

Dynamics in the Nature, Composition and Issues of Internal Migration in India

Dr. Jnanaranjan Mohanty

Assistant Professor (Economics)
Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
Parala Maharaja Engineering College
Odisha

Abstract: Migration has been considered as a complex phenomenon and it is having its effect both on socio-economic character of source and destination. Internal migration contributes a lot to the process of development in various ways. But the issues related to internal migrants have not been taken up seriously by policy makers. As a result the internal migrants and their household face a lot of problems both at source and destination. Keeping this in view this study is designed to make an in-depth analysis of nature and composition of inter-state migration in India and issues encountered by inter-state migrants. Present study uses both primary and secondary data for analysing different issues of inter- state migration and tries to suggest some policy measures to address the issue related to internal migrants..

Keywords: Destination, residence, source, internal, work place

Introduction

Migration has been considered as a complex phenomenon that touches social, economic and security aspect of daily life of both migrants and residents of destination(WMR2020).Directly or indirectly migration also contributes to the growth process of both source and destination (Srivastava2020, Deshingkar and Akter, 2009).For migrants the journey is considered as new& suitable strategy for livelihood. But migration has been an important cause of change in size and composition of population in source and destination (WPR2018). As Kulkarni (2017) pointed out migrants have potential dividend which is too harvested by making proper utilization of the available population. Therefore issues related to migration are gaining its importance while framing policies starting from international to regional level.

Internal migration or domestic migration is human migration within one geopolitical entity, usually a nation-state. Internal migration tends to be travel for education and for economic improvement or because of a natural disaster or civil disturbance. Internal migration is widely considered to be an essential driver of economic efficiency in More Developed Countries (MDCs), the process remains relatively understudied, under measured, and misunderstood in Less Developed Countries (LDCs) (Kuhn-2015). Existing evidence suggests that internal migration in LDCs, as in MDCs, is beneficial for development and social change, though the pathways of influence are complex.

So far as internal migration in India is concerned Article 19(1)(d) and Article 19(1)(e), Part III, Fundamental Rights, of Indian constitution has the provision for all citizen to move freely throughout the territory of India; to reside and settle in any part of the territory of India. Thus internal migration is a constitutional provision in India, Although internal migrants are more significant in number in comparison to international migrant in India ,it often fails to receive attention of policy makers not only in the country but also worldwide. As per the Census 2011 the number of internal migrants in India was 450 million over 309 million recorded 2001. Internal migrants as percentage of population increased from 30% in 2001 to 37% in 2011.Again growth rate internal migrants (45%) exceeds the population growth rate of(18%) across 2001 -2011. Despite the fact that approximately three out of every ten Indians are internal migrants, internal migration has been accorded very low priority by the governments.

Internal migration contributes significantly to the national growth and urbanization is an impossible task without migration (Bhagat 2010). But internal migrants are excluded from the economic, cultural, social and political life of society and are often treated as second-class citizens (Suárez-2001, Unicef-2013). The constraints faced by migrants are many - lack of formal residency rights; lack of identity proof; lack of political representation; inadequate housing; low-paid, insecure or hazardous work; extreme vulnerability of women and children to trafficking and sex exploitation; exclusion from state-provided services such as health and education and discrimination based on ethnicity, religion, class or gender. In the absence of proofs of identity and residence, internal migrants are unable to claim social protection entitlements and remain excluded from government sponsored schemes and programmes (Mazumdar- 2020, Faetanini- 2013). Children face disruption of regular schooling, affecting their human capital formation and contributing to the inter-generational

transmission of poverty (Unicef-2013) Further, migrants are negatively described as a burden to society, discouraged from settling down and excluded from local planning initiatives (Mishra-2017). Thus, it is found that internal migrant contributes toward economic growth of the nation but they are denied basic rights and are given very low priority by the government in policy and practice, partly due to a serious knowledge gap on its extent, nature, magnitude and issues related to migrants.

Objectives

In this back drop the present study is an attempt to analyse the status of internal migrants in India with following objectives

1. To study the magnitude, nature and composition of internal migration in India
2. To find out the issues confronted by internal migrants in India
3. To suggest policy measures for overcoming the issues faced by internal migrants

Methodology

Present study uses the Usual Place of Residence (UPR) definition of internal migrants which is used by NSS. UPR of a person was defined as "...a place (village/town) where the person had stayed continuously for a period of at least six months or more". The last place of usual residence was defined as "...a place (village/town) where the migrant had stayed continuously for a period of six months or more before moving to the place of enumeration". If the place of enumeration was different from the last usual place of residence then the person was termed a migrant (National Sample Survey Office, 2001; 2010).

Both primary and secondary data are used in the present study. Primary data are collected for understanding the issues encountered by migrants, secondary data are analysed to study the magnitude, composition and nature of internal migration at all India level and focused group survey is done to capture the perception of local residence regarding migrants.

Secondary data are collected from various published and unpublished sources like Census reports, NSSO reports, various reports of working group on migration etc. Primary data are collected from the head of migrant households by using multi-stage random sampling technique. In the first stage out of the 30 districts of Odisha two districts namely Cuttack and Ganjamare selected. In the second stage Cuttack Municipality Corporation (CMC) and Berhampur Municipality Corporation (BaMC) of Cuttack and Ganjam district respectively are selected randomly. In the stage three, one ward from each municipality corporation that is Khan-nagar from CMC and Anantanagar from BaMC are selected randomly. All residents of both areas are listed separately and migrant household are segregated purposively. Among all listed migrant households 40 households from Khan-nagar (CMC) and 35 households from Anantanagar (BaMC) are selected for the purpose of data collection in random. In total 75 heads of migrant household are interviewed by using the pre-tested interview schedule specially designed for the study. Different types of descriptive statistical tools are used for analysis. The present study is conducted during the year 2021-2022.

Result and discussion

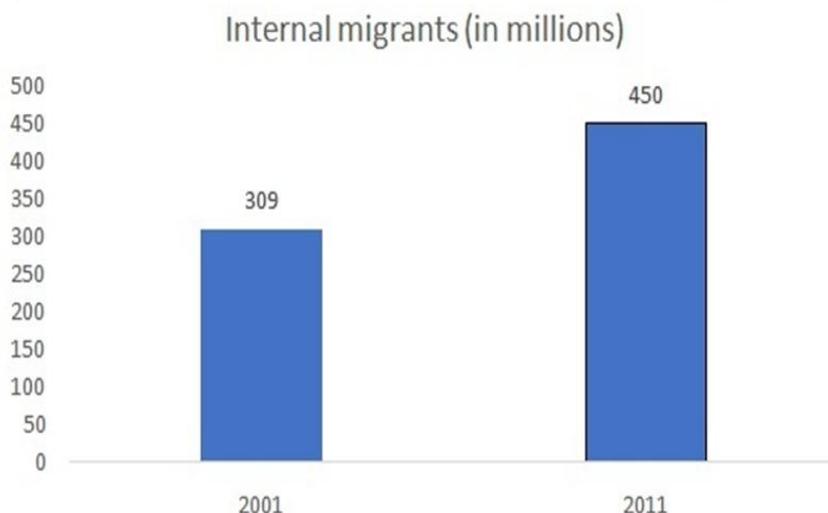
Magnitude, nature and composition of internal migration in India

With an objective to analyse the nature and composition of internal migration in India data on number of internal migration, internal migration on type of movement, reasons of migration, trend & composition along with reasons of male & female migration, inter-state, inter-district & intra-district migration etc are collected from different sources and presented in following figures and tables.

Magnitude of internal migration in India

Internal migration between 2001 and 2011 is depicted in the figure 1. It is revealed from the figure that total numbers of internal migration has increased from 309 million in 2001 to 450 million in 2011.

Figure 1: Number of internal migrants in India (2001 and 2011)

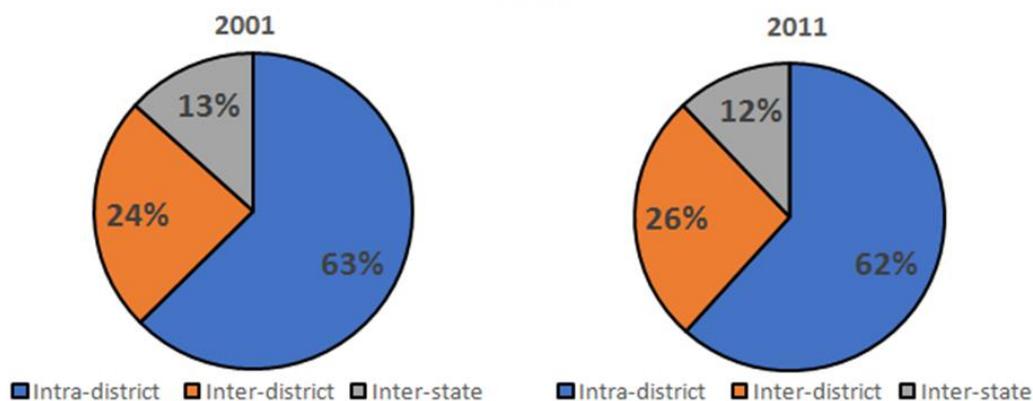


Source-Census of India 2001, 2011

Nature of internal migration in India

Data on nature of internal migration i.e. type of movement (intra-districts, inter- districts inter- state,) of census 2001 and census 2011 is presented in the figure 2 to study the changing pattern of internal migration in India. .It is found that intra- district migration has come down to 62% in 2011 from 63% in 2001 .But inter district migration has increased from 24% in 2001 to 26% in 2011.On the other hand it is observed that inter-state migration has fallen from 13% in 2001 to 12 % in 2011. Thus, it is found that although the total internal migration has increased between 2001 and 2011, inter-district and inter-state migration has shown an descending trend where intra-district migration is ascending in nature between 2001 to 2011.

Figure 2: Distribution of internal migrants by type of movement



Source-Census of India2001, 2011

Composition of internal migration in India

With an objective to study the composition of internal migration in India data in terms of stream of migration i.e. rural to rural, rural to urban, urban to rural and urban to urban along with the reasons of migration like work & business, education, marriage, family related and other for 2001 and 2011 are collected and presented in the table 1.

It is revealed from the table that highest migration has taken place in rural to rural stream (47.4%) followed by urban to urban (22.6%), rural to urban (22.1%) and urban to rural (7.9%) in 2011.And during this

period migration is highest of marriage (39.1%), followed by family related reason (35.6%), work & business (13.1%), other reasons (8.9%), and education (3.3%).

It is revealed from the table 1 that migration because of education, family related reasons and other reasons has increased in 2011 in comparison to 2001. And migration because of work & business and marriage has found to be decreased between 2001 and 2011. Again comparison of migration between 2001 and 2011 on the basis of stream of migration shows that rural to rural migration has reduced over the years but migration from rural to urban, urban to urban and urban to rural has increased over the years.

So far as the reason of migration is concerned, the work & business purpose migration is having a down word trend in all the streams of migration between 2001 and 2011. Regarding educations as the reason of migration it is found except rural to rural stream in all other streams migration for the purpose of education has decreased between 2001 and 2011. On marriage as a reason of migration it is observed that migration has reduced in all the four streams between 2001 and 2011. It is found from the table that migration because of family related reason has increased in all the four streams between 2001 and 2011. In case of other reason of migration, except urban to urban stream all other streams shows a decreasing trend in migration.

Stream wise observation shows that in rural to rural streams migration for the purpose of education and family related reason has increased between 2001 and 2011. Similarly in rural to urban stream migration and family related reasons of migration has increased and all other reasons shows a downward trend between 2001 and 2011. Regarding urban to rural streams it is observed only family related reason is found to cause an increasing trend in migration between 2001 and 2011. In urban to urban stream migration because of family related reason and other reasons found to be increased between 2001 and 2011.

Table -1 Reason and steams of intercensal migration in India
 (As % share of steams)

Particulars	Work and Business		Education		Marriage		Family Related		Others		Total	
	2001	2011	2001	2011	2001	2011	2001	2011	2001	2011	2001	2011
Rural to Rural	9.3	6.4	1.9	2.7	61.2	59.0	19.4	24.1	8.3	7.7	56.3	47.4
Rural to Urban	29.9	24.3	4.9	4.8	21.8	22.4	34.5	40.6	8.8	7.9	21.8	22.1
Urban to Rural	14.5	8.9	3.0	2.7	28.1	25.5	42.9	55.6	11.4	7.3	6.6	7.9
Urban to Urban	21.8	17.5	4.3	3.4	21.9	18.4	42.6	47.9	9.5	12.9	12.2	22.6
Total	16.0	13.1	3.0	3.3	44.4	39.1	27.8	35.6	8.8	8.9	100.0	100.0

Source: Census of India 2001, 2011 Each of the streams e.g. rural to rural, will add to 100 for 2001 and 2011, subject to rounding errors the final two columns show the share of each stream in total migration.

Reason of migration of male and female in India

With an objective to find out the reasons and trend migration among male and female migrants, data related to the reason of migrants on the basis of gender is collected and presented in the table 2.

It is observed from the table 2 that the work (42.2%) is the important reason of male migrants followed by family (35.2%), other (17%) and study (5.5%) and on the contrary female migrants migrates due family (8.5%) followed by others (6.4%), work (5.1%) and study (2%) in 2011. But it is found that in 2001, 55.2% male migrants migrates for work, 27.8% because of family, 13.3% for other reason and only 3.7% for the purpose of study. And 85.3% female migrant migrates for family followed by others (9.3%), work (4.1%) and study (1.2%).

Comparison among the cause of migration between male and female in the year 2011 shows that male primarily migrants because of work followed by family, others and study whereas female migrates because of family, others, work and study. The importance of cause of migration for male and female in 2011 is found same as on 2001.

So far as type of migration of male migrants is concerned it is found that 42.2% intra-district migrant migrates for work, 5.5% migrates for study, 35.2% for family and rest 17.0% for other reason. Similarly 54.7% inter-district migrant migrates for work, 4.4% for study, 28.3% for family and rest 12.7% for other reasons. Of the total inter-state male migrant 66.6% migrates for work, 1.6% for study, 21.1% for family and rest 10.7% for other reasons. On the contrary of total intra-district female migrant 3.1% migrates for work, 1.6% for study,

85.7% for family and rest 9.6% for other reasons. Among total inter-districts female migrants 4.7% migrates for work, 1.2% for study, 84.06% for family and rest 9.5% migrates for other reasons. So far as inter-state female migrants are concerned it is found that 5% of them migrates because of work, 0.6% for study, 85.8% for family and rest 8.6% for other reasons.

Table- 2 Reasons for Migration of Rural-Urban Migrants in India, 2001, 2011

Particulars	MALE					FEMALE				
	Work*	Study	Family*	Others	Total	Work*	Study	Family*	Others	Total
Total in 2011	49.7%	4.1%	36.4%	9.9%	100%	5.1%	2.0%	86.5%	6.4%	100%
Total in 2001	55.2%	3.7%	27.8%	13.3%	100%	4.1%	1.2%	85.3%	9.3%	100%
Within district	42.2%	5.5%	35.2%	17.0%	100%	3.1%	1.6%	85.7%	9.6%	100%
Others districts	54.7%	4.4%	28.3%	12.7%	100%	4.7%	1.2%	84.6%	9.5%	100%
Inter-state	66.6%	1.6%	21.1%	10.7%	100%	5.0%	0.6%	85.8%	8.6%	100%

Source: Census of India 2001, 2011 (work/employment and business and marriage. moved after birth and moved with house hold have been consolidated into work and family respectively) Each of the rows (separately for male and female) will add to 100 subject to rounding errors.

Thus it is found that there are different factors that cause migration and cause of migration varies in its effect on streams and types of migration. Besides reasons of migration is different for male than female. It is found that the primary cause migration of male migrants is work whereas primary cause migration of female migrant is family.

Issues confronted by internal migrants

Primary data collected from sample households on different aspects including their socio-economics profile, status of migrant households, problems encountered migrants etc are presented in the table 3 and 4.

Socio-economic profile of respondent household

It is revealed from the table 3 that among total migrant households in study area of CMC 15% are ST, 15% are SC rest 70% belongs to general category and in BaMC 28.86 are SC, 20% are ST and rest are 51.14% general category. In aggregate 18.66% respondent households are of ST, 17.34% belong to SC category and 64% are of general category. So far as the average family size of respondent household is concerned it is found that 30%, 60% and 10% household of study area in CMC is having the family size of less than five member, family size between five to ten members and more than ten member respectively. And corresponding figure for the study area of BaMC is 34.29%, 60% and 8% respectively. In aggregate it is found that 32% of household is having less than five members family, 60% households have family size more than five and less than ten members and rest 8% household have more than ten members in the family. Regarding main occupation of the migrant households it is observed that the main occupation of 10%, 22.5%, 37.5% and 17.5% households in CMC is govt service, private service, business, daily wage and other respectively. On the other hand 11.43%, 17.15%, 31.52%, 22.85% and 17.15% of households of BaMC considers govt service, private service, business, daily wage and other as their main occupation. In aggregate it is found that 10.66%, 20%, 34.66%, 20% and 14.67% households in the study area opt for govt service, private service, business, daily wage and other as their main occupation. On duration of migration it is found that in CMC 22.5%, 45% and 32.5% households have been migrated to the current destination since more than 6 months to two years, more than two years to five years and more than five years respectively. Corresponding figure for BaMC is 22.85%, 54.35% and 22.85% respectively. In aggregate it is found that 22.67% have migrated to the current destination since more than six months 49.33% more than two years to five years and 26% household for more than five years.

Table 3
 Socio-economic profile of sample migrant households in the study area

Particulars	CMC	BaMC	Total
Social status			
ST	06(15%)	08(28.86)	14(18.66%)
SC	06(15%)	07(20%)	13(17.34%)

General	28(70%)	20(51.14%)	48(64%)
Total	40(100%)	35(100%)	75(100%)
Average family size			
<5	12(30%)	12(34.29%)	24(32%)
5-10	24(60%)	21(60%)	45(60%)
>10	04(10%)	02(5.71%)	06(8%)
Total	40(100%)	35(100%)	75(100%)
Occupational status			
Govt Service	04(10%)	04(11.43%)	08(10.66%)
Private Service	09(22.5%)	06(17.15%)	15(20%)
Business	15(37.5%)	11(31.42%)	26(34.67%)
Daily wage	07(17.5%)	08(22.85%)	15(20%)
Other	05(12.5%)	06(17.15%)	11(14.67%)
Total	40(100%)	35(100%)	75(100%)
Duration of migration			
More than 6 months to 2 years	09(22.5%)	08(22.85%)	17(22.67%)
More 2 years to 5 years	18(45%)	19(54.3%)	37(49.33%)
More 5 years	13(32.5%)	08(22.85%)	21(28%)
Total	40(100%)	35(100%)	75(100%)

Source: Compiled by author from field survey

Migration and status of migrants

It is revealed from the table 4 that percentage of household migrated to CMC from rural to urban and urban to urban is 52.5% and 47.5%. And corresponding figure in BaMC is 54.3% and 45.7% respectively. Putting together it is found that 53.33% migrants have migrated from rural area and rest 46.67% from urban area to the study area. It is observed that intra-district, inter-district and inter-state migration in CMC is 45%, 50% and 5% respectively and corresponding figure for BaMC is 45.72%, 37.14% and 17.14% respectively. In aggregate it is found that 45.33% migrants are intra-district, 44 % are inter-district and 10.66 % are inter-state migrants. So far as the reason of migration is concerned it is found that 47.5 %, 12.5 %, 25 % and 15% of migrant households in CMC have migrated for work, study, family and other reasons respectively. In BaMC it is observed that 48% household have migrated for work, 14.67% for study, 22.68% for family and rest 14.67 % household for other reasons. In aggregate it is found that 48% household have migrated for work, 14.67 for study, 22.68% for family and rest 14.67% for other reasons. Again it is found that 55% migrant household in CMC opines that their income has improved after migration, 32.5% says not improved, 10% says income is indifferent. In BaMC 45.72% household says their income has improved, 42.86% opines no improvement in income and 8.57% says income is indifferent after migration.

Thus it is found that rural to urban migration is more than urban to urban migration, Intra-district migration is found highest followed by inter-district and inter-state migration. Again work is considered to be the important reason of migration followed by family reason, other and study.

Table 4 Migration and respondents in the study area

Particulars	CMC	BaMC	Toatal
Streams of migration			
Rural to Urban	21(52.5%)	19(54.3%)	40(53.33%)
Urban to Urban	19(47.5%)	16(45.7%)	35(46.67%)
Total	40(100%)	35(100%)	75(100%)
Type of migration			
Intra-district	18(45%)	16(45.72%)	34(45.33%)
Inter-district	20(50%)	13(37.14%)	33(44%)
Inter-state	02(05%)	06(17.14%)	08(10.66%)
Total	40(100%)	35(100%)	75(100%)
Reason of migration			
Work	19(47.5%)	17(48.57%)	36(48%)
Study	05(12.5%)	06(17.15%)	11(14.67%)
Family	10(25%)	07(20%)	17(22.68%)

Others	06(15%)	05(14.28%)	11(14.67%)
Total	40(100%)	35(100%)	75(100%)
Status of income after migration			
Improved	20(55%)	16(45.72%)	36(48%)
Not improved	13(32.5%)	15(42.86%)	28(37.34%)
Indifferent	04(10%)	03(8.57%)	07(9.34%)
No reply	03(7.5%)	01(2.85%)	04(5.34%)
Total	40(100%)	35(100%)	75(100%)

Source: Compiled by author from field survey

Problems encountered by migrant households

Data on problems encountered by migrants at destination is collected from the respondents and presented in the table 5. It is revealed that 82.5%, 77.5%, 70%, 77.5%, 55% and 65% migrant households in CMC faces the problem of no political representation, lack of social protection entitlements, lack of formal resident right, lack of identity right and inadequate housing respectively. And the corresponding figure for migrants in BaMC is 74.85%, 85.71%, 77.14%, 71.42% and 71.42% respectively. In aggregate it is found that 78.66% migrants faces the problem of no political representation, 81.33% have lack of social protection emntelements, 73.33% face the problem of resident right, 74.66% have the problem of identity right and 62.66% have inadequate housing facilities at the destination..

Table 5 Problems encountered by migrant households in the study area

Particulars	CMC	BaMC	Total
No political representation	33(82.5%)	26(74.85%)	59(78.66%)
Lack of social protection entitlements	31(77.5%)	30(85.71%)	61(81.33%)
Lack of formal resident right	28(70%)	27(77.14%)	55(73.33%)
Lack of identity right	31(77.5%)	25(71.42%)	56(74.66%)
Inadequate housing	22(55%)	25(71.42%)	47(62.66%)
Vulnerable livelihood	26(65%)	28(80%)	54(72%)

Source: Compiled by author from field survey

Conclusion

Thus it is concluded that a substantial percentage of Indian population migrates from one place to other inside the political territory of the country. Composition of intra-district migrants is highest followed by inter district and inter-state migrants. So far as streams of migration is concerned rural to rural tops the list followed by urban to urban ,rural to urban and urban to rural in volume of migration. Among the causes of migration marriage is the important cause of internal migration followed by family, work, education and other in 2011 at all India level. Regarding the reasons of migration it is found that work in the important reason for male and family is the important reason of migration for female. Again it is found that a good percentage of migrant have increased their household income after migration. Among the problems encountered by migrants it is found that lack of social protection entitlements, no political representation, lack of identity right, lack of formal resident right, vulnerable livelihood are important.

Policy implications

- Steps may be taken to design a national policy for mandatory registration of internal migrants and its strict implementation at all streams of migration.
- A full proof policy for addressing the issues of identity, security, social security, political representation may be deigned to address the issues of inter-state & intra-state migrants.
- Steps must be taken to create positive environment to change mind-set of local residence towards migrants for more social inclusion of migrated people.

References

- [1]. Census of India -2001
- [2]. Census of India -2011
- [3]. Constitution of India (1950)
- [4]. Deshingkar and Akter (2009), Human Development Research Paper 2009/13 Migration and Human Development in India, UNDP.
- [5]. Faetanini and Tankha (2013), Social Inclusion of Internal Migrants in India, Unicef.
- [6]. IOM World Migration Report. 2019-11-27. doi: 10.18356/b1710e30-en. ISBN 9789290687894. ISSN 2414-2603Kuhn, Randalf,(2015), Josef Korbel School of International Studies, Denver, CO, USA
- [7]. Kulkarni, P. (2017), An Assessment of Demographic Dividend in India and Large States. Report prepared for the United Nations Population Fund. New Delhi: United Nations Population Fund.
- [8]. Muzumdaret, al(2020), Crossroads and Boundaries-Labour Migration, Trafficking and Gender, Economic & Political Weekly, Vol 55,Issue 20
- [9]. Report of National Sample Survey Office, (2001); (2010)
- [10]. Srivastava, Ravi,et.al(2020),Internal Migration in India and the Impact of Uneven Regional Development and Demographic Transition across States: A Study for Evidence based Policy Recommendations
- [11]. Suárez-Orozco, M. M.(2001) , In International Encyclopedia of the Social & Behavioural Sciences.
- [12]. Working group on Internal Migration (2017), Government of India .
- [13]. World Migration Report (2020),
- [14]. World Migration Report (2018)