Research Paper SOCIOLOGY

"Determinants of Rural Out-Migration: A Case Study of Siwan, Bihar".

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ABSTRACT

Migration is one of the basic components of population change and others components are fertility and mortality. Migration involves social, psychological, economic, political, institutional and other determinants. It is a process, of persons, shifting their palace of origin to a place of destination. At the beginning of the 21st century, migration has emerged as one of the key issues in many developing countries like India, unbalanced regional development and unbalanced investment on men and materials lead to out-migration. This paper attempts to analyse the socio-economic backgrounds of out-migrants, the pattern and magnitude of rural out- migration and to analyse the causes of out- migration from Siwan district of Bihar, one of the most under developed region in India. Findings based on our field survey of 100 household in four villages selected on the basis of multi stage sampling.

KEYWORDS

Introduction:Concept and Definitions of Migration

Migration is one of the basic components of population change and others components are fertility and mortality. Whereas the fertility and mortality are mainly biological variables, Migration is a non-biological variable. It isvery complex phenomenon, which is determines bysocial, psychological, economic and political, factors. There is no single definition which is applicable to all cases of migration. There are no universally accepted standard criteria yet evolved for defining migration. The word migration derived from the Latin word 'migrane' means to change one's residence. It is necessary to quote the definitions of migration given by different scholars and different agencies at different times in order to arrive at a clear concept of migration. The definitions are as follows

"Migration is movement involving a change of residence of substantial duration(Clarke, 1965);Migration involves a movement of some distance, which results in a change in permanent resident(Trewartha, 1969); Migration is defined broadly as a permanent or semi-permanent change of residence (Lee, 1970); Migration is the physical transition of an individual or a group from one society to another(Eisenstad, 1953). Migration is an inflow or out flow of population from a defined region to another region for a permanent or semi-permanent settlement(Mishra, 1981). Migration is a geographic mobility that involves a change of usual residence between defined political or statistical areas, or between residence areas of different types(Ross, 1982). Migration is any permanent change in residence(Goldscheider, 1971). UN has defined migration as "migration is a form movement of one geographical unit to another, generally involving a change in residence from the place of origin or the place of departure to a place of destination or a place of arrival. Such migration is called the permanent migration and should be distinguished from other forms of movement which do not involve a permanent change of residence" (UN, 1956). In the census of India, a person is considered as a migrant by 'place of birth', if the place in which he or she is enumerated during the census is other than his place of birth. Similarly, a person is considered as a migrant by 'place of last residence' if the place in which he is enumerated during the census is other than his place of last residence (Roy, 1989)". According to 64th round NSSO report, A household member whose last usual place of residence (UPR), any time in the past, was different from the present place of enumeration is considered as a migrant member in a house hold. And , any former member of a household who left the household, any time in the past, for stay out-side the village or town was considered as out-migrant provided he or she was alive in the date of survey.

From above definition it is found that there are two common criteria in all of them for defining migration. These are migration defining boundaries and migration defining periods. It is necessary for migration that one should cross the migration defining boundaries. The change of residence in migration-depend on the interval of time so it becomes necessary to specify a migration defining period that differentiates between whole time migrants on the one hand and seasonal or part time movers on other hand. These drawbacks notwithstanding the boundary and period qualifications are rather essential for a purposeful definition stating that migration is a change of residence, which involves crossing of the migration defining boundary and is for a period specified as the migration defining period.

Types of migration

Migration may be classified on the basis of three criteria, namely, boundary, duration and motivation. On the basis of boundary migration are divided in to internal and international migration. Similarly, we have permanent, periodic, seasonal and temporary migrations identified on the basis of duration. Motivation of migration can be classified into economic, political, religious and marital migrations. However, the most commonly used classification is that which is based on the type of defining boundary. Here we recognize only two major types namely, internal when the migrants remain within the national territory and international, when the migrants cross international boundaries.

Since there is no commonly accepted definition of migration, it is necessary to give a working definition. Migration is ubiquitous process of movement of individual or a group of people from one spatial unit or place of residence (known as origin place) to another (called as destination place) defined by any kind of commonly agreed geographical or political or administrative boundary in space and time. The movement between the defined origin and destination place is termed as spatial or territorial movement or migration.

International migration

It involves the changes of residence from one nation to another for a specified period, defining migration. Though international migration has played a very significant role in the redistribution of population and culture during the past but, barring a few isolated cases, it has ceased to be a very significant force after the close of the first quarter of the 20th

century.

Internal migration
Neglecting the finer difference of details the internal migration is generally considered as a movement of population within the boundaries of given nation. According to Dorothy S. Thomas, "the accepted definition of internal migration is change of residence from one community, or other clearly defined geographical unit, to another within the national boundaries".on the basis of the settlement status of the area of origin and destination the internal migration can be classified in to four types, namely (i) Rural to Urban (ii) Rural to Rural (iii) Rural to Urban (iv) Urban to Urban areas. Having considered, distance and rural/urban flows simultaneously, Ashish Bose has divided migration streams in India in to twelve types (Bose, 1967).

Universe of Study
The universe of study is Siwan district, one of the thirty four districts of state. It is situated in the western part of the state and was originally sub-division of Saran District and historically whole areas was known as Saran. Itis essentially a rural district dependent almost entirely on cultivation and is also one of the densely populated district of state. It is known to be an area of high out-migration and relatively higher level of mobility among the district's male population, which is probably caused by its high population density and backward agriculture, is reflected in the highest sex ratio in the district- 1031 women per 1000 men as against the 919 for the state (Census, 2001).According to 2001, census the population of Siwan district is 2714349. The 5.50 percent people of the district live in urban areas, whereas 94.49% people live in the rural areas. The literacy rate of the district is 51.65 percent as registered in the Census 0f India 2001.

Research Design:
The present study attempts to trace the determinants of Rural out migration and so descriptive research design is considered to be the most appropriate type to be followed in the study . Descriptive research design is to portray accurately the characteristics of a particular individual, situation, or group (with or without specific initial hypothesis about the nature of these characteristics). Therefore a design is needed that will minimise bias and maximise the reliability of the evidence collected (Selltiz, Jahooda, & Cook, 1964).In descriptive research the researcher wants to make statements about some specific class of people or objects. A sample of the population about which inferences are to be drawn, affords an adequate basis for making such statements(Bhandarkar & Wilkinson, 2010).

Multi-stage sampling was used for the field work First, four blocks were purposely selected on the four sides of Siwan city for the study. This was followed by four gram Panchayat in each Block keeping in mind that gram Panchayat should be 15 km away from the city or urban centre. In this way commuter were excluded from the study. Second, two criteria were used to select one village from each Panchayat using census data and information given by Mukhiya.

a) The population of village and
b) The caste and community composition of village
The population of villages in the areas varies from 500 to 8000 according to census of India. Villages with an average population of 1500 to 2000 were selected so that it was manageable as well as proper representation could be ensured from all caste and community such as Hindu and Muslim as well as forward caste, other backward caste and schedule caste.

Finally, households were randomly selected from each village for the study. Semi-structured interview schedule was used for the collection of quantitative data from 100 households.

Objectives of the study of determinants of rural Out-Migration are as follows

(a) To study the social and economic background of the migrants
(b) To analyse the causesof rural out- migration.
(c) To review the pattern and magnitude of rural out migration.

Socio-Economic Characteristics:
In this section a brief account of Socio-economic characteristics of migrant's households has been discussed. Discussion of these basic Socio-economic characteristics of migrants households helps in understanding of the socio-economic backgrounds of the study area. All persons have been considered as migrants who have either migrated for at least six month during the last one year at the time of survey. However, if a person has returned from destination and is not likely to migrate again in the some years has not been considered as migrant.

After defining migrants, table 1 reveals that the 70 percent sample households are constituted by Hindus and remaining 30 percent households are constituted by the Muslims. Further among sample households 19, 67, and 14 percent households are constituted by the Upper Castes, Backward Castes and Scheduled Castes respectively. Among the sample households 40 percent are landless, 23 percent having less than 1 Bigha land, 22 percent having between 2 to 3 Bigha of land and only 7 percent having more than 4 Bigha of land. 53 percent households having less than 10000 per month income from all sources , 31 percent

Table 1: Distribution of Sample Households across Categories

Religion	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Hindu	70	70.0	70.0
Muslim	30	30.0	100.0
Total	100	100.0	
caste			
Upper Caste	19	19.0	19.0
OBC	67	67.0	86.0
SC/ST	14	14.0	100.0
Total	100	100.0	
Land of family			
Landless	46	46.0	46.0
Below 1 bigha	23	23.0	69.0
2-3 bigha	22	22.0	91.0
4-5 bigha	7	7.0	98.0
Above 5 bigha	2	2.0	100.0
Total	100	100.0	
Income of the Households			
Below 10000	53	53.0	53.0
10001-20000	31	31.0	84.0
20001-30000	11	11.0	95.0
30001-40000	5	5.0	100.0
Total	100	100.0	

having in between 10001 to 20000 per month, and the rest of households having more than 30000 per month income from all sources.

Figure 1 shows that the out of total population of sample households, 33.7 percent are migrants and 66.3 percent are non-migrants. This figure clearly gave the picture of rate of migration from rural Bihar. One third of rural people are migrants and these are come from all social categories viz. Hindus, Muslims, Forward Castes, Backward Castes and the Scheduled Castes.

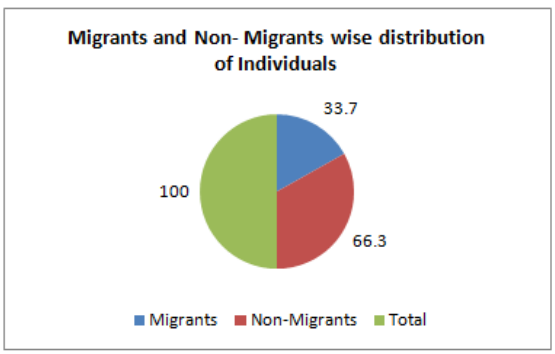


Table2reveals that the 76.5 percent are male migrants however female constitute only 23.5 percent. This shows that the one third of migrant population is male who are also the earning members of the households in comparison of non-migrants male are 40.5 percent and female are 59.5 percent. More than 50 percent migrants come from the age group of 20 to 39 years and non-migrants constitute elders and younger generation more than 60 percent. Table 2, also shows that the unmarried people are less migrants in comparison to non-migrants because female are also included in non-migrants. Those who are more educated are moreprone to migrate in comparisonto less educated and over all those educated below matricmore in the migrant population.

Table 2: Socio-Economic Characteristics of Migrants

	Migrants		Non-migrants	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Sex of Individual				
Male	202	76.5	210	40.5
Female	62	23.5	309	59.5
Total	264	100.0	519	100.0
Age				
0-9	36	13.6	128	24.7
10-19	36	13.6	115	22.2
20-29	63	23.9	99	19.1
30-39	77	29.2	56	10.8
40-49	41	15.5	41	7.9
50-59	9	3.4	29	5.6
60 and Above	2	.8	51	9.8
Total	264	100.0	519	100.0
Maritalstatus				
Unmarried	105	39.8	284	54.7
Married	155	58.7	219	42.2
Widow/Widower	4	1.5	16	3.1
Total	264	100.0	519	100.0
EducationLevel				
Illiterate	31	11.7	127	24.5
Primary/Below Primary	59	22.4	298	38.1
Middle	48	18.2	69	13.3
Matric	52	19.7	64	12.3
Intermediate	31	11.7	45	8.7
Graduate and Above	43	16.3	16	3.1
Total	264	100.0	519	100.0

Causes of Migration

Table 3 reveals that the search for employment or better employment has been most important cause for migration of people from the rural areas of Siwan, Bihar. In fact 54.2 percent people migrated due to this reason because of lack of employments and industrial infrastructure in this area.It is followed by the 34.8 percentmovers whoaccompanying migrating parents or earning members of the family. Some others reasons of rural migration arefor studiesand for business is shown in the table 3. Beside this, marriage has been one of the most important reasons of migration, but is kept out of the study because it is confined to female only. Information about availability of work or employment at destination comes from the different sources. Most migrant got information through their friends, relative, contractors and newspaper & television. However, contractor or middle man plays a great role for migration of labourers.

Table 3: Causes of Migration

	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
In search of employment/ better employment	143	54.2	54.2
Business	4	1.5	55.7
Studies	23	8.7	64.4
Migration of parents/ earning member of the family	92	34.8	99.2
Others	2	0.8	100.0
Total	264	100.0	

Occupations of Migrants

Figure 2,clearly shows that the 32.2 percent are working as labourer particularly t male and followed by 21.6 percentas students. Other occupations of migrants are the house wife for female is 12. 5 percent,for government job is 6.1 percent and for private job is 9.1 percent. Respondents gave number of occupation such as the contractor, semi-skilled and skilled workers but for convenience these are generalised in given broad categories.

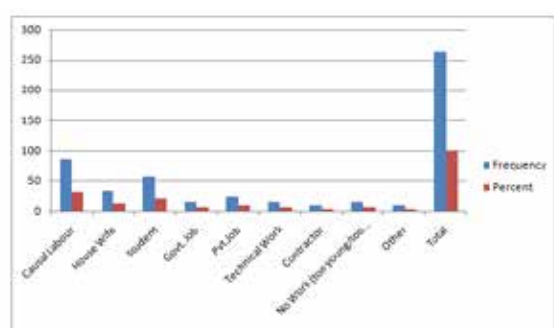


Figure 2: Occupations of Migrant

Income and Remittance

Figure 3 shows that the 44.3 percentmigrants are earning less than Rs 10,000 per month , followed by 22.7 and 24.2 percentearningRs 10001 to 20000 and Rs 20001 to 30000 respectively. Only 0.8 percent are earning more than Rs 40000.. Earlier it was in this paper discussed that the most of the migrants have education up to high school level and they are young and inexperienced and so most of them generally get occupation in informal sectors .

Thus their income is low so itbecomes difficult for them to save money and send remittances to their families mostly are living at place of origin. Since figure also shows that the 68.2 percent migrants send below Rs 10000 to their family per month, followed by Rs 20000 to 30000 and so on. High remittance mainly comes from those who are working outside of India. More than the half of remittances is used in daily

consumption and rest of in health expenditure and children education.

Conclusion

The forgoing discussion shows that the migration from rural area is fairly distributed across all castes and communities. There are more male migrant than the female and most of them are engaged in casual labour at the destination. In terms education of matric and below matric are migrate more than the illiterate and the higher educated persons. Married men migrate more than the unmarried man. The income levels of most of migrants are low so they also send less amount of remittance to their family. Remittance helps in fulfilling of daily needs of family of migrants. The reasons of out migration are mainly for search of employments and for the studies.

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