



## An Outlook of Migration in Tamilnadu

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The research study entitled *Migration in Tamilnadu – A Brief Outlook* traces the history of migration in Tamilnadu. Further it discuss with the impact of migration in the micro sense. Human Migration is the movement of people from one place to another with the intentions of settling permanently or temporarily in a new location. The movement is often over long distances and from one country but internal migration is also possible; indeed this is the dominant form globally.<sup>1</sup>

People migrate as individuals, in family units or in larger groups. Migration from one area to another in search of improved live hoods is a key feature of human history, which some regions and sector fall behind in their capacity to support populations ,others move ahead and people migrate to access their emergency opportunities.<sup>2</sup> Migration is the basic component and ingredients of population movement and economic growth and it is one of the common factors which are taking place all over the world, the people who are migrating are the people who are willing to improve their quality of life and their lifestyle.<sup>3</sup> Migration of population has been a continuous social phenomenon since the dawn of human history. Moreover in recent times with significant changes in economic activities its volume and impact have undergone an enormous change .According to UN estimates, 50 percent of the projected increase in world's urban population would be from rural-urban migration.<sup>4</sup>



Migration can also be classified on the basis of reasons which can be named as “Economic Migration”, “Retirement Migration”, or “Educational Migration”. The most common reason is migrating from the place of origin and its economic backwardness. Migration has also been divided into two broad categories on the basis of duration and spatial course, into two broad categories, by Kant. His classification is as follows: Accidental or temporary, Permanent or periodical, Definitive Migration. Du Toit emphasized on two main types of migration i.e forced and voluntary. According to Davis five important types of migration is there i.e, Conquest, Displacement, Forced Labour, Free Individual Migration, Controlled Migration.<sup>5</sup>

It is useful to distinguish between “permanent”, “semi –permanent” and “temporary “migrants. Based on how long they are away from their place of origin, the links they maintain and the likelihood that they will return home temporary migrants are unlikely to stay away from their places of origin far more than a few moments in a year. Thirdly in developing countries, the work force shift towards the secondary/territory sector has been dominated by an expansion of the “informal “sector, which has grown over time. In countries like India, permanent shifts of population and work force co-exist with the” Circulatory” movement of populations between lagging and developed regions and between rural and urban areas, mostly being absorbed in the unorganised sector of the economy. Such movements show little sign of abating with development.<sup>6</sup>

In one view, population mobility in India is low (Dau’s 1951 , Kandu and Gupta 1996) migration statistics to the early 1990s also suggest a decline in mobility in the 1991 census, using the change in residence concept 27.4% of the population is considered to have migrated (i.e , 232 million of the total 838



million persons) which shows a considerable decline from 30.6% 1971 and 31.2% in 1981. This is done for Male and Female migrants .In case of Male, it declined from 18.1% in 1971 to 14.7% in 1991. In the case of females, it declined from 43.1% in 1971 to 41.6% in 1991.

However, recent evidence based on NSS figure for 1992 – 1993 and 1999 – 2000, and indirectly supported by the Census, suggests an increase in migration rates from 24.7% to 26.6% over that period. This evidence suggests the proposition of migrants of both sexes, in both rural and urban areas, increased during the last decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Migration in india is predominantly short distance, with around 60% migrants changing their residence within the district of enumeration and over 20% within the state of enumeration while the rest move across the state boundaries. A significant Proposition of women migrants over short distances are mainly following marriage.<sup>7</sup>

There are countless of reasons why immigrants choose to migrate to another country. For instance, Globalization has increased the demand for workers from other countries in order to sustain national economies. Known as “Economic migrants”, this income is usually sent home to family members in the form of remittances and has become an economic staple in a number of developing countries. People also move or are forced to move as a result of conflict, human rights violations, violence, or to escape persecution. In 2013, it was estimated that around 51.2 million people fell into this category. Another reason people move is to gain access to opportunities and services or to escape extreme weather. This type of movement is usually from rural to urban areas and is known as “internal migration”, Socio-cultural and a geo-historical factor also plays a major role.<sup>8</sup> Population mobility is defined as the ratio of the sum total



of all migrants in an area per 100 of the total population. The value of the rate depends on how a migrant is defined. Tamilnadu enumerated 62,405,679 persons in the 2001 census. Among them 15,824,383 were migrants (PLR definition) in the sense that earlier they had lived elsewhere before moving to the place of enumeration. In that respect, they were migrants. They constituted about 25 percent of the total population of the state. This represents an overall measure of the mobility of the TN population in 2001. The number of migrants according to the POB concept was only 15,278,531 which constituted 24 percent of the total population. Thus although the two concepts of migration are very much different, they provide more or less similar measures of migration and mobility ratio.

In 1991, the number of migrants in Tamilnadu was 13,430,472 as per the PLR definition with the total population of 55,858,946 the mobility rate in 1991 was 24.0 percent. This indicates a 18 percent increase in the absolute no. of migrants and a slight increase of one percent point in the mobility rate. Much of the mobility in Tamilnadu is local in nature a phenomenon similar to the other states that is within the state 24 percent of a total 25 percent according to the PLR definition and 23 percent out of a total of 24.5 percent by the POB definition. Breaking down the migration numbers at the Tamilnadu state level, it is seen that the migration has been even more local with migration within the district shows a mobility rate of 15 percent according to POB data. The mobility and Migration rate shows a decreasing trend with a increase in the distance of migration.

Mobility in Tamilnadu (25.4%) is less than the average mobility among states in India which is 30.6%. If Ranked on the basis of mobility. Tamilnadu holds the 29<sup>th</sup> position among the 35 federal constitutional divisions including the 28



states and 7 union territories.<sup>9</sup> Human Migration involving physical and socio-economic implications has been distinctly influencing the place of origin and the place of destination from the very beginning of human civilization. No definite theory however has been propounded regarding fact on responsible for Migration. Migration is influenced not by a single factor rather a long list of factors influenced. Certainly at someplace one factor may be highly motivating and at the other another factor may be more forceful.<sup>10</sup> The traditional Approach to the motivation of migration taken, as a starting points the differences in the characteristics of the two places, namely the place of origin and the place of destination. Researchers have attempted to determine whether people migrated because the circumstances pervading at the place of origin pushed them out, whether they were landed by the attractive condition in the new place. The factor which motivates migration may be called as push and pull factor may early theories about migration focussed on so called push and pull factor. Push factors referred to dynamics within a country of origin which placed people to emigrate such as war, family, labour need etc. Pull factors by contrast, were those features of destination, countries which attracted immigrants and better living conditions.<sup>11</sup>

This is quite a complicated calculation because to establish the true impact of any movement .one must calculate both social cost and benefits and economic cost and benefits. The cost and benefits are generally calculated and then offset against each other in a sort of 'balanced sheet' to establish whether there is gain or loss to the societies. The cost as offset against the benefits for each of the societies to establish the true impact of migration for each of the societies. The net effect of migration may differ for the receiving and sending societies. If for instance, the social and economic costs to the sending society are greater than



the social and economic benefits that the effect of migration are said to be negative for the sending society. The same sort of calculation can be done to establish the net effect of migration for the receiving society often when these calculations are done migration that has a positive impact for one society will have a negative impact on the other. By separating and understanding the various impacts which result from migration it is possible to assess the importance of migration in the short, medium and longer terms for the societies which migrants leave and those in which they settle.

Migration may have profound the effects on the size, structure and growth patterns of population. Migration has effects on both populations of the patterns of population. Migration has effects on both population of the places that people leave & on the populations of those in which they settle. There effects vary with different types of migration & length of migrants stay in places. The absences of large number of either men or women may have a limited impact on the sending society in short term but if they are absent for longer periods time their absence will have significant effects on population growth rates in the medium and longer terms.

Migration may have important on the cultures and societies migration also has effects on the cultures of both the places that migrants leave and there in which they re-settle. These effects vary with different types of migration the skills of the migrants & the lengths of time involved. Migrants can have an impact on politics in both the places which people leave and those to which they move governments will have to take policies to attract migrants to persuade migrants to return, to limit migration to ensure that they have access to skills that they need. There are political effects vary with different types of migration. Migration can have significant effect on economic migration has impact on the



economies that people leave and those in which they settle. These effects vary with different types of migration, the stalls of the migration and length of time involved.<sup>12</sup>

There are families who are completely landless and depend on wage labour look for work in agriculture sector (or) civil works. In the off season of a agriculture sector (or) civil works such families migrate to towns. Even if the younger family members migrate as skilled labourers, middle aged unskilled family member prefer to stay in village and work under Mgnrega. This apart the guaranteed employment under MGNREGA has restricted the usual seasonal labour migration which had become the mainstay of farming in agriculturally programme to labour starved states. This has caused acute shortage of labour for agriculture affecting plantation in the southern states, notably Kerala, Punjab. Moreover farmer is forced to incur additional expenses for using machines and energy for doing farm operations which was earlier manually by migrant labour at for lower castes.<sup>13</sup>

Most of the time Migration is an forced one which happening in order to fill their necessity. Moreover it also affects and has effects on the manner of both the places that migrates leave and in the place when they re-settle.

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<sup>4</sup> Naveen P.Singh & Nisha Varghese, *Labour Migration and its Implications on Rural Economy of Indo-Gangetic Plains of India*,

<sup>5</sup> Concept and Theories of Migration! An in depth Understanding, p.130.



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<sup>6</sup> An Overview of Migrant in India, Op.cit., pp. 1-2.

<sup>7</sup> bid., pp. 3- 5.

<sup>8</sup> Human Migration – Wikipedia.

<sup>9</sup> Tamilnadu Migration Survey, Chapter.\$ pp. 30 -37.

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