

Consequences of Increased Migration in Urban Areas

(A Study of Kota City in the Context of the Census Report of 2001)

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Abstract

Urbanization, one of the most burning issues of the day, has not only shaken the social system of the villages and the cities, but also disturbed the demographic and ecological conditions in the urban spheres where the migrants shift for several reasons.

The contemporary scene worldwide speaks of the increased shifting of the people to the urban space which is losing its natural beauty and features day-by-day because of increased migrants who are settling down there for various reasons.

Insecurity, lack of job opportunities in the villages, poverty etc. are the major causes of the rising graph of migration. India is basically a country characterized by its rural features.

About two-thirds of its total population lives in villages which make it evident that the real picture of India is not in its cities, but in its villages where the people enjoy a specific culture of their own and where they are governed by the long-age traditions.

Life in the villages is natural and free from the hustle and bustle of the cities. However, uncertainty of rain, over-governance by the traditions, growing poverty, uncertain farming and magnetism of urban culture and modernity force the people to migrate to the various urban areas that can ensure them security and safety, adequate job opportunities that can enable them to earn their livelihood and timely fulfillment of other basic needs.

The paper is a close reflection of the adverse effect of the increased migrants on the urban spheres in India. It discusses the various issues of increased migration in Kota district of Rajasthan.

Key Words: Migration, Urban areas, Magnetic effects, Population growth, graph of crimes.

1. Introduction

At present the entire world is adversely affected by migration. Generally, both urbanization and migration are taken as one and same, but they are different from each other. The migration of the villagers to the cities under the magnetism of urban culture is urbanization, whereas the shifting of the people from one place to another seeking shelter, safety and security is migration.

India is a country where about two-thirds of its total population lives in villages. Villages provided satisfaction to the dwellers for a very long time through the joint family system where the headman would bear the whole liability relating to decisions about family issues, financial matters, matrimonial issues etc. Not only this, the subordinates would take it their moral duty to have an unshaken faith in him.

However, under the influence of modernity, need of education at different levels and necessity of jobs and careers, the people in the villages, started seeking the sources of development in cities and towns, and started losing faith in the headman.

The nuclear family system replaced the joint family system; the separation of married sons from the parents; independent decision making by the brothers and sons etc. were some of the signs that forced one to believe of the truth that the people were no more interested in living under the rigid control of the headman, and were no more ready to abide by the norms set by the headman.

Urbanization which aims at bringing the village people closer to urbanity, gives the idea that the cities provide several platforms for earning livelihood, education at different levels, good and well-furnished housing, independence to women to work and share the responsibilities of their husbands, sons, fathers and brothers.

Though several factors contribute to urbanization, migration remains at the head. Migration is made not only for the sake of urbanization, but for several other reasons such as, seeking security, fame, better opportunities of living etc.

Urbanization is considered a major dimension of migration. The migration due to urbanization is rising fast all over India. Rajasthan, famous for its culture, deserts and havelis, is witnessing it. All the districts of Rajasthan are facing the issue of migration invariably. Obviously, Kota too, is witnessing migration issue.

As regards the location of Kota, it is located in the southern Rajasthan along the Chambal river banks. Kota is the 3rd largest city of Rajasthan after Jaipur and Jodhpur. The cartographic coordinates are 25.18°N 75.83°E. It covers an area of 221.36 km² (85.47 sq mi). It has an average elevation of 271 metres (889 ft).

Sawai Madhopur, Bundi and Tonk districts of Rajasthan surround Kota district from all sides and the Chambal separates them. Kota is situated in the middle of the southeastern region Hadoti. The city-slope goes towards the north and descends towards a plain agricultural land in the north.

In India, the rural-urban migration is modest. Anyway, in 1961-71, it was 18.7%; migration was 19.6% in next decade; 21.7% in 1981-91, and 21% in 1991-2001. These figures about the migration reveal that with the passage of time, the villagers are growing self-conscious, and that they are migrating to the places that can guarantee them job and life security. As per the report of 2001 census, the migration percentage was 23.38% which reveals a hike in the previous percentage of migration.

Whatever is true of the rising migration graph in other states, is true of Kota in Rajasthan. In the decades 1971-80, 1981-1990, 1991-2000, the rural migrants were respectively 50.7%, 54.3% and 56.8% which reveals that Kota is attracting the people from

all the four sides of India and Rajasthan for various reasons including education through the coachings meant for IIT and Medical.

Objectives of the Study

- To study and interpret migration India and Rajasthan
- To study and reveal the relationship between urbanization and migration
- To discuss the general migration-trend
- To make focus on the migration-trend in Kota
- To discuss the status of Kota in terms of migration
- To discuss the relationship between urbanization and migration
- To discuss the causes of the increased share of migrants to Kota
- To discuss the various issues related to urbanization and migration relating to Kota
- To discuss the migration trend in the context of census report of 2001 and other studies made afterwards

Review of Related Literature

- **Rajasthan Human Development Report (2002)** says that there is a wide range of livelihoods in Rajasthan due to its geographical terrain which is known for a great diversity which is noticeable through green revolution, peasantry and subsistent farmers apparent in Ganganagar and Dholpur districts respectively.

In addition, there are small artisans of the Marwari community who earn their living by keeping themselves engaged in ancient long-age crafts day and night, and the nomadic herders who keep themselves engaged in grazing sheep and camels. Obviously, the wide terrain variation, social structure, cultural patterns and livelihoods in Rajasthan makes one believe of the adequate income opportunities in Rajasthan.

The local economies are sufficient to provide satisfaction provided people-oriented approach is adopted and exercised. If some proper line of action is adopted, they can provide the people a sufficient income to manage their families successfully.

- **M. S. Rathore (2005)**, in **State Level Analysis of Drought Policies and Impacts in Rajasthan, India**, holds that Rajasthan with an area of 342,000 km² (10.4% of the country total) and population of 56.5 million (5% of the country total) of which 76.6% is rural, is the largest state.

The state has only 1% of India's water resources (GOI 2004). The administrative set up in the state reveals its division into 32 districts and 241 tehsils. However, it is recognized as a backward district because of its slow development. Drought, poor economic development resources, low population density, illiteracy and ignorance, scarcity of water keep it away from the high socio-economic development.

- **Jayant Singh & Florentin Smarandache (2008)**, in **District Level Analysis Of Migrants From Different Distances For The Rajasthan State**, discuss the issue in relation to distance and reasons. The study finds that the places that are nearby and the availability of the basic facilities required for comfortable living attract the migrants. The migrants generally choose to settle down in the places which are not too far and where they can move easily.

Similarly, they choose only those cities and urban spaces where the basic facilities required for the human survival are easily available. The study concludes that migration based on distance and urbanization are inter-related.
- **Jayant Singh, Hansraj Yadav & Florentin Smarandache (2009)**, in **District Level Analysis of Urbanization from Rural-to-Urban Migration in the Rajasthan State**, assert that in Rajasthan there are several dimensions of migration.

The study concludes that of all the migration dimensions, urbanization remains at the head under which the people from the villages move to nearby or far-located spots seeking shelter, food, housing and employment. In Rajasthan, rural-urban migration dimension is working fast these days, and the rural people from the various districts of Rajasthan move to the districts other than their own districts or to the cities.

The trend migration-trend brings forth that migration rate and the migrants' share to urbanization differ in percentage and degree. On the one hand, a few districts of Rajasthan meet a high migration, while some other districts meet low migration. However, it cannot be denied that migrants are increasing day-by-day in number.
- **Society for Regional Research and Analysis (2010)**, in **Migration of Tribal Women: Its Socioeconomic Effects- An in-depth Study of Chhatisgarh, Jharkhand, M.P and Orissa**, reports that migration in the world is not new and that its roots lie in the civilizations that were introduced long ago. Migration is an age-long practice which was exercised by the people when they failed to get food, water, roof and clothing at their native places.

In India, graph of migration has been high in the last few years which is apparent through the 2001 census report. The report reveals that around 30% population was in the grip of migration, and that people belonging to various age-groups excluding infants, migrate to other places seeking security to life and seeking facilities that facilitate survival of human beings.

The study finds a change in birth place and the place of residence which occurs because of jobs, marriage, education. People are born at some specific place, but later, under the circumstances, they have to shift to some other place for the sake of employment and for other reasons. The study discusses that the women have to migrate because of marriage and they have to settle down where their husbands work and live.

Hypothesis

- Migration is a global issue which is seen globally

- Insecurity, dissatisfaction, unemployment, illiteracy, desire to live happily are causes that lead one to migrate
- Urbanization and migration correlate each other directly or indirectly
- Urbanization is the migration of the village folks to the urban spheres, while migration refers to the settling of various types of persons in the parts other than their native places
- Migration is apparent in Rajasthan
- Kota-migration percentage is much higher than in other districts of Rajasthan.

Method

The paper is designed on both the primary and the secondary information that were found available in various sources, such as, research journals, books, newspapers etc., while the source that supplied the original information about the issue is the non-participant observation.

The following steps were undertaken for the study-

- Selection of the title after much consideration and much brooding over the theme
- Preparing an appropriate research design
- Determination of the sources of secondary data, such as, books, magazines, newspapers, internet sites, research journals, census reports
- Selection of the relevant articles and research papers available on the various sites of internet
- Review making after a thorough study encompassing all the aspects of the selected research papers
- Linking the contents of the selected articles and research papers and interpreting them keeping in view the objectives of the present study
- Study of the migrants (All types) in Kota through the non-participant observation method
- Developing an in-depth knowledge of the various causes and effects of migration in Kota

Findings & Conclusion

- Urbanization is a universal and global issue
- Under it, settling down of the rural folks in urban spheres is noticeable. It draws the people from the villages to the cities
- Urbanization has affected India both positively and negatively.
- The rural people have since long been giving up their villages, kinsmen, agricultural lands for several reasons, such as, employment, education, personality development, urban-culture enjoyment etc.
- Migration and urbanization are two different terms, but correlated with each other.
- Migration is a global issue which is seen everywhere in the world.
- It involves the settling down of both the rural and the urban people at some other place for several reasons.

- As nothing happens without any cause, migration too occurs due to several causes, such as, insecurity, dissatisfaction, unemployment, illiteracy, desire to live happily
- Migration always does not result into positive things. In many cases, the results are negative and cause further new problems and challenges
- Migration and urbanization differ from each other, but since in urbanization the village people leave their villages and kinsmen to settle down in the various urban areas, it is taken as a form of migration.
- Migration is a common thing in Kota where the people migrate to the other urban area, other districts of the state or to other states
- Migration causes several new and unknown problems to the migrants, such as, accommodation and housing problem, problem of food, employment etc.
- Migration is both planned and unplanned.
- The planned migration occurs when the migrant shifts from one place to another with a proper plan
- The unplanned migration occurs when after the natural calamity, disaster, pandemic the people have to leave their native places and kinsmen in search of food, shelter and employment
- The planned migration enables the migrants to achieve their goals while the unplanned migration bring the feeling of helplessness to the migrants.

References

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