



# Impacts of Migration on Punjab - Insight into Literature

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## Abstract

Migration is defined as movement from one country, place, and locality to another in search of better opportunities to settle. When people move from one place to another, the place they move from is called the Place of Origin and the place they move to is called Place of Destination. In the present paper, an attempt is made to understand the various impacts of migration from the place of departure to the place of arrival. In this direction, numerous existing literatures were studied to understand and conceptualize the issues related to migration. It was found that the migration has impact on the country of origin in positive as well as negative ways. The growing tendency of Punjabis relocating overseas has accelerated the growth process. The money sent from these wealthy nations to their family in Punjab has accelerated the pace of amenities and technical advancement. Many rich Punjabis have made significant contributions to the Punjab's infrastructure by establishing philanthropic schools, hospitals, shelter homes, and other social amenities. There are many other positive impacts of migration like unemployment is reduced and people get better job opportunities, migration helps in improving the quality of life of people, It helps to improve social life of people as they learn about new culture, customs, and languages which help to improve brotherhood among people, children get better opportunities for higher education. The study observed that the migration is also associated with some negative impacts like the loss of a person from rural areas put negative impact on the level of output and development of rural areas, the influx of workers in urban areas increases competition for the job, houses, school facilities etc., having large population puts too much pressure on natural resources, amenities and services, migration changes the population of a place; therefore, the distribution of the population becomes uneven, sometimes migrants also get exploited, the rising movement of Punjabi youth to other industrialized nations has resulted in brain drain, or the flow of young brains and talent from one country to another.

**Keywords:** Migration, Rural, Urban, Employment, Education, Technical Advancement

## An Overview

Migration is a global phenomena, it affect almost every country of the world. It is the process of movement from one place, region, state or country to another. According to Demographic Dictionary, “migration is a form of geographical mobility or spatial mobility between one geographical unit and another, generally involving a change in residence from the place of origin or place of departure to the place of destination or place of arrival.” Everett Lee, a well known demographer, defines migration broadly “as a permanent or semi-permanent change of residence”. In brief, when a person leaves his native place or village, comes to an urban area, takes up a job, and starts living there, he is known as a migrant and his move is referred to as migration.

There are some important characteristics of the migrants and migration. Age selectivity is one of the main features of the migrants. Generally, young people are more mobile. Most migration studies, especially in developing countries, have found that rural-urban migrants are predominantly young adults and relatively better educated than those who remain at the place of origin. It is obvious that migration for employment takes place mostly at the young adult ages. Literature reveals that people have a tendency to move when they are between their teens and their mid-thirties (15-35 years) than at other ages. Various studies show an interesting fact about the migration that the people do not blindly go to a new place. They usually have kinship chains and networks of relatives and friends who help them in different ways. In some cases, the migrants not only tend to have the same destination but also tend to have the same occupation. For example, the agricultural labourers in Punjab and Haryana are mainly from Bihar and Eastern Uttar Pradesh.

## Objectives of the study

1. To ascertain the prolonged effects of migration
2. To understand the in-depth study of migration related issues in Punjab

## Data Base and Methodology

This study is completely descriptive in nature. The research paper relied upon the secondary data. In this regard, various libraries were visited and some on-line journals were also reviewed in this direction. However, the efforts could be made for empirical analysis but due to the non-availability of data for analysis, the study focused on issues of migration descriptively.

## Outcomes of Migration: A Review of Literature

Joly Dainele (2000), “Some Structural Effects of Migration on Receiving and Sending Countries”: This article brought the threads of international migration together in its causes and consequences affecting both sending and receiving countries and migrants. The paper discussed the causes of migration in light of major theories of

international migration, for which the author studied and discussed supply and demand of labour theory related to wage differentials. The paper explained that the relationship between causes and consequences of migration is complex and interactive. The article showed that structure and causes of migration may have a determining influence on modes of incorporations of migrants in host countries.

Rosenzweig Mark R (2005), “Consequences of Migration for Developing Countries”: The paper highlighted that substantial out-migration of persons from low income countries whether due to poor institutions or poor geography or any other reason is in part a manifestation of problems in those countries. Further, it is observed from the study that the increased remittance incomes associated with international migration will not directly affect the factors for which migration took place. The paper emphasized that Return Migration Mechanism can benefit the sending countries where migrants, who acquire new skills, new money and new outlook can help to transform their home countries.

Ratha Dilip, Mohapatra Sanket and Scheja Erina (2011), “Impact of Migration on Economic and Social Development: A Review of Evidence and Emerging Issues”: This paper provided a review of literature on the development impact of migration and remittances on origin countries and on destination countries in the South. The paper highlighted some policy recommendations for integration of migration in development policies in the South and the North, Improving data collection on migration and remittance flows, improving recruitment mechanisms and facilitating International labour mobility through safe and legal channels.

Pushkarna Mridula (2015), “Transformation of Punjab due to Migration”: The paper focuses on the variety of factors including economic, social and political factors. The study further added about the impact of return migrants on the regional innovation systems. According to the author, migration create awareness for learning and education. The attitude of people towards health and sanitation also changes after migration. Another common scenario is that the most of the migrants have learned the habit of drinking alcohol and gambling. The adverse social repercussions of migration are found in the form of neglected children, weakened marital bonds and even broken families. The study concluded that recognition of origin has facilitated a shift in attitude and thinking regarding migration from brain drain to ”brain bank”, “brain gain”, “brain trust” and “brain circulation”.

Dustman Christian, Schonberg Uta, Stuhler Jan (2016), “The Impact of Immigrations: Why Do Studies Reach Such Different Results?”: The paper discusses why the conclusions of different studies on “Effects of Immigration on Wages” comes to different conclusions. The study showed that in presence of downgrading, immigrants and native may appear to be imperfect substitutes within the skill cells even though they are not.

Morina Donjeta, Gashi Prespe, Morina Kade (2016), “Migration and its Effects on the Economic Development: Case of Kosovo”: This paper explained the positive role played by migration towards the human resource development, Unemployment reduction and vocational training through the experience they gain in destination countries. The paper was conducted through a survey of 300 citizens of Kosovo. The results of the paper pointed

towards the positive and negative effects of emigration for the economic development of the country. The paper discussed that migration brings great benefits if managed properly and the benefits accrue not only to the individual concerned but also to his family, society of the country of origin and host country. However, the study also revealed that in future the situation will arise when there will be need of human capital in the country and then a rapid migration can harm the country in many ways.

Dadush Uri and Niebuhr Mona (2016), “The Economic Impact of Forced Migration”: The paper tries to show the fact of endangering the stability of nations that are host to large numbers of migration and of the region around them. The paper indicated that forced migration flows which are not properly managed, create large negative Political and Economic externalities for the world as a whole. The paper stated that there is no perfect scheme for allocating the burden, but absent political solutions to conflicts, any scheme must envisaged for the increased number of refugees sitting in the north and there should be increased development aid for the countries in the south having the largest number of refugees.

Desiderio Rene (2020), “The Impact of International Migration on Fertility: An Empirical Study”: The study focused on fertility affects in the countries of departure and arrival through the dissemination of values and information as well as through decision to postpone the birth of children before departure. The main focus of the paper was on the reproduction patterns of migrant women and their fertility differentials with the native born. The paper discussed that population pressure of sending countries reduced in case of migration from high to low fertility countries.

Koczan Zsoka, Peri Giovanni, Pinat Mangali and Rozhkov Dmitriy (2021), “The Impact of International Migration on Inclusive Growth: A Review”: This working paper discusses the impact of movement of people from one country to another, particularly from less developed to developed countries in various dimensions. They concluded that migration increases the income level of migrants as well as their family behind. Further, their study revealed that international migration affects the destination country through impact on labour markets, innovation, fiscal balance, demographic structure and criminality. Their study showed that the country of origin had to face the loss of human capital but they will be benefitted by remittances, foreign direct investments and technological transfers.

Telsac Cuneyt, Telsac Yuksek Ozlem (2022), “Causes of Migration and Its Effects”: The objective of this paper was to identify the causes of migration and the effects of migration by using extensive literature review and observation methods. The studies found that in many parts of the world, due to global warming, possibility of accessing the clean fresh water resources are reduced. According to the authors, lack of access to clean water forces the local residents of the region to migrate. Yet a wide unemployment is another reason. Natural disasters like floods, earthquakes, Tsunamis, landslides and sudden climate changes are major migration triggers. The study suggested that a good understanding of the reasons that trigger migration is very important in terms of solving the problem at its source.

## Migration in Punjab

India as well as Punjab has experienced both international and internal migration. Historically Punjab has been associated with migration from the earliest due to its geographical set up. Invaders who came to India from northern borders had all passed through Punjab. The people of Punjab are confronted with a large number of rulers. Foreign rulers like Turks (from 11th to 18th century), Afghans (from 15th to 16th century) and they are followed by the Mughals and then Punjab came under the British rule in 1849. Thus the land of Punjab was the meeting ground of different people and races, introducing new cultures and ideas. The people of Punjab could not therefore remain exclusive and static. Punjabis interaction with foreigners made them more lively, dynamic and mobile. With passage of time, professionals, skilled, and unskilled workers from Punjab are increasingly migrating to other industrialised countries. The wave of worldwide migration of Punjabis to industrialised nations such as the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and others is pushing the rural as well as urban population to seek better opportunities elsewhere. During the 1960s, young Punjabis went to these western nations in search of better jobs and greener pastures. Later, the oil boom in the Gulf countries drew more Punjabi to realise their goals of earning more money. Later, in the 1980s, the notion of emigration emerged among the wealthy class of farmers, who began sending their sons to developed nations to marry the daughters of families already settled in developed countries in order to get immigration. Nowadays, the historical social networks with overseas countries act as a ladder for the new waves of international migration from Punjab.

## Concluding Note

In the end, we can say that migration from one area to another is a key feature of human history. Nobody wants to leave their homeland to earn livelihood especially when they belong to the region which is known as Food Basket of India (Punjab). However, if we look at the historical background of the migration, we have come across the burning examples of the same like the movement of the people from middle Asia to Europe and Indian continent by the Mughals and the Aryans. Through this paper we tried to understand the various internal dynamics that contribute to migration from such a rich state to another places and through this paper it was realized that to solve the problem of migration, we should ensure that all states should be developed evenly, industry should set up in every state, so that the local population has no need to move from one state or country to another for earning their livelihood. A labour market monitoring authority should be set up so that the labour working in the state are given proper wages by their employers and sensitized by recruitment agencies for getting the jobs according to their skills. The human rights commission should be rejuvenated so that their human rights are not violated and their basic rights and entitlements ensured. This will help in reducing the crime and also discourage the criminal minds from migrating to other places and committing crimes. Government should create employment opportunities to overcome this crisis and should take steps to stop this migration especially this “brain drain”, due to the absence of young minds there will be an adverse effect on growth of the state. The situation will come when we will see only migrants from other states and not native Punjabis on this great territory.

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