

## THE ROLE AND CONCEPT OF MIGRATORY STATUS VIS A VIS DISADVANTAGED PEOPLE AT SOUTH DELHI - A STUDY

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### Abstract

This study provides useful insights for analyzing the role, significance and amount of migration of the disadvantaged people at South Delhi. Migration dynamics of population is increasing year after year. Large number of migrants from different states migrated to New Delhi the Capital of India. There are several reasons behind the migration of them from the different states of the country to Delhi. The study also tries to analyze the reasons which are responsible for the migrations in South Delhi. Poor people migrate specially from the states like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, etc. As per 2001 census, Maharashtra was on the first position with 7.9 million of migrants by place of birth from different states and Delhi was on second position with 5.6 million. Whereas, in 1991 census the total number of migrants where 4.3 million in Maharashtra and in Delhi it was 3.7 million. But the proportion of in-migrants to total population, Delhi Urban Agglomeration (UA), was on the first position with 16.4% and Greater Mumbai UA was on the second position with 15.1% between 1991 and 2001 Census.

**Keywords:** Migrate Workers, South Delhi, Okhla, Delhi, Poverty, Economic.

### Introduction

The process of economic development leads to movement of labours from low productive agricultural sector to high productive activities of non-agricultural sector because of the imbalances between land-labor ratios. Migration, increases wages which helps in poverty eradication. According to 2011 census, in six largest metro cities of India (Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bengaluru), around 48% of residents were migrants. South Delhi, have the highest number of migrants in their population. More than the 40%, with the special reference to Okhla. According to census, between 2001 and 2011, migration for work and business in Delhi was declined. In Delhi in 2011, out of total migrant approximately half of them were from Uttar Pradesh. In 1991 and 2011, migration to Delhi, from U.P, Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttarakhand, was increased and in 2011, around 2/3rd of Delhi's migrants was from these four states only. Half of Punjabi migrants in Delhi prefer to reside in one of the two western districts, north-west or west as well as 40% of the migrants from Bihar also prefers the same. Whereas, in south and south-west districts, 60% of migrants are from Odisha. In 1901, Delhi's population was only 400,000. During 2001, Delhi's population increased by 215,000 on birth basis whereas 285,000 through migration. Due to overall fast-growing population, Delhi faces a big challenge in developing commercial and residential infrastructure to support its population size.

According to total inter-state migrants by place of birth in major states in India, in 2001; there were several reasons behind migration during last decade, for example work\employment, business, education,

marriage, moved after birth, moved with household, etc. Among them marriage was the major reason behind female migration. About 42.4 million migrants out of total 65.4 million female migrants, migrated due to marriage. Whereas, among males the most popular factor responsible for migration was work/employment, 12.3 million out of 32.8 million total male migrants, migrated in the search of work.

### Objectives

The objective of the study is to analyze the impact of migration on the economic life of the disadvantaged migrated people in south Delhi. The change in their life style, types of work opportunities available, etc.

### Background of the Study

After going through the various studies through vast literature on Migration, here I have tried to highlight on specific focus on Delhi's South Zone. Though we know that Migration plays very important role in the economic development of a nation. In developing countries where resources are not equitability distributed. Where work opportunities are also not available in adequate amount to meet the demand of the unemployed population of the country, in such situations, disadvantaged people migrate to the places where better work and livelihood opportunities do prevail. Migration not only leads to the welfare of the migrants but it helps in the growth of the whole economy. Because of better human resource management and by reducing the problem of disguised unemployment. Thus, it effectively contributes to the process of economic development of the developing countries.

At a glance in brief I can explore some notional study after revelation of Literature Review as under:

Raven Stein (1885, 1889) carried out the study on the area of migration. He defined several laws. Lee (1966) developed a concept of “intervening obstacles”. This is one variant of the cost theory. Lee observed that the migrant faces both economic and non-economic difficulties, which have a positive relation with distance. Sahota’s (1968) empirical study of regional movement in Brazil supported the same. But the studies by Connell, Dasgupta, Lashley and Lipton (1976) showed that people living in places very near to towns can enjoy many benefits and avoid the inconveniences of actually migrating, but after a certain point is reached further distance does deter migration. Also some regional studies showing that distance prevents migration by Caldwell (1969) Essang and Mabawanku (1974) and Riddell (1970) are worth mentioning. We may point out the study of Sjaastad (1962) in this context. He studied the percentage gain and loss of population in 48 U.S. States from 1940 to 1949 due to in-migration and out-migration. In his work, he took per capita income, rate of growth of income, educational level etc. as influencing factors. Todaro (1969) model of rural-urban migration is a pioneering work in the field of migration. It is based on the first and foremost model of development by Lewis (1954), and the model formalized and extended by Fei and Ranis (1961, 1964).

Todaro model on migration is basically an economic phenomenon. In many studies, it has been revealed that demographic factors also influence migration. Studying the Colombian Census data, Schultz (1971) has found that the young people migrate as fast as the growth of the population. In his estimates a 10 percent difference in the population growth rate accounted for a 25 percent difference in the out-migration rate among those under the age of 26. Migration in India: Zacharia’s (1964) book is a pioneering work of demographic aspects of internal migration in the Indian subcontinent and describes the pattern of inter-state and intra- state migration in the area on the basis of migration by the age and sex for regions, states, and to a limited extent for towns with a population of 20,000 or more. He has discussed the quantitative trend of migration and has developed an improved method to overcome most difficulties in the data on internal migration and has yielded precise and useful estimates of internal migration.

Based on the 1971 Census data on migration for which migrants are identified on the basis of last place of residence, Sivamurthy and Kadi (1983) analyzed the inter-state migration by sex with

respect to different types of inter-state movement, viz., rural to rural, and rural to urban, urban to rural, urban to urban.

In a recent work Dwivedi (2012), migration in India is mostly influenced by social structures and pattern of development. There are two important reasons for rural labour migration: (1) migration for survival, and (2) migration for subsistence. The first one indicates the severe social and economic hardships faced by rural labourers, a situation where migration becomes necessary to stay alive. Literature is still expanding as researchers are continuing their work on migration issues. The review of literature also reveals that the empirical studies in this field focusing India are considerable.

## **Concept-Migration & Disadvantaged People**

Poverty is a state where people are not able to fulfill even their basic needs of life. Poverty is itself a problem which gives birth to several other, social and economic problems in the society. One major impact of poverty, is the rural-urban migration of the disadvantaged people. This movement of migrants from the rural to urban areas can be permanent or temporary in the nature. Due to lack of basic amenities of life, lack of education, problem of overpopulation, unemployment, etc. poor people are compelled to migrate. Migration helps them in getting better work opportunities, better livelihood, better services, good climate, etc. Sometimes, there are also forced reasons behind migrations, such as crop failure, drought and flooding.

Disadvantaged population remains deprived of good quality of life, even they are unable to afford basic necessities of life. They have access of only minimal resources to fulfill their essentials. So, social protection systems and programs, should be formulated for the solution of power imbalance problem- between vulnerable population and the general population. Population is discriminated on several grounds for example:- age, citizenship, ability, sex, etc.. Effective policy measures required to solve the existing social issues.

## **Methodology**

The research is based on the primary and secondary data. Personal interviews of the migrated people. References from economic survey, journals, census of India, etc.

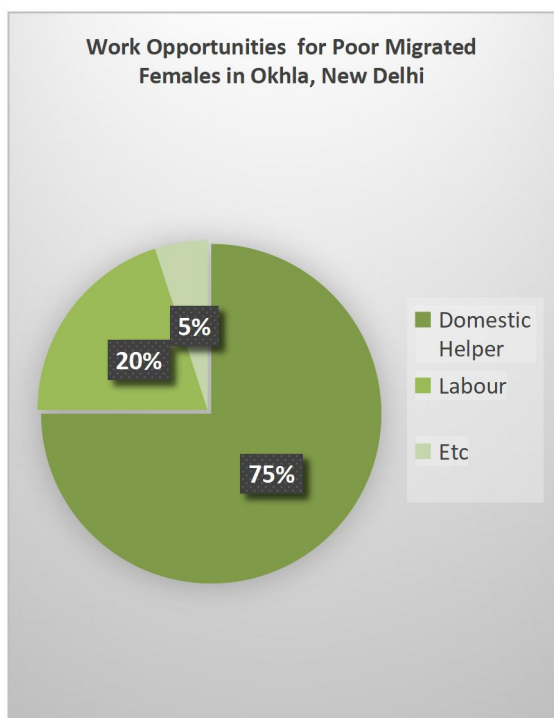
## **Analysis**

### **Work Opportunities for Poor Migrated Females in Okhla, New Delhi**

In the remote areas of different state of India there are very less opportunities available for female to

work. In some place's females are allowed to work on the farms as a helper but this is not applicable in all the areas. In some places the people of those areas do not find it decent to allow their females to work. And even if due to extremely bad financial condition of their family they allow their females to work then in that case, opportunities to work are not available there, whereas when they migrate to urban cities like Delhi, they have good options to earn. Domestic helpers are in huge demand in urban cities like Delhi. Okhla is the area in the South Delhi where lakhs of people both males and females come from different states to work in public and private sector in the city.

So in this area overall there is a great demand of female domestic helpers, for cooking, washing clothes, cleaning houses, etc.. The amount of money paid for these works in metro city like Delhi is comparatively high than the small cities and town in India. For cooking work, they can easily earn Rs. 2000 to Rs. 3000 per meal in a month. For cleaning houses and utensils, they can easily earn 1000 to 1500. Likewise, in a day they can work in several places and can earn according to it.



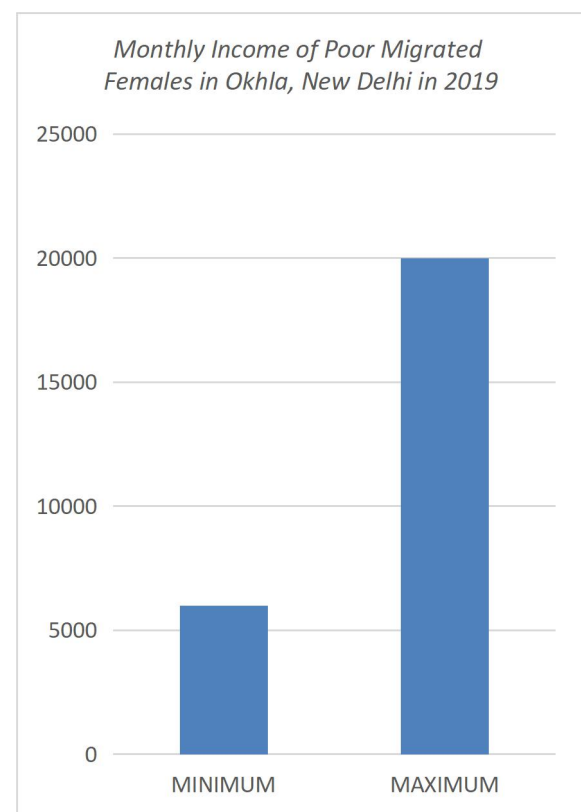
**Figure 1**

The above given pie chart shows that around 75% of migrated poor females, works as a domestic helper in Okhla, New Delhi. 20% females work as labor to earn their livelihood and only 5% of females are engaged in some other less popular works.

In rural areas the income of these females is almost nil whereas in semi urban areas if they get the

opportunities to work then also they can earn only one fourth of the money which they can earn in the place like Okhla, New Delhi. These migrated females work so hard to help their family in financial crisis to push their living conditions above the poverty line.

The income of these migrated women varies from individual to individual as per their efficiency and their physical strengthen. Some can manage to work in three to four houses per day but few are capable enough to work even in seven to eight houses per day and according to this their monthly income differs. Cooking is an art and most of them are blessed with this art, so there are high chances for them to earn more money. Because of working culture of both males and females in public and private sectors in metro cities for long hours, domestic helpers are in great demand.

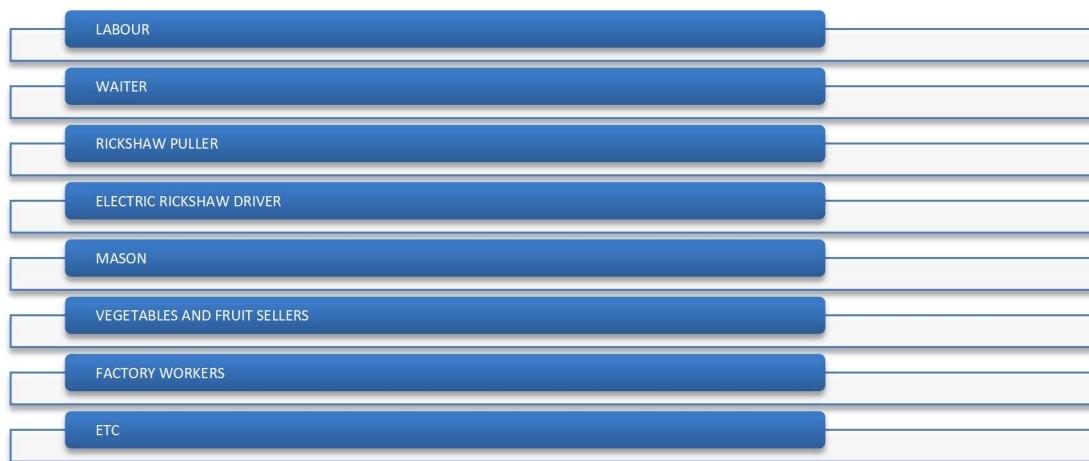


**Figure 2**

The figure 2 shows that the monthly income of poor migrated females ranges between 6,000 to 20,000 rupees per month.

### **Work Opportunities for Poor Migrated Males in Okhla, New Delhi**

The poor migrated males have better opportunities to work in Okhla. There are several options available for them to earn their livelihood.

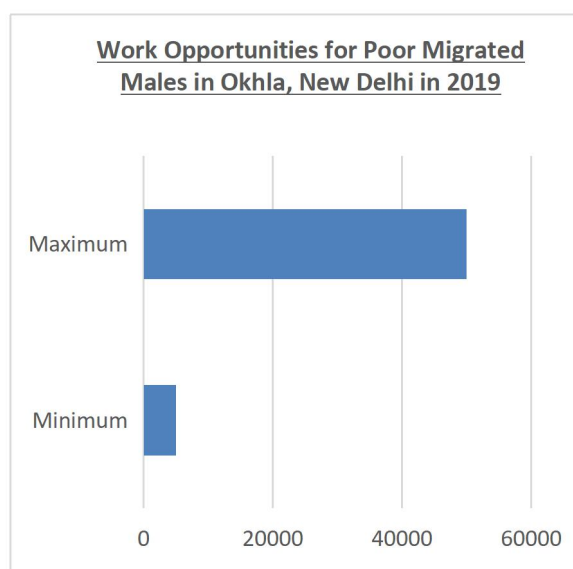


**Figure 3**

Figure 3, presents several work options available for males in Okhla, New Delhi. Almost all the work options available to males are in great demand.

The migrated males are able to earn much better in metro cities like Delhi in comparison to their native place. On an average, in their home land, their income does not exceed more than rupees 10,000 per month. These poor people are mostly landless laborers, who works as tenant or helpers of landlords. They are also unskilled labors. So their income is very less. Whereas in semi urban areas, a little better situation prevails but yet cannot be said to be satisfactory in the nature, there they can earn around 15,000 to 20,000 rupees per month, which is still less to fulfill their day to day requirements.

But in metro cities, the overall income rate is quite high, depending upon the nature and the certainty of work.



**Figure 4**

Figure 4, presents an average range of income of poor migrated males in Okhla, New Delhi. Their income range between rupees 5,000 to 50,000 depending upon the type, nature and certainty of the work.

Migration helps in improving the economic condition of the poor migrated people. They are able to have a better style of life in most of the cases but exceptions can be there. If we compare, we will find that in the place of kachcha house or shack, now they are able to afford rented rooms at the cost of rupees 3,000 to 4,000 per month. Even they are able to buy second hand fridge and washing machine, bikes etc. or maybe they can be given from their owners to use their old appliances which are in working condition. Due to migration they are able to afford three times meal properly for the whole family, good education facilities for their children as well as affordable medical facilities for the family members which was not possible earlier, 24 hour electricity supply, good environment to live in, parks, trendy street food, mandis, cheap outing places, malls only to visit for outing, metro facility, etc. as per their affordability, are the benefits enjoyed by the metro city migrants.

Migration helps the poor population in improving their present as well as their future lives. Through savings they can buy a piece of land for cultivation purpose or can make their own house in their native place, which will be a future asset for them and a source of livelihood for their children and for them in their old age. But it is not easy to do so, because of increasing cost of living in metro cities, where their income and expenditure almost becomes equal, and they are left with very less amount of savings, to fulfill their dreams. Even after 20 to 25 years of hard work they are unable to save much, so that they can go back to their native land happily. Due to uncertainty of their job and no fixed monthly income they suffer a lot. Providing good education on

primary and secondary level to their children is also one of the major motive behind migration, so that they can provide better life to their children.

Migrators always want to go back to their native place after achieving their targets, irrespective of the endless attractions of metro cities. All because of the connection they share with their home land.

## Conclusion

Overall, at the outset of migrant workers status is concerned it is observed from the study that being Okhla a part of south Delhi has been corner stage of their tenancy. And their pattern of growth in the last two decades has been found steadily widened. The growing spatial inequalities in economic opportunities carry necessary pattern of migration. Changes in several factors in recent decades have impacted on migrant labour markets and on migration specially in Delhi in general and South Delhi in particular.

Evidences suggests that internal migration can play an important role in poverty reduction and economic development, hence positive facilitation of safe migration should be specially emphasized, which includes mainly access to basic necessities and public service, predominantly in health, education and livelihood.

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