



MIGRATION ISSUES AND SOLUTIONS IN SOCIAL WORK PROSPECTIVE

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ABSTRACT

The article is based on the secondary sources and explores the migration and displacement issues in the backdrop of globalization and need for social work intervention. The paper also suggests some of the interventions for the upliftment of the victims of migration and displacement. It is found that according to by the cause of displacement World Bank Projects 1993 with resettlement, 66.4 percent caused by dams, irrigation, canals and 22.6 percent are caused by urban infrastructure, water supply, sewerage, transportation and 4.8 percent are caused by thermal (including mining). Meanwhile worldwide, an estimated 22 to 25 million persons have been forcibly displaced within their own countries by armed conflict, internal strife, and serious violations of human rights. According to the International organization for Migration's World Migration report 2010, the number of



international migrants was estimated at 214 million in 2010. If this number continues to grow at the same pace as during the last 20 years, it could reach 405 million by 2050. Mobility for employment is human right especially where limited livelihood alternatives exist. The industrial revolutions gave rise to migration within nations. There are two forms of migration; "forced migration" – fleeing from persecution and for security reasons and "voluntary migration" – seeking greater economic betterment. Persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of, or in order to avoid the

effects of, armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights, or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized state border. Migrants, the majority of them, are employed in high-risk, low pay, in the city and labour-intensive sectors of their host countries' economies (mining, plantation, sea food processing zones, agriculture, and domestic work.). Create a national legal framework for upholding the rights of displaced persons. Protecting and assisting displaced person is primarily the responsibility of their own governments, with international assistance if necessary.

KEYWORDS: Migration, Displacement, Globalization, Social Work Intervention, Resettlement.

INTRODUCTION:

Migration has been significantly reshaping the traditional social and economic structures of rural communities of this country. The livelihood activities of rural families are no longer confined to farming and are increasingly being diversified through rural-to-urban and international migration. With the development of trade and industry and the awareness produced by the mass media, rural poor are shifting towards the urban areas in order to improve their living standards and to search for better livelihood opportunities. The lack of employment opportunities in the rural areas and better employment prospects and infrastructure facilities in the urban areas motivate people to migrate to urban areas. In the rural areas, sluggish agricultural growth and limited development of

the rural non-farm sector raises the incidence of rural poverty, unemployment and underemployment. Given the fact that most of the high productivity activities are located in the urban areas – people from rural areas move towards town or cities with a hope to grab diversified livelihood opportunities as the rural poor still consider migration as one of the significant as well as reliable livelihood coping strategy.

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A number of studies across the country have documented multiple displacements of people – successive displacement of the same families from one place to another following execution of development projects in those areas. The displaced people of Rihand dam, Hirakud dam and Hindistan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) are some of the examples in the country. In the early 1960s, the displaced people of Rihand dam had to face displacement from their new place of habitation for the second time in 1970s because of the coal mining projects, and again for the third or fourth time in mid-1980s due to the setting up of a number of industries. In each time of their displacement, they were progressively pauperized. Similarly, the displaced people of Hirakud dam, who were resettled in the mid-1050s in the upper catchments areas of the reservoir, faced displacement for the second time in 1980s due to the Ib Thermal power project came up there and again in 1980-1990s due to the Ib valley coal mining projects. The displaced people of HAL, who were relocated in the early 1970s, were evicted for the second time in 1980s due to the execution of Upper Kolab dam project. They apprehended further displacement due to the establishment of Naval armament depot and agricultural farm coming up in the area.

CAUSES OF MIGRATION:

Lee's laws divides factors causing migrations into two groups of factors:

1) Push factors: Push factors are things that are unfavourable about the area that one lives in, and **2) Pull factors:** Pull factors are things that attract one to another area.

Push Factors

- Not enough jobs
- Few opportunities
- Primitive conditions
- Desertification
- Famine or drought
- Political fear or persecution
- Slavery or forced labor
- Poor medical care
- Loss of wealth
- Natural disasters
- Death threats
- Lack of political or religious freedom
- Pollution
- Landlord/tenant issues
- Discrimination
- Poor chances of marrying
- War

Pull Factors

- Job opportunities
- Better living conditions
- Political and/or religious freedom
- Enjoyment
- Education
- Better medical care

- Attractive climates
- Security
- Family links
- Industry
- Better chances of marrying

Causes of Displacement:

- Political causes, including secessionist movements
 - Identify based autonomy movements
 - Localized violence
 - Environmental and development induces
- o Development projects (dams, canals, urban infrastructure, sewerage etc.)
- o Natural disaster etc. (flood, cyclone, tsunami, hurricanes, earthquake etc.)

Statistical figures:

It was estimated that almost a third of Indians (i.e. some 325 million people, out of a population of 1.14 billion in 2008) are migrants.

The migration rate (proportion of migrants in the population) in the urban areas (35 per cent) was far higher than the migration rate in the rural areas (26 per cent); however, migration in India is largely confined to within the same state. 72 percent of migrant households in urban areas and 78 percent in rural areas have migrated within the same state (Kurukshehra feb 2012,p 4)

Employment seems to be the most important reason for migration; in rural areas, 55 per cent of the households have migrated for employment related reasons.

Migration rate in rural areas was lowest among the scheduled tribe (ST), nearly 24 per cent.

For rural male, migration rate was lowest (nearly 4 per cent) among the 'not literates', and it was nearly 14 per cent among those with educational level 'graduate and above'.

Among the migrants in the rural areas, nearly 91 per cent have migrated from the rural areas and 8 per cent have migrated from the urban areas, whereas among the emigrants in the urban areas, nearly 59 per cent migrated from the rural areas and 40 per cent from urban areas.

The reason for migration for male migrant was dominated by employment related reasons, in both rural and urban areas. Nearly 29 per cent of rural male migrants and 56 per cent of urban male migrants have migrated due to employment related reasons.

A higher percentage of the persons were found to be engaged in economic activities after migration: for males the percentage of workers have increased from 51 per cent before migration to 63 per cent after migration in rural areas while for females, it has increased from 20 per cent to 33 per cent in rural areas.

For rural males, self-employment has emerged as main recourse to employment after migration. The share of self-employment in total migrants have increased from 16 per cent before migration to 27 per cent after migration, while the shares of regular employees and casual labours remained almost stable, in both before and after migration.

According to the World Bank Project, displacement in India is found that 66.4 percent caused by dams, irrigation, canals and 22.6 are caused by urban infrastructure, water supply, sewerage, transportation and 4.8 percent are caused by thermal (including mining).

Meanwhile worldwide, an estimated 22 to 25 million persons have been forcibly displaced within their own countries by armed conflict, internal strife, and serious violations of human rights. According to the International organization for Migration's World Migration report 2010, the number of international migrants was estimated at 214 million in 2010. If this number continues to grow at the same pace as during the last 20 years, it could reach 405 million by 2050.

ISSUES OF MIGRATION AND DISPLACEMENT

- Health hazards
- Social security
- Education
- Increasing slums

- Armed affect
 - o Physical assault
 - o Sexual violence
 - o Forced conscription
 - o Lack of adequate food
 - o Water
 - o Medical care
 - o Human trafficking

SOCIAL WORK INTERVENTIONS

Dyadic interventions are based on the promotion of interpersonal exchanges of help and resources in dyadic interactions, mainly through the incorporation of new sources of support in migrants and displaced persons social networks. Interventions at this level include social mediation and voluntary support.

Social mediation has been considered a key topic in social work and other interventions with migrant populations in some European countries, and may be defined as those actions carried out by a third party that take place between two individuals or groups who freely participate in a process whose aim is to promote new relationships between them, or to reduce existing conflicts. The main defining features of social mediation are: voluntary participation, provision of help and support, lack of obligation to accept the advice, trust in both the mediator and the mediation process, neutrality, and joint participation of the mediator and the support recipients in the process.

Vulnerable sections need to be educated, trained and empowered. Social worker should create awareness about policies and programmes and to conduct trainings, workshops and legal advocacy to the needy. So far umpteen number of projects have been sanctioned as a result of Globalization; Such projects require skilled manpower. These projects demand global approach – a combination of both global and local thinking, knowledge about global practices, positive mental attitude to execute the project and skills to manage the people and project play a pivotal role. This necessitates the role of Social Workers who act as change agents in transforming the lives of people.

In social work and other interventions with migrant populations, the main role of the social mediator is to act as a 'bridge' or a key link between displaced persons and the receiving society at different levels, in relation to:

1. legal status: the social mediator provides information and direct assistance concerning the requirements and procedures to get and maintain the residence permit;
2. access to education, health and social services: the social mediator provides information about available resources, advice regarding cultural differences and direct assistance (e.g. aid with language difficulties, accompaniment) to increase equal access to services;
3. employment: provision of information about employment opportunities and working conditions (e.g. salary, contracts), and direct assistance to find a job;
4. housing: direct assistance to find accommodation and information about available alternatives;
5. social and community participation: information about migrants associations, trade unions and community organizations, and activities to promote interaction between migrants and natives.

RESETTLEMENT AND REHABILITATION POLICY:

After independence when India initiated development projects in different parts of the country, no specific policy was ever formulated either by the Central or the State governments to address the issue of displacement of people that took place. In the past resettlement and rehabilitation of the displaced people had been based on ad hoc plans, resolutions and orders, passed for specific states or even projects when the need arose. Different State governments and ministries of central government followed different policies on resettlement and rehabilitation in the absence of a national Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) policy. So far, states such as Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka have resettlement legislation. Most state governments rely not only on law or universal policies, but instead on ad hoc administrative instructions, in conformity with the bureaucratic preference for what is described as 'case-by-case approach'. In Orissa, the R & R policy differs among mining, industrial, thermal power and water resources development projects.

Migrants, the majority of them, are employed in high-risk, low pay, in the city and labour-intensive sectors of their host countries' economies (mining, plantation, sea food processing zones, agriculture, and domestic work.).

Thus cause increase in slums. Create a national legal framework for upholding the rights of displaced persons. Protecting and assisting displaced person is primarily the responsibility of their own governments, with international assistance if necessary.

CONCLUSION

In the light of the preceding discussion, we can see there are various causes of displacement and migration in India. It is not our conclusion that the process of development should be stopped in the state. But the serious fallout's of the development process, which have so far been lost in the generalist socio-economic researches, have to be seen from the point of view of displacement and migration.

In this paper, we have described a typology of social support interventions that emphasizes the need to integrate formal and informal support in social work practice with migrant populations. Social work practice may contribute towards changing power structures which perpetuate the exclusion of marginalized groups of people, but it also may support inequalities and injustices, through the profession's complicity in implementing social policies that are degrading and inhuman with migrant populations.

This section reviews the problem of displaced persons and the development and application of internationally accepted guidelines for migration management in this area. The responsibility of national governments to prevent, respond, and resolve the problem of internally displaced persons involves several key steps to ensure effective national responses to displacement.

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