

Nature And Reasons For Migration: A Case Study Of Migrated Unskilled Labour To Hyderabad City

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ABSTRACT:- India as a nation has seen a high migration rate in recent years. Over 98 million people migrated from one place to another in 1990s, the highest for any decade since independence according to the 2001 census details. Most people migrate because of a combination of push and pull factors. Lack of rural employment, fragmentation of land holdings and declining public investment in agriculture create a crisis for rural Indians. Urban areas and some rural areas with industrial development or high agricultural production offer better prospects for jobs or self-employment. This paper studies the profile of migrant construction workers in Hyderabad.

I. INTRODUCTION

A study of migration is of key importance in social science, particularly in population studies. The importance emerges not only from the movement of people between places but also from its influence on the lives of individuals and urban growth. Broadly, migration can be defined as a relocation of residence of varying duration and various natures. The migrants i.e., poor, low-skilled people get benefits from a rise of income, health and education. Opening entry channels for more workers, especially those with low skills ensuring human rights of migrants and access to social services, protection from discrimination, lowering the cost of migration as well as easing internal migration makes them move to different places for their livelihood. This has tended to make the researcher study migration at a micro level. According to many authors, migration studies in different regions of developing countries have generally dealt with the economic aspects of migration. However, the majority of these studies have dealt with the differentials and determinants of migration focusing mainly on causes and consequences of migration. Apart from social and economic impacts, migration of an individual produces demographic impacts as well.

Review of Literature:

Nigel Harris, *MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT* published in *Economic and Political weekly (EPW)*, (October 22, 2005, pg no.4591-4595). This paper analyses the utilitarian benefits of migration in better incomes and social benefits for the migrants as well as in higher economic activity and as a pool of ideas for the host communities. Xiang Biao, *TOWARDS AN EMIGRATION STUDY: A South Perspective*, published in *Economic and Political weekly*, (August 21, 2004, pg no. 3798-3803). According to the author, Emigration is the act of leaving one's own country/ region to settle in another country. Change in the emigration patterns formed one of the most fundamental developments in the international migration. Emigration once started, would become self-sustaining with its own autonomy, free from external factors, but in reality emigration is often a volatile phenomenon. Amitabh Kundu and Niranjana Sarangi, *MIGRATION, EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND POVERTY: An Analysis across Urban Centres*, published in *Economic and Political weekly*, (January 27, 2007, pg no.299-306). This paper analyses the pattern in migration in urban areas and its socio-economic correlates. Economic deprivation is not the most critical factor for migration decisions, even for seasonal migrants. People migrate out of both poor and rich households although the reasons for migration and the nature of jobs sought out by them are different. Rural-urban migrants have a greater risk of being below the poverty line than the urban-urban migrants.

Aims and Objectives:

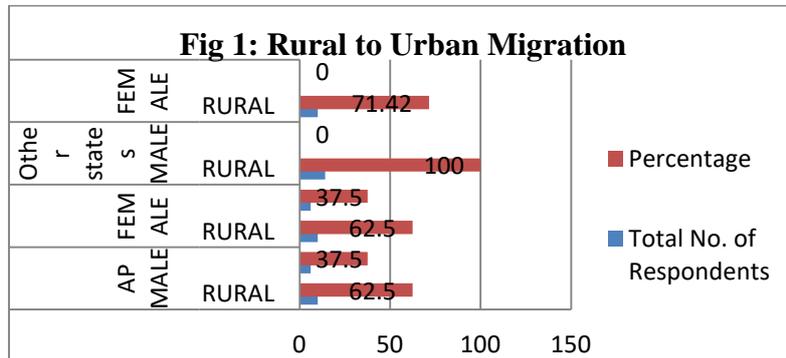
- 1) To understand the nature and reasons for migration.
- 2) To understand the educational status, occupational pattern/ segregation of activities and wages of the both male and female workers.
- 3) To understand the problems faced by female migrant construction workers.

SAMPLE: The data for this study has been collected from the work site of Hyderabad central university at Gachibowli, Hyderabad. A cluster sampling method was adopted and covered nearly 30 households. Of these 30

households, 16 households comprise Telugu community people and the remaining 14 households consist of Hindi, Santali, Chhattisgarhi, Bengali and Odiya speaking people

Type of migration:

Generally there are different types of migrations such as rural-urban, rural-rural, urban-urban, and urban-rural



From the above table, taking the factor of place of last residence, 62.5% of Andhra Pradesh male and female migrants migrated from rural to urban and 37.5% of them migrated from urban to urban.

From the other states, 100% of males migrated from rural-urban and only 71.42% females migrated from rural-urban. From the research sample, it appears that none of them migrated from urban-urban.

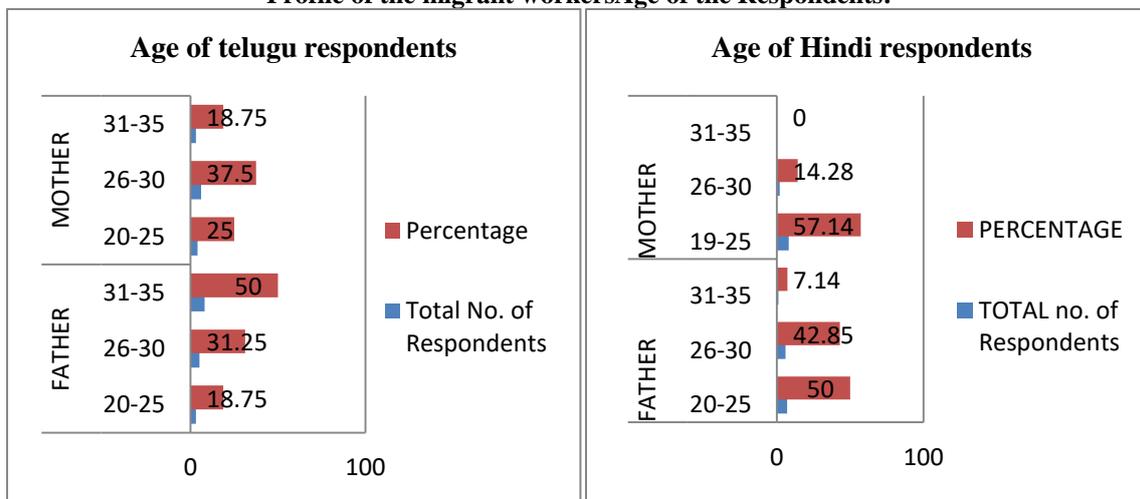
Reasons for Migration

The principal factors governing their decision to migrate are:

1. Failure of Agriculture and Rural economy
2. Economic state of rural population and impact of development
3. Socio-Economic discrimination and displacement of backward classes

On the basis of the information available and the expected support forthcoming, overall out of 30 households, in 21 households (including Telugu and Hindi speaking respondents), the decision was taken by the respondents' families and in the remaining 9 households, the decision was taken on their own. Thus the respondents themselves, families and friends were the decision makers in that order of importance.

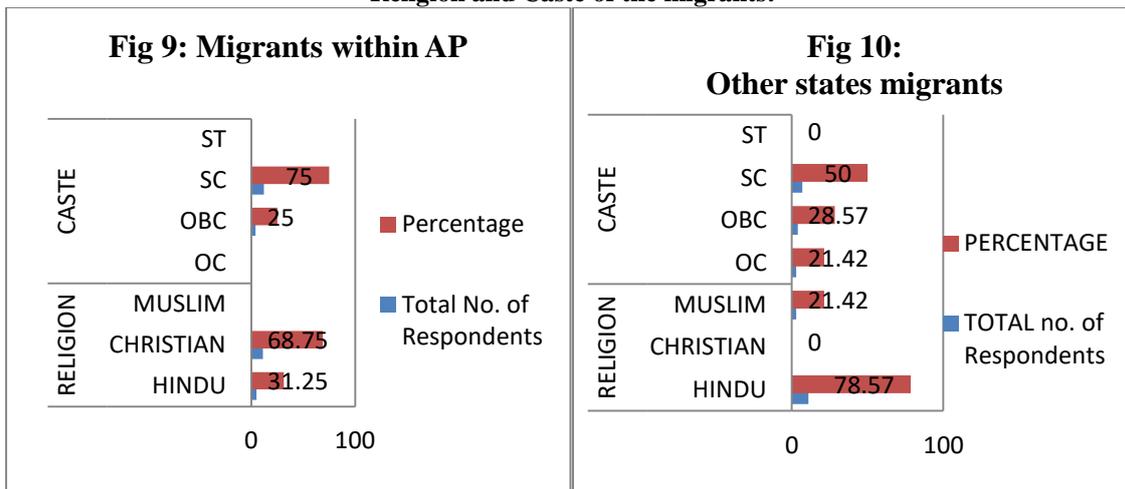
Profile of the migrant workers Age of the Respondents:



The age wise classification of Telugu and Hindi migrants sample population indicates that male workers/respondents from the Andhra state within the age group 20-25 represent 18.75%, 26-30 represent 31.25%, and 31-35 represent 50%. Female respondents in the age category 20-25 represent 25%, the age group 26-30 represent 37.5% and 31-35 represent 18.75%. Similarly the male respondents from other states belonging to the age 20-25 represent 50%, 26-30 represent 42.85%, 31-35 represent 7.14%, whereas the female respondents in the age category 19-25 represent 57.14% and 26-30 represent 14.28%. The majority of the workers are married i.e. around 70% and while the remaining 30% are unmarried. Unmarried male workers do stay near the

site but reside in a single room together, away from the family households. Many of them come in the age category 20-25 years.

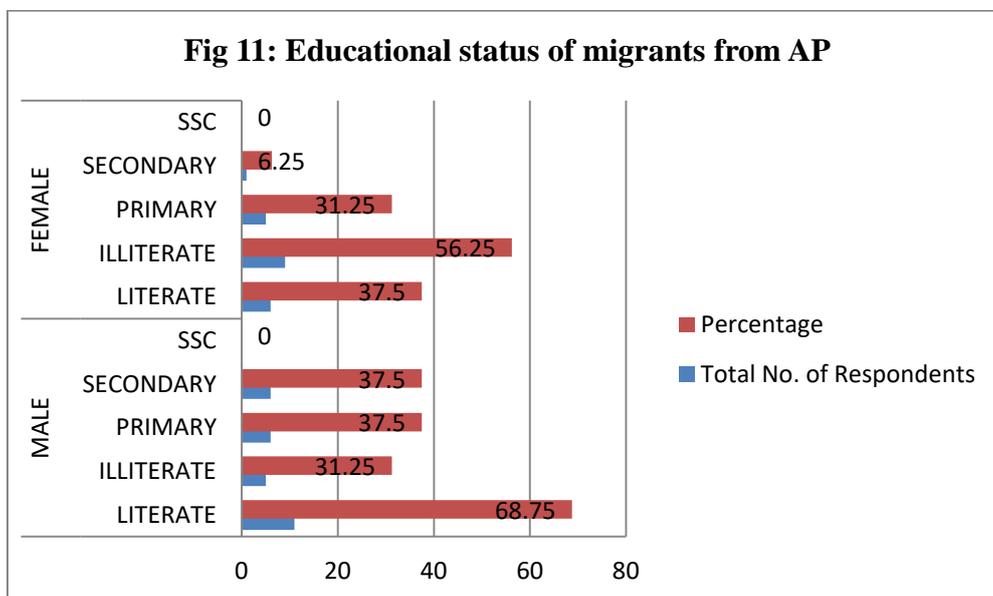
Religion and Caste of the migrants:



Out of 16 households of Andhra Pradesh 31.25% belong to Hindu religion and 68.75% are Christians. 25% of the respondents belong to OBC caste and 75% of them belong to the SC category (madiga, a sub-caste). Among respondents from the other states, 78.57%, the majority, belong to Hindu religion and 21.42% respondents belong to the Muslim community. In this group, 21.42% of the respondents belong to upper caste especially the khan community, 28.57% belong to OBC caste (sub-castes sahus, mohanty's and satnamies) and the remaining 50% respondents are SC community of sub-castes lohar, khanjar and mushar communities.

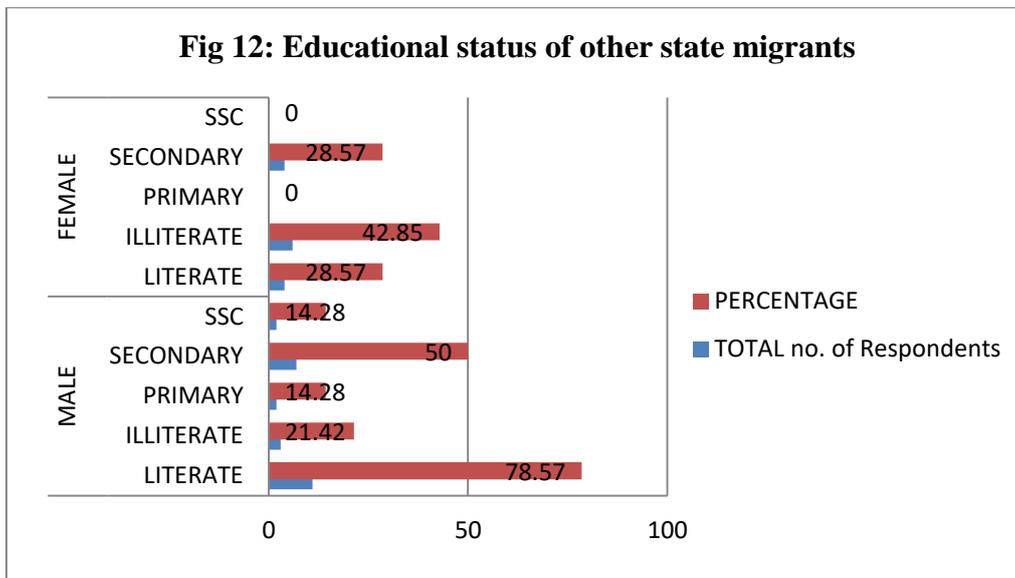
Mother Tongue:

Migrants from Andhra Pradesh districts to Hyderabad city know only Telugu language. Of the people from other states, those from UP can speak both Hindi and Bhojpuri (28.57%), about 14.28% speak Chhattisgarhi, 14.28% speak Santali, and 21.42% can speak Bengali and 21.42% speak Odiya. For these workers language is not a barrier because they are instinct to earn more money and improve their livelihoods at place of origins and destinations too. Even though language is not a barrier, here the migrant communities are considered as Hindi and Telugu. They frequently talk to each other because either of them knows Telugu or Hindi.



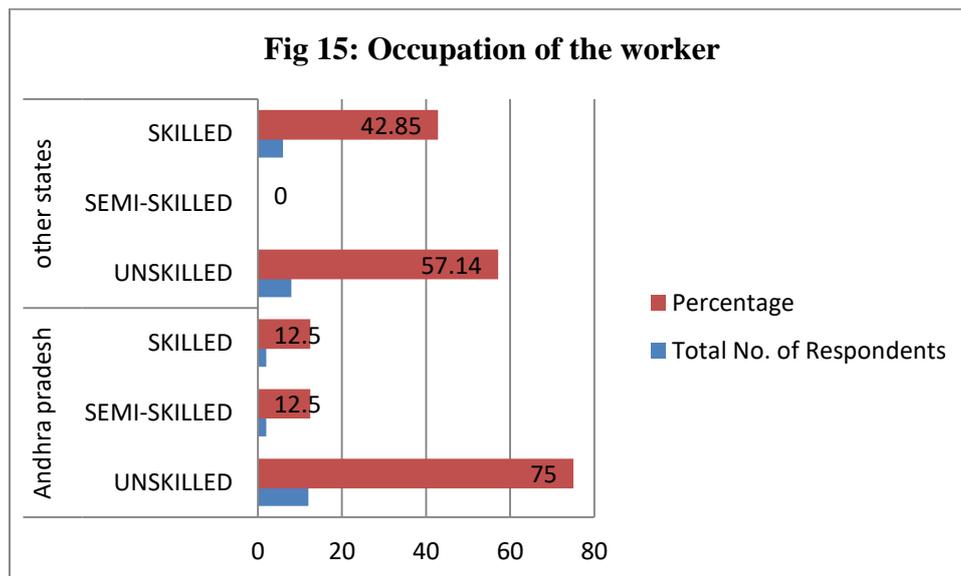
Out of 16 households, around 68.57% of male respondents are literate and the primary education level (class 1-5) includes 37.5%, secondary education level (class 6-10) includes 37.5%. And the respondents who are illiterate

are about 31.25%. When compared to males, female respondents a lower profile of education. Around 37.5% of females are literate and the primary education level (class 1-5) includes 31.25%, secondary education level (class 6-10) includes 6.25%, which is very low. The respondents who are illiterate are about 56.25%.



Out of 14 households, around 78.57% of the male respondents are literate and the primary education level (class 1-5) includes 14.28%, secondary education level (class 6-10) includes 50% and the respondents who had completed SSC are about 14.28%.The remaining 21.42% are illiterate males. Female respondents who are literate are about 28.57%.There is no respondent who have done only primary education, but the secondary education level (class 6-10) includes 28.57%. 42.85% of respondents are illiterate.

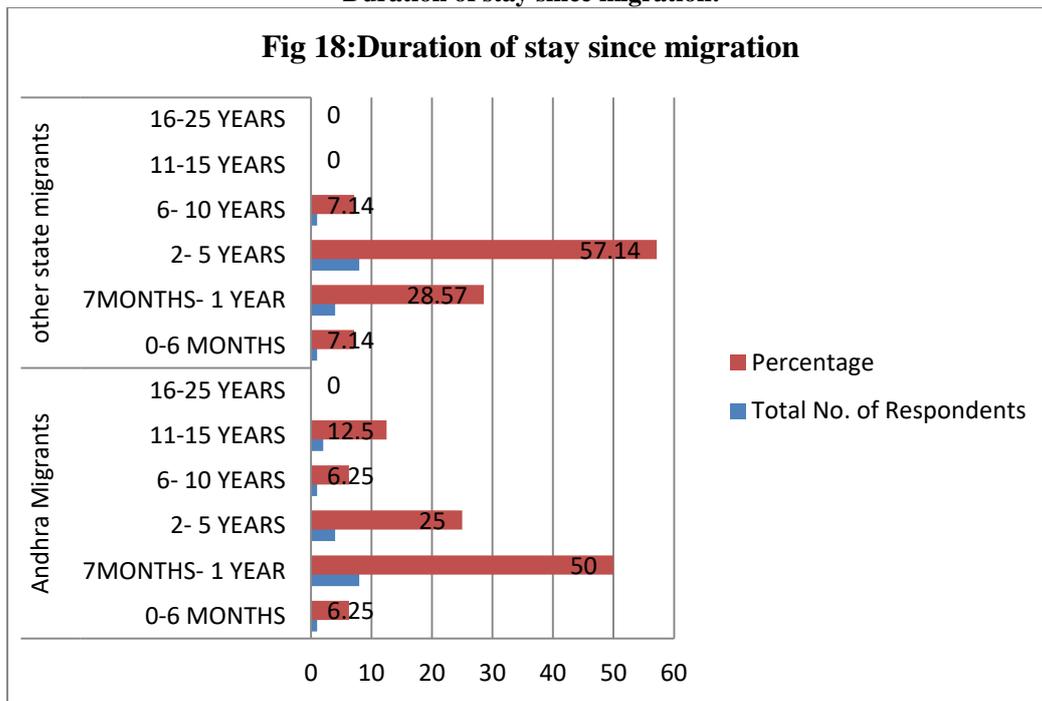
Occupation of the migrants:



From the above graph, it is clear that out of 16 households of AP, 75 percent of the respondents are unskilled labour. This group includes males and females, who work in carrying the dust, bricks, cleaning and watering the building and all other manual work. 12.5% respondents are semi-skilled male labourers, who generally do work of defined routine nature, wherein the major requirement is not so much of the judgment or skill, but of proper discharge of duties assigned to him, or relatively narrow jobs where important decisions made by others. 12.5% of the respondents are skilled labour. They are workers who are capable of working efficiently, of exercising considerable independent judgement and of discharging duties with responsibility. He must possess a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of the trade, craft or industry in which he is employed.

Out of 14 households of other states, 57.14% are unskilled labour, 42.85% respondents are skilled labour consist of carpenters, plumbers, preparing tiles, tube-well etc.

Duration of stay since migration:



Out of 16 households from Andhra, 6.25% of households had been in the city from 0-6 months, 50% are from 7months- 1year, 25% are from 2-5years, 6.25% are from 6-10 years and 12.5% are from 11-15 years.

Out of 14 households from other states, the duration of stay in the city since migration of 7.14% households is from 0-6 months, 28.57% households is from 7months-1year, 57.14% households is from 2-5 years and 7.14% households are from 6-10 years.

Wages:

The wages are different for skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled labour. To the unskilled labour, the wages are paid every week on Thursday. The company pays about Rs.1000/- per day for the skilled workers (carpenters, barbenders, masons, tillers and painters) depending upon how many hours of work they have done. They usually work during night times and there is no time limit. One of the interesting aspects found was that the contractors recruit male and female labourers in equal numbers, and the work is distributed among them equally and they are paid equally without any discrimination. The labourers such as masons, mestris are the supply-demand workers with daily wages of about Rs. 250/- . Again, this amount is paid to both male and female workers irrespective of gender. The daily wage labourers work from 9.00a.m. to 6.00p.m. The work is provided every day except Sundays, but there are no holidays for skilled labour because they keep on working for more money. The semi-skilled labour are also given a daily wage labour of Rs.275/-.

II. CONCLUSION

Construction workers are actually unskilled labourers, who try to find work all over the year for money to earn their livelihood. Since the villages have no proper infrastructure in providing continuous work, they decide to move/migrate to the cities with pre-planned information from their relatives who work in the cities. In deciding so, they move to the greater cities with a good hope in getting a full year’s work. In order to get remittances, the government also encourages the low-skilled people to migrate to cities in order to improve their living conditions along with adjusting to the urban life style. The movement tends to conceal the immense change in the composition of flows by skill, age, gender and the growing diversification of sources. The migration may be permanent, temporary, circular and seasonal.

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