from the above analysis that the factors responsible for migration from nearby villages around Saharanpur district were more of economic than social, more particularly, in large scale industries, the labourers had migrated to these industries to get better employment and income. This was due to the fact that they were tempted by the salary and permanent nature of the jobs in these industries. Although in some industries (particularly in medium scale industries) the jobs are not of permanent in nature, still there was assurance that the same persons would be absorbed in the next year. So they preferred to work and stay in Saharanpur district rather than to go back to villages where there is little scope of getting work and thus to maintain their livelihood.

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