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INTERSTATE MIGRANTS TO MAHARASHTRA ACCORDING TO STATE OF LAST RESIDENCE

Dr. R. P. Shinde

Vasantrao Naik Govt. Institute of Arts, Social Sciences, Nagpur.

ABSTRACT—

The development pattern of various states of India displays considerable heterogeneity not only in income levels, but also in many interrelated socio-economic and technical aspects. In such a situation, the inter-state migration flows to and from various states (or areas) are likely to differ with respect to both the level and the characteristics of migration.



Maharashtra witnessed largest in-migration of population during the last ten years from different states and employment by far remains the biggest cause of interstate migration. Interstate migrants formed 7.54 percent of the total population of Maharashtra. Experience has shown that heavy migration has only created friction points interstate migrants and

locals in Maharashtra. This paper throws light on flow pattern of interstate migrants.

KEY WORDS: *Interstate Migrants, Socio-Economic.*

INTRODUCTION :

India has seen many growth spells between 1980-2007. At the same time, there is a great deal concern that these high rates of growth are not trickling down to the poor, or at least not rapidly enough. Some states in India are growing much more rapidly than others in exacerbating inequalities. During the relatively lower growth period between 1960-1980, most of the states grew slowly around the average all India figure, but after 1980 some states grew much more rapidly than other states. Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu grew at rates much higher than the national average, while more populous states such as Bihar and Uttar Pradesh fell well below the national average. They continued to grow at the same rates as during the period Of 1960-80. The difference in the rates of growth meant that opportunities for employment arose in the higher growth states and interstate migration therefore increased significantly (by nearly 55%) from slow growth states to high growth states (Jha V. 2008).

The subject is particularly relevant to Maharashtra which ranks second in respect of urbanization among the major states of India (next only to Tamil Nadu) and third in terms of per capita income (after Punjab and Haryana) and ranks second in respect of per capita value added in industries in 2001-02 (after Gujarat). As noted earlier the interstate migrants formed 5.14 percent of the total population of Maharashtra and 3.18 percent of the total population of India enumerated by the 1991 census. According to

2001 census the corresponding figures were 7.54 percent and 3.98% respectively. The level of interstate migration in Maharashtra was much higher than in country as a whole according to both censuses

INTERSTATE MIGRATION TO AND FROM MAHARASHTRA

The 2001 census reveals that, among the most important ten states in terms of interstate migration all of which reported more than one million in-migrants by place of last residence outside the state, Maharashtra was most preferred state. Maharashtra is at the top of the list with 7.3 million interstate migrants, followed by Delhi (5.6 million) and West Bengal (5.5 million). Maharashtra accounts for 18.32 percent of the total interstate migrants in the country, followed by Delhi 12.56 percent, Uttar Pradesh 6.6% and Haryana 6.3 percent (Census of India, 2001).

Maharashtra attracted migrants from every administrative unit of India. But as shown in Table 4.9A only ten states push more than 65000 persons each, in 1991 and more than 200000 persons each, in 2001. In 1991, the five neighbouring states of Karnatak, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Goa accounted nearly for 52 percent of the total interstate migrants. Uttar Pradesh (24.90%) topped the list of the states which sent more migrants to Maharashtra than even the neighboring states. Thus, the 'catchment area' for in-migration to Maharashtra seems to be very vast and unrestricted. A similar pattern was noticed with respect to the interstate migrants enumerated by the 2001 census. However, compared to 1991 the share of non bordering distance states, interstate migrants to Maharashtra increased from 48 percent to 54 percent in 2001. These are the symptoms of developing/ growing economy of the state and great improvement of means of communication and transportation. Also such change in pattern of interstate migration is due to the feedback from and communication with earlier migrants.

On an average the share of interstate in-migrants to Maharashtra has increased by 80.14 percent during the period 1991-2001. In fact it varies from +39.60 percent from Gujarat to 327 percent to Bihar. However, compared to 1991, the traditional sources sent proportionately more migrants to Maharashtra, than the other states. The Northern states compared to Southern states have recorded high increases in the number of interstate in- migrants to Maharashtra during the period (1991-2001) (Table 1).

Table 1: Number and Percentage Distribution of Interstate In-migrants by State of Origin in the State of Maharashtra (1991-2001)

State of Origin	1991		2001		Change 1991-2001	
	Persons	Sex Ratio	Persons	Sex Ratio	Persons	Sex Ratio
Uttar Pradesh	1010967 24.90	486	2,107,883 28.82	456	108.50	-30
Karnataka	815400 20.09	1312	1,165,351 15.94	1173	42.92	-139
Gujarat	608218 14.98	1060	849,045 11.61	1063	39.60	3
Madhya Pradesh	365782 9.01	1485	795,082 10.87	1234	117.36	-251
Andhra Pradesh	273623 6.74	1145	431,774 5.90	1098	57.80	-47
Rajasthan	211666 5.21	694	431,190 5.90	643	103.71	-51
Kerala	175290 4.32	681	258,952 3.54	768	47.73	87
Tamil Nadu	172060 4.24	753	249,989 3.42	793	45.29	40
Bihar	98200 2.42	452	419,559 5.74	333	327.25	-119
West Bengal	69090 1.70	784	209,044 2.86	509	202.57	-275
Goa	58640 1.44	1400	60,585 0.83	1388	3.32	-12

Others	200690 4.94	943	334,685 4.58	798	66.77	-145
Total	4059626 100.00	870	7,313,139 100.00	750	80.14	-120

Source :- 1) Census of India, 1991 Migration Tables, D-02
2) Census of India, 2001 Migration Tables, D-02 Compact Diskette, Registrar General and Census Commissioner India New Delhi

The most striking feature is that all the states have experienced a positive change in the share of male interstate in-migrants. But in case of share of female in-migrants except Bihar and West Bengal all the states show negative change. The sex composition of the migrants is expected to throw better light on the causes and process of migration because the factors leading to migration of male and females are quite different, particularly in India. The male generally migrate on account of economic causes while the females change their place of residence mostly due to social causes (e.g. marriage migration). Table shows that males outnumbered females among the total interstate in-migrants both in 1991 and 2001. The sex ratio accounted for 870 in 1991 and 750 in 2001 showing an increase in the percentage of interstate male in-migrants to Maharashtra. However, sex ratio varies from 333 from Bihar to 1234 from Madhya Pradesh. The preponderance of males was relatively high among the in-migrants from the distant states, like Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Bihar and West Bengal. Whereas the situation were totally opposite for the interstate in-migrants from the bordering states, with the highest preponderance of females among the in-migrants from Madhya Pradesh. The sex ratio was 1485 and 1234 in 1991 and 2001 respectively.

Gujarat was the dominant destination of out migrants from Maharashtra. It received about 30 percent of them both in 1991 and 2001. The remainder went mainly to two other neighbors (Madhya Pradesh & Karnataka). Thus nearly 80 percent of the total interstate out-migrants from Maharashtra were enumerated in these neighboring three states in both 1991 and 2001 census. In absolute terms, out migration from Maharashtra to most of states of India increased by 21 percent between 1991 to 2001. However, a substantial increase was recorded by states of Bihar, West Bengal, Rajasthan and Gujarat. (Census 2001)

CONCLUSION

In 1991 and 2001 censuses, the level of interstate migration in Maharashtra was much higher than India as a whole and was the most preferred state by the migrants from ten major states of India (Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Goa), whereas Gujrat, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka were the dominant destination of out migrants from Maharashtra. In last decade (1991-2001) redistribution of the population through interstate migration was clearly channeled towards the economically most developed cities of Mumbai, Thane, Pune, Nagpur and Nashik. Interstate in-migrants show a strong male sex ratio while out migration from Maharashtra exhibits strong female sex ratio. The high sex ratio of migrants from distant states reflects lone individual migration of males motivated by economic factor.

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