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REVERSE MIGRATION PERSPECTIVE PROSPECTUS AND CHALLENGES (WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO COVID-19)

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ABSTRACT:

In India, the significant drivers of both interior and worldwide relocation are the overall joblessness, cutthroat work market and improved job possibilities in the objective state or country. In any case, the cross country lockdown and the fixing of between state and global lines to control the COVID-19 pandemic set off the converse relocation of casual traveler laborers. This requires the focal and state legislatures to all in all manufacture systems to empower their converse relocation and smooth reintegration in the post-COVID economy. In this paper, we have zeroed in on the between state travelers in India and returnee transients just from Gulf nations as they represent 66% of Indian travelers living abroad. This study led a near examination of the Indian government's changed methodology towards its interior and worldwide travelers during their converse relocation, bringing home and reintegration after the declaration of the lockdown. First and foremost, the paper analyzes the difficulties looked by inner and worldwide traveler laborers during these stages with the assistance of inside and out interview information gathered from transients and social specialists. Also, the changed legislative reactions towards their bringing home are talked about. Thirdly, it examinations the snags in their monetary reintegration to assist with outlining appropriate government assistance strategies for the Indian transient local area.



KEYWORDS : COVID-19. Reverse migration Returned migrants, employment, index of vulnerability, job satisfaction, loss of income.

INTRODUCTION:

India has a transcendent portion of inward relocation and is likewise the top beginning nation of worldwide travelers The Indian Census information determined the all out number of inner transients representing bury and intra-state development to be 450 million, an expansion of 45% since the Census 2001 The Economic Survey of India assessed the between state traveler populace as 60 million and the normal yearly progression of transients between states was determined at 9 million somewhere in the range of 2011 and 2016 Uttar Pradesh Bihar, Madhya Pradesh (MP), Rajasthan are among the significant beginning states, while Delhi, Kerala, Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu are among the significant objective states for these traveler

laborers. India has the biggest diaspora with the quantity of traveler laborers in Gulf nations alone representing 8.4 million. Among the Gulf nations, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait are the top most preferred objective nations for the Emigration Check Required classifications from India. Footnote 1 India is likewise among the biggest beneficiary of settlements at USD 78.6 billion as of late, the low-gifted work surges to Gulf nations from generally more unfortunate states, for example, UP, Bihar, and West Bengal has expanded significantly while those from more prosperous states like Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka have diminished. Poor pay rates in less prosperous states, steady pay disparities among normal and relaxed specialists, and absence of formal business open doors prompts low-talented and semi-gifted laborers move abroad to improve their monetary prosperity. Owing to the infrastructural advancement and developing interest in significant areas of the Gulf Cooperation Council nations, the dependence on low-talented or semi-gifted labor force (which establishes around 85% of the complete labor force overwhelmingly occupied with development and administration area) from India and other Asian and African nations will stay high.

Movement subsequently gives a hopeful vocation procedure for traveler laborers and their families, adds to the monetary development of the objective state/country, while the beginning state/country benefits from the settlements and the abilities gained during their relocation. Transients from Kerala, a southern state in India, procure high wages as high-gifted specialists in the Gulf, permitting them to transmit all the more. Even however work movement makes up for work deficiencies in the objective states/nations, laborers utilized in the low-talented, work escalated areas endure acts of neglect, for example, wage-related maltreatment, staying at work longer than required without remuneration, absence of government managed retirement cover, and absence of insurance during enlistment and business. This focuses to the weak place of these traveler laborers which was increased further during the COVID-19 emergency.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

To concentrate on the three examination questions referenced above, telephonic meetings with 65 converse travelers were directed during May-August 2020 in India. Table 1 presents the profile of the opposite transients talked with for this review. Interior transients having a place with Indian states like Bihar, UP, MP, Odisha, and Chhattisgarh who had gotten back from the objective states like Delhi, Gujarat, Karnataka, and Maharashtra were evaluated. Just opposite global travelers from Gulf nations were reached as a larger part of Indian laborers are utilized around here. Every one of the specialists covered under this study have a place with the low-gifted and semi-talented laborers classification. A rundown of contacts of these travelers was ready with the assistance of social laborers and different scientists working with them. Telephonic meetings, which ended up being the most proper strategy because of COVID-19 lockdown limitations, with every one of the transients have been composed as notes and dissected. The snowball inspecting technique was embraced at a phase where correspondence was laid out for certain travelers who associated us to other returnees. Further, interviews with work movement specialists and social specialists in Delhi and UP, who have worked intimately with the transients, during the lockdown were led and direction from work relocation specialists was looked for. Interviews were semi-organized and involved key topics shrouded in the examination questions. The meetings were completed in Tamil and Hindi, which were the favored dialects of the travelers. To safeguard their personalities, aliases been utilized to allude to the transients. Further, this examination didn't endeavor to offer agent tests, rather it intended to give accounts of the encounters and difficulties looked by the transients during their converse movement, bringing home and reintegration. The strategy for story examination was utilized to give a subjective comprehension of the emotional discernments and encounters of the converse travelers during the pandemic which may not be enough caught by measurements.

Lockdown attributable to the worldwide pandemic of COVID-19 remaining lakhs of traveler laborers jobless and battling for their work. Since the vast majority of the traveler laborers had neither any kind of

revenue nor any government backed retirement, they needed to get back to their old neighborhood/town to keep away from agonies. At first when the public vehicle offices stayed suspended, the defenseless travelers began strolling by walking toward their homes. Yet, in the in the mean time, the Government of India acted the hero and offered unique game plans of trains and transports in a joint effort with the states. According to the information distributed by the public authority from 1 May 2020 to 3 June 2020, a larger number of than 5.8 million (58 lakh) transients voyaged through exceptionally worked trains and another 4.1 million (41 lakh) by street to arrive at their home. According to the information delivered by the Government of Uttar Pradesh, the state saw the appearance of roughly 3.2 million (32 lakhs) traveler laborers to the state by extraordinary trains and different method for transports given by the public authority, making it the biggest beneficiary of transient specialists during this time of worldwide pandemic.

AIM OF THE STUDY

The above narration reveals the plight and vulnerability of the stranded Indian workers awaiting repatriation. Further, the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare had prescribed 14 days of mandatory quarantine for all international arrivals with the first 7 days to be spent in institutional quarantine . All the respondents of this study reported undergoing the COVID-19 tests and either institutional or home quarantine. It should be noted that for internal migrants, quarantine facilities and COVID-19 testing were state-sponsored. However, for international migrants, the expenses for institutional quarantine and COVID-19 testing had to be incurred by the passengers themselves They could avail exemption from institutional quarantine but only by submitting a negative RT-PCR test result, which was also an expensive test. Thus, the international reverse migrants had to bear a major financial burden during the governmental repatriation and only those who could afford the high travel expenses could easily avail the VBM flights.

This study highlighted the various aspects where the experiences of the internal and international migrants differed as well as converged especially during the pandemic. Some obvious differences were on account of them being separate categories in terms of their work destinations and migration process. However, as far as the differences in terms of the disparate media attention, share in relief package and reintegrative measures, high costs of migration, maintenance of proper database, all these can be commonly attributable to governmental neglect of migrants. The convergences drawn in this study are therefore important to highlight the general vulnerability of the migrants, irrespective of their category, even though both the origin and destination states benefit from migration. Their experiences converged in terms of the lack of planning and protection for the migrant community which led to them being stranded, economic challenges such as wage theft, retrenchments, survival on meagre savings, lack of social security protection, lack of governmental and employer accountability, social discrimination and hostility, mobility issues both before and after repatriation, difficulty in access to justice, ineffective reintegrative measures and vulnerability especially of the low-skilled workers.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

As noticed, the most exceedingly awful impacted areas of the COVID-19 emergency were the traveler laborers, both inside and global, who were pushed to the outskirts. Because of the abrupt and impromptu lockdown, closing down of working environments, lodgings, development work and different areas which connected with transient specialists, where they acquired hand-to-mouth compensation, delivered them workless, wageless and destitute. Wage robbery is an old peculiarities, but the COVID-19-initiated transient emergency amplified this issue The unreliability showed by the businesses, wild pay burglaries and intense conservations in enormous quantities of both inner and global traveler laborers added to their wretchedness . Albeit the Indian government provided a warning promising the inside transients food and asylum, installment

of due compensation and corrective activity against property managers who strongly expel them however it was delivered insufficient in safeguarding them. There were occasions of social pressure among locals dreading infection who attacked the public authority authorities and travelers who were returning Deplorable state of wellbeing offices in the rustic regions, absence of familiarity with the security measures and legitimate transportation game plans by the public authority likewise added to the apprehension about the spread of the infection bringing about slander of the bringing migrants back. Absence of consciousness of government authorities in managing the returnees was apparent when the transients were showered with sanitizers in UP When the public authority started transportation, a large portion of the trains were conveying travelers from COVID-19 areas of interest which raised worries about their disengagement.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

This segment comprises of the essential discoveries organized specifically to feature the different difficulties looked during the opposite relocation, bringing home and reintegration of both the classes of transient laborers. Under every subheading, first the accounts of the interior transients are introduced trailed by those of global travelers. In the following segment, a near examination of the discoveries is done and some normal pain points rising up out of the discoveries have been portrayed. A relative examination of the meetings of the inner and worldwide transients was done to distinguish the distinctions and the normal difficulties looked by the Indian traveler local area during an emergency which needs dire consideration during strategy making and implementation. Some of the functional definitions utilized in this study are as per the following. 'Inside travelers' alludes to between state transient laborers who were abandoned in various objective states inside India. 'Global travelers' alludes to Indians who had relocated to one of the Gulf nations looking for work. The term 'beginning' and 'objective' alludes to one's local spot and work environment, individually. The term 'turn around movement' alludes to the course of inner and global travelers getting back to their place of beginning from the objective state/nations. The term 'financial reintegration' alludes to observing stable work at one's starting point state. Low-talented laborers incorporates travelers who are normally perceived as 'incompetent specialists'.

ECONOMIC CHALLENGES DURING REVERSE MIGRATION

Because of the COVID-19-incited lockdown, the working people, particularly the low-pay transient specialists, have been the most terrible impacted (Pandey, 2020). They were conserved en masse, were delivered jobless with their wages neglected in the objective states which constrained them to get back to their starting point states. Lokesh, one of our respondents and a development specialist who got back from Karnataka to Odisha, the absence of work and compensation burglary pushed him to get back to his local state during the lockdown. Additionally, Mahesh who was working in an inn when the lockdown was forced expressed: A couple of inside transients detailed that they got work under a similar boss/project worker after the lockdown yet grumbled of non-installment of wages during the lockdown time frame. They had to get back to their towns because of neglected wages, no spot to live with essential offices, for example, power and water given by the worker for hire/manager and no quick legislative security. While reviewing the predicament of these transient laborers, a social specialist in Delhi clarified how the travelers confronted wage burglary and conservation by their managers when the lockdown started, notwithstanding, when the limitations facilitated and modern work continued, they were prepared to pay the laborers. Such occurrences uncover how the transient specialists were treated as a necessary evil and not as residents whose government assistance matters. Notwithstanding, there were a couple of inside travelers who had remained back in Delhi, which was their objective state, in any event, during the lockdown time frame. They announced for not returning because absence of work in their town that they actually hold their positions in Delhi. They likewise expressed how their managers had set up for a put to

live on the development premises, dealt with the essential offices like food, power and water supply and that they continued work once the limitations were lifted.

SOCIAL CHALLENGES DURING REVERSE MIGRATION

This portion comprises of the social difficulties looked by travelers when the legislative bringing home. The transients talked with detailed examples of oppression them and being considered to be the spreaders of the infection in the objective city/state, during their excursion back home, in isolation offices and in their towns. Maitheli, who is a spouse of a traveler development specialist, experienced vilification while getting back from Maharashtra to her town in MP seven days before the lockdown. She described: Rahul getting back from Delhi to the territory of Bihar detailed his experience of station based separation at the quarantine community. He disclosed how individuals having a place with the higher stations lived on the ground floor with every one of the offices while those having a place with the lower positions were kept on the second floor without offices. One more global traveler detailed absence of essential offices at the quarantine office in UP and that his family needed to furnish him with food. This focuses to the blatant disregard of the transients and puts the whole reasoning of isolation and social separating into question.

Amanatullah, a worldwide traveler getting back from Kuwait to UP revealed how even in the wake of finishing the quarantine time frame in both the beginning and objective states with legitimate Covid testing done, the residents, however briefly, kept their separation for half a month. The meetings uncovered that the idea of separation in the towns went from physical removing to disengagement and aggression which included dangers of removing supplies of essential necessities to the traveler laborers and their families based on simple doubt of being contaminated with COVID-19. Dilip, a development specialist getting back from UAE to his town in MP, additionally detailed comparable segregation. Nonetheless, when asked with regards to his feelings in regards to this, he additionally faulted the traveler laborers for welcoming such discrimination: "Yes a few residents oppressed us... It felt awful... yet even the transients are to blame as they conceal their indications, get away from the Covid tests and don't adhere to the guidelines so some place or the other the townspeople appropriately set their distance with them since the idea of infection is dangerous..." At the objective nations, the Indian transient specialists in Kuwait were deprived of their convenience and had to turn to squeezed covers and unhygienic residing spaces. Raju, depicted the contemptible circumstance of Indian specialists in Kuwait, where he had been remaining under a shed in a close by vehicle parking spot for the 2 weeks alongside 150 additional laborers. Hailing generally from Indian states like Uttar Pradesh, Odisha and West Bengal, these transient specialists were getting restricted help from a deliberate association of one feast for every day. Since the global travelers needed to bring about their own movement toll during their bringing home, the talked with returnees had instilled a sensation of segregation when contrasted with other Indian residents who could manage the cost of the costs to get back to India. The greater part of them had restricted monetary assets which were lacking to bear the expense of convenience, food and bring tickets back. This classification of transients have low proficiency level and have almost no bartering power with their managers who conserved them unexpectedly and estranged them in a far off country.

MIGRANT WORKERS' MOBILITY CHALLENGES

At first, the focal government was hesitant to save the abandoned travelers both inside and abroad, notwithstanding requests from various partners, for example, state legislatures, common society and worker's organizations. Despite the severe versatility limitations forced by the public authority, the upset inner transients continued to continue by walking or in unsanitary trucks or trucks towards their starting point states because of their failure to support in the costly metropolitan regions. They dealt with various issues while endeavoring to cross state lines, for example, police ruthlessness, egregious wounds with reports of even demise because of

weariness and lack of hydration . There was an absence of coordination among the focal and state legislatures bringing about disconnected positions while dealing with the mass relocation simultaneously, the businesses saved the traveler workers as their organizations were closed because of the lockdown. This brought about thousands being abandoned on different between state lines, for example, Karnataka-Maharashtra and Delhi-Uttar Pradesh Rannvijay, a development specialist who got back from Delhi to Bihar, was delivered jobless and because of absence of legitimate transportation plans by the public authority, he needed to go back freely in a truck to his town. One of the social specialists we talked with depicted the frantic conditions that the low-gifted laborers needed to look in Delhi because of the burden of the abrupt lockdown. He clarified:

Interviews with travelers uncovered the challenges they looked while boarding the extraordinary train. Deepak, getting back from Delhi to UP, detailed that the travelers were not given food and water while different respondents revealed that they were given one supper on a long excursion. The train Deepak boarded left him at a spot which was 84 kms from his home. This experience was shared by a couple of different respondents where they needed to cover the leftover distance all alone. One more intricacy was connected with the web-based ticket booking process since the vast majority of the travelers needed admittance to and information about computerized innovation. The data with respect to the Shramik trains was promoted on computerized media and the ticket could be reserved uniquely in web-based mode. One of the respondents featured how a few travelers couldn't return because of their absence of mindfulness and failure to book the ticket on the web. Here it is vital to underscore the pretended by NGOs and worker's organizations in the bringing home of transients either by transport or extraordinary train. Yogesh, who got back from Karnataka to Chhattisgarh, depicted how the travelers who booked the tickets through shifty specialists paid an extreme expense:

PROCESS OF ECONOMIC REINTEGRATION OF REVERSE MIGRANTS

Prior to talking about the encounters of the respondents concerning their financial reintegration, we will make reference to the present moment and long haul measures taken by the focal government to reintegrate the transient specialists in the post-COVID-19 economy. The focal government reported a Rs 1.70 lakh crore (US\$ 22.8 billion) help bundle for the weak segments which included classifications of individuals who are transients It should be noticed that such momentary alleviation bundles by the focal government were missing on account of worldwide travelers. Kerala was the main state in India which gave a one-time cash advantage of Rs. 5000 to them Also, the Kerala government expected to help around 5000 Non-Resident Keralites under the Non-Resident Keralites Affairs to every expat to work with their own undertakings Acknowledging the tremendous measure of settlements from the global travelers which helped the economy, Kerala additionally sent off a selective combination program called the 'Fantasy Kerala Project'. It gives a stage to the business area to tap the aptitude of gifted HR getting back to Kerala subsequent to losing positions abroad . The job of Kerala government in focusing on its transient local area from getting sorted out local area kitchens for abandoned travelers to presenting long haul reintegrative measures has been laudable.

Therefore, they couldn't track down secure work in their towns and were ready to remigrate to the metropolitan regions or work under a similar worker for hire/boss who were unsupportive towards them when the lockdown initiated Amongst the global travelers talked with, practically every one of them were ready to remigrate abroad once the limitations facilitated both in India and at the objective nations. Prem, one of the worldwide travelers from MP, talked with regards to his distress to remigrate to cover debts:Palani filled in as a driver in Saudi Arabia and got back to UP after he was saved. In any case, he was ready to remigrate to any far off country inferable from the low degree of wages in India to deal with his family. In this way, the information proposes that the greater part of them are anxious to remigrate than to remain back in their local states because of low wages, powerlessness to track down reasonable business open doors and administrative help for reconciliation. The excess travelers, both inner and global, were questionable with regards to their return

because of employment misfortunes, shutting of the organizations where they used to work at or were ready to start another endeavor in their local states.

ANALYSIS OF THE FINDINGS

There are a few reasons which add to the unstable conditions of both the classes of transient laborers. Right off the bat, they are casual specialists with no enforceable agreements between the laborer and the project worker. They are not joined together or upheld by profession associations, are less instructed, need information on the gig market and great interpersonal organizations to depend upon in metropolitan regions and outside nations. This makes them subject to their project workers and adds to their absence of dealing power if there should be an occurrence of abuse uncovered that for over 70% of the laborers in the non-rural area with a normal compensation, comprising of for the most part transients, coming up short on composed work contract and half were not enlisted for any government managed retirement helps The manipulative relations between the traveler laborers and the businesses or patrons in the kafala framework, contract replacement and defilement by brokers in the Gulf is notable In instances of pay robbery, most specialists can't record grumblings because of absence of attention to their freedoms and expensive legal interaction. For the worldwide transients, it is considerably more muddled to record grumblings against their unfamiliar managers after their re-visitation of their starting point country Therefore, the absence of insignificant social and financial insurance stood to traveler laborers pushed them back to their town. It tends to be concluded from our discoveries that assuming specialists got a wellbeing cover, for example, a spot to live with food, water, free power, installment of wages and employer stability, there is plausible that they would have remained back in their work objective. Or then again the appropriate course of action of their return would have added to a somewhat smoother interaction of their opposite movement and guaranteed command over the spread of the infection. In any case, the uncontrolled joblessness even among everyone during the lockdown will additionally decrease the dealing force of the transient laborers in the post-COVID economy.

MIGRANT EXPERIENCES OF STIGMATIZATION, HOSTILITY AND DISCRIMINATION

The evil treatment of the respondents of this review, both interior and global transients, as far as being abandoned without satisfactory offices disturbed their sensation of being separated. At the objective state, they were treated as pariahs and a weight when disaster hit with neither the business nor the public authority assuming their liability. The essential discoveries showed how both the classes of laborers were powerfully conserved and decreased to unsanitary havens which removed their capacity to confine and put their life in danger. Wage burglary and unexpected end of work contracts added to the terribleness of the transients who brought about gigantic expenses while relocating to Gulf nations looking for a superior life Lack of interpersonal organizations and the antagonism and disengagement they encountered in the urban areas, which numerous travelers alluded to as "unfamiliar grounds", constrained them to get back to their towns However, they needed to confront the social disgrace of spreading the infection from the beset metropolitan regions by getting back to their towns which were somewhat shielded from the infection at that stage. On account of interior transients, the unsanitary circumstances under which they returned while voyaging was disallowed exacerbated the antagonism against them as police severity and segregation by locals..

HIGH MIGRATION COSTS FOR INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS

However both the classes of Indian transient laborers dealt with issues while looking for help from the Indian government, there are a few distinctions which can be brought up. The worldwide transients needed to bring about tremendous costs on their ticket, Covid tests and quarantine focuses rather than the inner travelers whose admission was covered by the separate state legislatures, despite the fact that a few inside transients

wound up paying because of shady specialists, absence of mindfulness and disarray at the political level. This distinction of treatment is because of deficient media consideration and, accordingly, absence of legislative consideration paid to the worries of worldwide travelers. It should be featured the way that Indians heading out to outside nations need to pay an excessive enrollment charge particularly while going through a specialist (Migration News, 2008). Such significant expenses of relocation particularly in the midst of an emergency, can possibly drive the regular global transients into significant obligation and make their converse movement testing.

INEFFECTIVE REINTEGRATION MEASURES

Since work is in the simultaneous show, the focal government really must set a norm for different states to follow. In this unique circumstance, the exclusion of global transients in the alleviation bundle was culpable. However global transients acquire immense settlements helping the Indian economy yet in the midst of an emergency, they were passed on their own instruments to cover their fundamental requirements, travel admission during bringing home and endurance in their starting point country. This perspective didn't get an adequate number of media consideration in contrast with the inward transients. Nonetheless, this was not to the point of guaranteeing the smooth reintegration of inner travelers also, as over 90% of India's labor force is in the disorderly area, which incorporates the low-pay transient specialists, who are not enlisted under government assistance plans, need wage insurance and ledgers This, alongside the flawed dissemination of the improvement bundles, denied them of its advantages. In any event, for the individuals who figured out how to get the one-time monetary help, the sum was tiny to meet the fundamental requirements for even a month. The proceeding with pandemic and rehashed lockdowns makes what is happening for transients troublesome as they can't secure positions in their town and face travel limitations which frustrates their pursuit of employment in metropolitan regions at the same time. However expertise planning and upkeep of information base are positive developments, it must be circled back to legitimate execution and, above all, work creation in the beginning states and under rustic business ensure plans like MGNREGA. Truth be told, famous financial expert Jean Dreze has promoted the possibility of a state-supported metropolitan business conspire which will incorporate the metropolitan poor (Vij, 2020). A general social assurance cover, for the inward travelers as well as worldwide transients upon their return, is significant without which any reintegrative method will stay pointless.

CONCLUSION

This study featured the compulsory and constrained nature of opposite relocation because of the abrupt lockdown, absence of readiness and arranging among the public authority, the flippant conduct of the businesses and social antagonism against the travelers. Absence of traveler information and enlistment in government assistance plans rejected the majority of them from the help bundle benefits. The COVID-19 emergency has amplified a few previous issues looked by the transient networks which drove them to endure perpetually at various phases of their opposite movement. This emergency, hence, ought to be utilized as a valuable chance to bring positive measures and requires solid political will to execute them. The powerful reintegration of the inside and worldwide travelers in the post-COVID economy is a significant strategy issue which would involve gathering most recent information, work creation which matches their range of abilities, incorporation in government assistance plans, conveyability of federal retirement aide benefits thinking about the versatile idea of transient networks. The Indian Community Welfare Fund ought to be prepared in the midst of emergency as well as in decreasing the relocation costs for global transients. For better strategy making, government should incorporate with the common society which has great effort with the traveler networks at the grassroot level.

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