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## MIGRATION AND ITS IMPACT IN RESPECT TO PANDEMIC

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### ABSTRACT

Covid 19 pandemic has raised the issue of migration for abundant research and prompted wide-ranging theoretical debate. Many people are leaving the place of livelihood to save their life from such a dangerous virus. People are going back to their motherland. They left their mother land for so many reasons but now Covid-19 Pandemic forced them go back. Such movement of human being clearly stated that man is a mobile creature who move from place to another to satisfy his needs. In this respect he follows process of migration. Migration is one of the distinguishing features of human life that has been occurring since the very beginning of man's appearance in this universe. With the development of human being and surrounding created by him, forced people to move from their native place. Sometime such migration is permanent or temporary. Besides development, facilities in the living place like lack of transport, salary, electricity, health services etc. also forced human being to move from place to another. Such migration not only bring changes in migrants' life but put effects on nation's social, political, economic and cultural life. Migrate people includes skilled and unskilled people who are beneficial to everyone's life from any mean. There also number of reasons for migration on which different group of people agreed. In this context various theories on migration came into existence. Theoretical works on migration help human beings to get information on it. Raven stein's Laws of Migration, Gravity Model, Stouffer's Theory of Mobility, and Lee's Theory etc. are some of the examples of such theories. In this paper we will put light on meaning of migration, Type of migration, reasons of migration with special reference to covid-19 and finally theories of migration for the better understanding of present situation of migrants' people. Some suggestions will be provided to cope up problems faced due to migrants.

**keywords:- Migration, Covide-19, Pandemic.**

## INTRODUCTION

No one has imagined the present situation of the world. Every country in this world has enforced Lockdown as COVID-19 taking the people into death laying situation. COVID-19 pandemic has changed everything. People are saving their lives by moving from cities to their hometown as COVID-19 is spreading readily in cities. It also forced people to stop working outside and meet publicly. In this situation skill and unskilled persons preferred to go at safe place that is their native place. When people move from one place to another for any reason then it is known as migration. Migration does not take place due to one reason. Migration has various reasons to spread at national or international level. Even many theories also developed to understand the term "Migration"

## MEANING OF MIGRATION

The Latin term "migrate," which meant to shift one's residence, is where the English word "migration" first appeared. A "moving of people or an individual or group of individuals from one cultural area to another, which can be permanent or transitory" is the definition of "migration" in its literal sense. Many academics have attempted to describe the meaning and notion of migration according to their diverse techniques and opinions in order to elaborate on it. The Encyclopedia Americana defines the term migration as a co-ordinate voluntary movement of a considerable number of people from an accustomed habitat to a new one. In International Encyclopedia of Population, defined 'migration' as a geographical mobility that involves a change of usual residence between defined political or statistical areas or between residence areas of different types.

Hager strand studied the Swedish migration fields and defined migration as a shift in the centre of gravity, whereby an individual's mobility is influenced by the shift in the centre of gravity. To further clarify the idea and meaning of migration, he offered the following example: While the termini of commutes to work, leisure activities, and shopping movements may remain constant, there will be a shift in inter-urban moves. A forte also distinguishes between the terms "mobility" and "migration." He researched Ghana's population mobility in this setting. He contends that migration involves people crossing borders and that mobility is limited to movement inside bounds. Migration is typically seen as an economic phenomenon, while noneconomic considerations undoubtedly have a role. Most studies concur that migrants leave their area of origin primarily because of lack of employment opportunities and with the hope of finding better opportunities elsewhere”.

## TYPES OF MIGRATION

The process of Migration can be categorized broadly into two parts. One is National Migration or Internal Migration and another is International Migration. This migration can further be divided by scholars as per their ideologies but we will here talk about only Permanent and Temporary Migration.

- **National Migration or Internal Migration:-** Mobility of people within the country is called national migration which is from rural to urban and urban to urban due to many reasons like better employment, occupation, education, livelihood, national disasters like earthquake, flood, holocaust, communal riots, geographical problems of the area like high hills, unproductive soil, lack of water resources etc., crimes and social security. For example large no. of youth from hilly areas like Himachal, Uttarakhand, Ladakh migrated from their villages for better employment, occupation, education, livelihood within the country due to no employment, lack of agricultural growth, poor health system, unapproachable education, lack of transportation, no connectivity of the villages with roads, corruption within Government machineries and natural disasters like landslides, frizzing of snow etc. This is called Rural to Urban migration. Besides this, in other states many people migrated within country due to communal riots also. For example, anti-Sikh riots of 1984, Godhara Riots and many more. Such kind of migration is named by Jay Weinstein and Vijayan Pillai (2001) as Forced migration exists when a person is moved against their will like making people slaves or when the move is initiated because of external factors like natural disaster or civil war. Apart from this, some middle class peoples migrated from small cities to

metropolitan cities for in search of better job , busines or as professionals . People almost migrated in as stem migration or in chain migration. This is called Urban to urban migration.

- **International Migration:-**This refers to change of residence or native place over national boundaries. An international migrant is someone who moves to a different country for any reason. Such migrants are further classified as legal immigrants, illegal immigrants, and refugees. Legal immigrants are those who moved to other country with the legal permission of the receiver nation, illegal immigrants are those who moved without legal permission and try to hide themselves all time and refugees are those crossed an international boundary to escape persecution. The main reason of international migration to other countries basically to developed countries is many opportunities of skilled or low skilled labours or professionals in search of better job like unskilled , skilled labour, nurses, doctors ,engineers and professionals as per their educational qualification and also for higher education. Apart from this many people from middle east countries migrated to Europe due to civil war, cruelty on minorities like in Pakistan and Afghanistan and some other countries , cross border migration like in USA , Bangladesh, Myanmar etc.
- **Permanent Migration:-**When people migrated personally from their native place and do not come back to find out the present position of their native houses known as permanent migrants. When a people get good permanent jobs in other nation or urban areas, they settled there permanently. They often go back to their native places. They used to enjoy or being a part of that area where they are living permanently. Due to permanent Migration many villages have been scattered and their land has become forest. Even ruins of their ancient house making the villages as unwanted visiting place.
- **Temporary Migration:** - On the other hand when people migrated for short period of time it is known as temporary migration. In temporary migration people use to visit their native place after a week or a month or whenever they get time to visit. People from UP, Bihar, West Bengal are use to opt temporary migration. Temporary migrants enjoyed all the festivities and rituals with their families as their family members do not live with them. They live in rented houses and do various kinds of jobs which can be temporary or seasonal also.

## REASONS OF MIGRATION WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO COVID-19

There are various causes of migration, but they are always governed by the push and pull aspects. In his work, Rajakumar Sangappa Sali talks about these two aspects in an outstanding manner. Subcategories are pushed under the categories of natural disaster, unemployment, and poverty. Push factors are things that force someone to leave where they are from and go somewhere else. It might be brought on by a lack of employment prospects, high unemployment rates, underdeveloped areas, a lack of opportunities, the depletion of natural resources like water bodies, and natural disasters like floods, droughts, and tsunamis, among other things. On the other hand, pull factors include better opportunities, large salaries, and friends or family who live elsewhere. If we combined push and pull factors, we can also say that Migration as a natural process that often happens depending on the socio-economic, demographic, cultural, political and environmental factors related to the migrant people. Follow the migration push factor here with COVID - 19. People were compelled to return to their own country by a virus from China. Indian migrant workers experienced a variety of difficulties during the COVID-19 pandemic. Millions of migrant workers had to deal with the closure of companies and workplaces as a result of the country's enforced lockdown, which also caused food shortages and future uncertainty. Many of them experienced hunger after this, along with their families. Then, without access to transportation, thousands of them started walking back to their homes. Thousands of migrant workers were seen walking or riding bicycles hundreds of kilometers or even more than a thousand kilometers to return home since they had no work,

no money, and lockdown regulations that prevented them from using public transportation to their native villages, some with their families. Even people put their life in danger to go back their homes.

Notably as a result of COVID-19, a train ran over 16 migrants who were resting on railroad tracks close to Aurangabad in Maharashtra in May. On May 14, a truck carrying migrant workers collided with a bus near Guna, Madhya Pradesh, resulting in eight fatalities and over 55 injuries. In the Auraiya area of Uttar Pradesh on May 16, a trailer carrying migrants collided with a parked truck transporting migrants, resulting in 24 fatalities and numerous injuries. According to data gathered by the Save Life Foundation, an NGO that promotes road safety, as of 2 June, 198 migrant workers have perished in traffic accidents.

## THEORIES OF MIGRATION

It is important to study "Theories of migration" as these theories are helpful to study human mobility in respect to political, social, economic and cultural contexts. Let's discuss some important theories.

**1. Ravensteins' "Law of Migration”:-** Ernest Ravenstein was profunder the earliest theory of migration in 1885.He identified a set of generalization, which he called as ‘Law of Migration’ concerning inter – country migration in Britain in the nineteenth century by using the origin place data. He concluded that migration was governed by a "push and pull" factors. Unfavorable conditions push people to emigrate and favorable conditions pull people to immigrate. According to him the main cause of migration was better external economic opportunities; the volume of migration decreases as distance increases; most of migrants move to short distance and migrant characteristics (like gender, Culture etc.) influence of migration. Most of these generalizations hold good even today.

We can take some instance in Indian Context: -

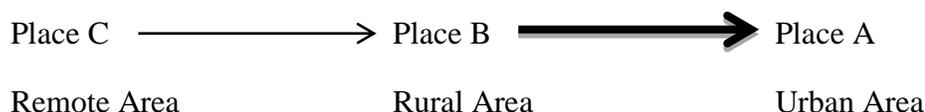
(According to census 2011)

- Inter-states migration is 4 times more than intra states migration.
- The volume of migration is more in neighboring states.
- If distance is increased by 1% than migration is decreased with 1.66%
- Migrants come from Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Odisha to Kolkata.
- Migrants come to Surat from Mumbai

### **Some important characteristics of Law of migration are the following.**

- i. There is an inverse relation between distance and volume of migration. More people migrate only a short distance. Migrants move a long distance generally by a special case like a specialized job, technical education etc.
- ii. Migration proceeds step by step. It means a group of migrants move to developed city and the place left by them is taken over by other migrants who come from more remote areas.

**For instance: -**



- iii. Migrant likes move to one center place as long distance for more job opportunities like Delhi in India.
- iv. Reverse migration occurs in case of long-distance migration. Like many people migrate to Delhi from Bihar from employment and education and after completion of their education then they return to Bihar. But ratio of reverse migration is less than migration.

- v. Volume of migration is less in urban areas as compare to rural areas. This type of migration is more likely to happen in developing country. Migration between urban-to-urban areas is more in developed countries.
- vi. Females are more mobile than male in the country of birth, but male more frequently venture beyond. Families rarely migrate over long distances.  
Examples: - Most of males move to Arab countries alone.  
Female migration is 69.7% (census 2011) India due to marriage.
- vii. Migration is highly age selective where adults in the working age groups display a greater to migrate.
- viii. Volume of migration increase with the process of diversification of the economy, and improvement in transport facilities.
- ix. Migration occurs mainly due to economic reasons.

**Criticism:** Cultural, social, political, psychological and religious factors are not considered in this theory.

**2. Zelinsky's Migration transition Model :-** Zelinsky's Migration transition model was developed by Wilbur Zelinsky. This model also known as The Migration Transition Model or The Zelinsky Model of Migration Transition. It claims that the type of migration that occurs within a country or region according to Zelinsky migration is depends on development of the sources and destination places and types of the society of the sources and destination places. The main idea of Zelinsky's Migration Transition model is taken from the demography transition model.

**As per Zelinsky's the following are the five stages of migration.**

**Stage 1:- (Pre modern traditional society)**

The following are the characteristics of these stages.

- High birth rate and high death rate: natural growth of population is zero.
- NO international migration High level of nomadism people move to the search for food for survival.

**Stage 2:- (Early Transitional society)**

The following are the characteristics of these stages.

- High birth rate and low death rate population growth rapidly increase.
- The source region is in process of modernization.
- Migration is mainly for jobs
- High rate of integration from Rural to Urban areas.
- High rate of emigration.(Like Bihar, UP)

**Stage 3:- (Late Transitional Society)**

The following are the characteristics of these stages.

- Low birth and low death rate.
- High economic development
- More immigration than emigration

(Like: - Kolkata, Delhi, Mumbai)

**Stage 4: - (Advanced Society)**

The following are the characteristics of these stages.

- Urban to suburban migration in search of a peaceful life and a clean environment.
- Stable Population

(Like: New York to Texas)

**Stage 5:- (Future super advanced Society)**

The following are the characteristics of these stages.

- Declining population trends
- Urban to suburban migration  
(Like: New Jersey)

**Criticism:** Zelinsky's model of mobility transition fails to acknowledge push and pull factors which are unrelated to the economy (such as love, family, security and safety, and climate).

**Relevance:**

- With many countries being affected by political and economically instability, there are many refugees.(Like: -Rohingya)
- stage 2 rural to city migration applies to this situation (Haryana to Delhi)
- In many developed countries such as in the Netherlands, People are finding rural areas more attractive because of the quiet and scenery.

**3. Gravity model of Migration :-** Gravity Model is the most important model in the field of migration. This was developed by William J.Relly in 1931. Gravity model, based on Newton's law of gravitation, goes one step further, it states that the volume of migration depends on the distance between two interacting center and the size of their population. According to this model, migration is directly proportional to the product of their population size and inversely proportional to the square of the distance separating them. This model show migration between two places is calculated by this formula:

$$M=K (p_1 \times p_2)/(D \times D)$$

Here, P<sub>1</sub> = Population of place 1

P<sub>2</sub> = Population of Place 2

D = Distance between two places

K = Constant

M = Number of Migrants

**As per Gravity model of migration**

1. More migration between more populated places.

**For instance:-**

More interaction between Delhi and Mumbai as compare to Delhi and Lucknow,

2. We can notice that more migration between short distance places.

Like Migration from UP to Delhi

**Criticism of the gravity model**

- Technological advancement in the transport sector and taken into consideration
- Connectivity is the deciding factor of migration not the distance.
- The number of opportunities is the deciding factor of the migration rather than population size and distance between the cities.

**For Instance: -**

Migration between India and China is very less as compared to India and US despite the following facts:

India Population 134 Crore

China Population 140 Crore

USA Population 33 Crore

Distance between India and China Approx 3000 Km

Distance between India and USA 13500 Km

**4. Stouffer's Theory of Mobility:** - American sociologist S.A. Stouffer made one such adjustment to the gravity model. In 1940, he created his intervening opportunity model. He asserted that there is no unavoidable connection between distance and mobility. Due to an increase in the number of intervening possibilities with growing distance, the volume of migration is decreasing. According to Stouffer's model, the number of migrants from an origin to a destination is inversely proportional to the number of opportunities present there and directly correlated with the number of opportunities present at the destination. In comparison to regional distance, Stouffer's gives social and economic opportunities more weight.

**For instance: -**

A person living in central place. Place A is 100 km far from his central place but not fulfill his needs place B is 200 Km far from his central place but fulfill his needs. Then he wants to move to place B.

Place (A) 100 km ← Person → 200 Km Place (B)

A person to migrate to Delhi from Bihar. But he finds intervening opportunities in Lucknow which come between Bihar and Delhi then he will migrate to Lucknow.

Bihar → (Lucknow) → Delhi  
(Intervening opportunities)

**5. Lee's Theory:** - In his revision of Ravenstein's theory, Everett Lee increased the importance of internal (or push) variables. Lee also mentioned the effect of supplementary barriers on the migration procedure. The drew attention to the fact that factors including geography, political and physical impediments, and the presence of dependents can either hinder or promote migration. According to Lee, the migration process is selective because differences in things like age, gender, and social class have an impact on people's decisions in terms of push-pull influences and their capacity to overcome these obstacles.

In 1966, Everett Lee created a new elaborate theory of migration. He listed four factors that influence population spatial mobility in any location.

These factors are:

- i. Push factors at the places of origin.
- ii. Pull factors at the place of destination
- iii. Intervening barriers between origin and destination
- iv. Personal factors or choices.

### Push factors

Place of origin is less attractive reasons for the same are:

- Unemployment
- A low standard of living,
- Political unrest
- A harsh climate
- A natural calamity
- An epidemic
- Social and economic backwardness

**Pull factors**

The place of destination seems more attractive than the place of origin for reason like.

- Better employment prospects
- Better living conditions
- Stability and peace
- A comfortable atmosphere
- Property and life security.

**Intervening Barriers**

- Geographical Barriers
  - Mountain, rivers, Human made barriers etc.
- A political barrier
  - Permit system, strict visa rule etc.
- A social, cultural and religious barriers.
  - Language problems, intolerance, enmity.
- Personal Factor
  - Love with place, better education facilities for their children.

According to Lee, each place have/has a set of positive and negative factors. Positive factor means those factors which act to hold people within it, or attract people from other areas. In addition to these, some factors remain neutral, where people are essentially indifferent. While some factors affect most of the people in the area, other tends to have differential effects. In any area Migration is the net result of the interplay between these factors.

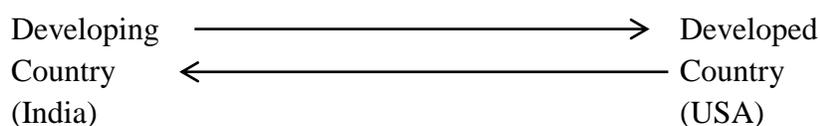
**6. Neoclassical:** - According to this theory, trade and migration help labour markets and economies eventually converge on an equilibrium state. It views immigrants as acting in a sensible manner. People migrate from countries where there is a surplus of labour and cheap wages to communities where there is a shortage of labour and high salaries. Individuals make their own decisions about moving, taking into account that increased earnings in the long run will offset the expense and risk of doing so.

**For instance: -**

Society 1	Society 2
Big Labor force	Small Labor force
Low wages	High wages
(Bihar, UP etc.)	(Delhi, Kolkata)

**7. World-systems theory given by Sassen** 1988 argues that international migration is a by-product of global capitalism. Contemporary patterns of international migration tend to be from the periphery (poor nations) to the core (rich nations) because factors associated with industrial development in the First World generated structural economic problems, and thus push factors, in the Third World.

For instance: -

**CONCLUSION**

From the above theories it can be concluded that consequences of lockdown, measures in the country have led to an unpredictable migration of worker and families from large urban to rural India. Migrants were forced to leave their native places in search of better opportunities and earnings. we can say that Covid-19 was the push factor of migration where people move to their native place without their will. Covid-19 induced lockdown, the

working class, especially the low income migrant workers, have been the worst affected (Pandey, 2020) Education, healthcare, financial stability and other basic infrastructure. It has national as well as international impact on human life. In one's nation people are moving from urban to rural areas whereas those who live outside the nation come back to their nation. Covid-19 raised lockdown situation in every country which was not only effect on skilled people but unskilled people also. Even movement from one place to another place spread Covid-19 in large scale. It was an alarm for the Central and state government to assemble arrangements (Job opportunities, Good Educational Institutions, etc.) at their own places to save economy of the nation.

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