

**A STUDY ON PROBLEMS OF INTER STATE MIGRANT WORKER IN  
CUDDALOR DISTRICT, TAMIL NADU**

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**Abstract**

Labour migration is an act of movement workers from one area to another for want a job and income. Migration takes place from rural place to an urban area in the same state, from one state to another, even from one country to another country. It is the fundamental aspect of human history-people across the World has been migrating from informal sectors to formal sectors and from agricultural to industrial sectors. However in recent times informal and service sectors occupied a lot of importance and attract large number of internal and international migrants. Even though the level and number of International migrants differs vastly between countries, in 2020 there are about 281 million people migrated to another country from their country of birth. According to a United Nations report in 2020, one in every thirty people is an international migrant. Therefore, it can be stated that migration has a significant impact on the economy as a whole despite the fact that it is the most challenging issue in today's life and India is no exception. This has undoubtedly increased the rural-to-urban migration of labourers. The present study attempts to find out the problems of inter-state migrant worker in Cuddalore district, Tamil Nadu.

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**Keywords: interstate, migration workers, social problems.**

## I. INTRODUCTION

Migration is a key feature of a rapidly transforming world, one that brings hopes, new opportunities and challenges. Migration for work, within and beyond India, irrespective of the stream or duration of migration, has historically been a path to prosperity for millions of Indians. As a country of origin for the largest number of international migrants globally, India is also the top recipient of international remittances. While international migration for work from India has been quite significant, the magnitude of internal labour migration within the country has been much more staggering. It has been a major coping, accumulation as well as adaptive strategy for the poor and marginalized in India.

## II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

**Munshi and Rosenzweig (2016)** study that changes in the rural and urban population between decennial censuses over the period 44 1961-2001 indicate that the migration rate for working age adult males (those aged 25-49) ranged from 4 per cent to 5.4 per cent. The India Human Development Survey, an independent measure of migration, suggests a male rural-urban migration rate of 6.8 per cent whereas in the male subsample of the Indian Demographic and Health Survey (DHS), the migration rate is 5.3 per cent.

**Kuptsch (2006)** has study that informal workers are compelled to work at very low wages with almost negligible rights and entitlement as workers. Their vulnerability is further intensified because of unregulated intermediaries and middlemen who literally control and regulate the income as well as the working and living condition of labourers.

## II. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEMS

Present study focus that Most of the interstate migrant workers have no identity proof, lack political representation, no proper housing, low wages, feel insecure, and engaged in hazardous work, lack of access to healthcare services and education for their children, exclusion from state services, Interstate migrant workers do not have Public Distribution System (PDS) cards and have to buy food grains, etc. at a higher price in the open market (Mandal) which is quite high for the migrant workers and also brought to light the absence or limited access to basic needs, such as safe houses, lack of access to public services viz. education, health, protection of labour laws, problems in social integration, human rights violations, exploitation. Often the presence of interstate migrant workers creates a sense of fear among the local work force and the local people.

### **III. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

- To examine the socio-economic status of internal migrant workers in study area.
- To study the problem faced by the interstate migrant workers in the study area.

### **IV. METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY**

#### **A. Data Collection**

This study fully depends upon both primary and secondary data. Primary data were collected from the sample respondents through well-structured interview schedule and Questionnaire. Secondary data have been collected from text books, journals, magazines, Newspapers, Government Gazettes, internet etc.

#### **B. Sampling Technique**

In order to assess the problem of internal migrant workers in construction sector of cuddalore district, Virudhachalam Block, six village panchayats selected 120 internal migrant workers (20 sampling from each village panchayats) were randomly selected with the help of construction engineers, Civil Engineers were asked to fill questionnaire to find out their views, ideas and suggestions on internal migrant workers in construction work. Internal migrant workers were selected from the place where they are assembled and recruited for work, work places and wage disbursement spot. Data were collected through personal visit to the home or work site of the respondent.

#### **C. Data analysis**

The collected data were, analysed with help of table percentages, average was used.

### **V. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY**

The study has covered only cuddalore district also the findings of the study cannot be applied to other districts.

**Table-1****Socio- Economic status of Interstate Migrant worker in the study area**

<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>No. Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1.	<b>Age of the respondents</b>		
	I. <30 years	17	14.1
	II. 30-40 years	62	51.6
	III. 40 and above	41	34.1
		<b>120</b>	<b>100</b>
2.	<b>Community</b>		
	I. Musahar (Bihar)	74	61.33
	II. Vaddy (Andhra Pradesh)	34	28.33
	III. Kalla Wadar (Karnataka)	12	10.01
		<b>120</b>	<b>100</b>
3.	<b>Educational Status</b>		
	i. Illiterate	52	43.33
	ii. Primary	12	10.00
	iii. Upper Primary	32	26.66
	iv. HSC	24	20.01
		<b>120</b>	<b>100</b>
4.	<b>Income per year (Rs)</b>		
	I. Above 5000	51	42.5
	II. 5000 to 7000	35	29.1
	III. 7000 to 9000	22	18.3
	IV. 9000 to 110000	12	10.1
		<b>120</b>	<b>100</b>
5.	<b>Marital Status</b>		
	i. Married	85	70.83
	ii. Unmarried	35	29.16
	<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Primary data computed**

From the table - 2 that it's could be observed that problems of interstate migrant workers in the study area. Unsafe and hazardous working conditions was also one of the major problem of migrant workers were expressed by (25.83) per cent. The other problems were Poor housing, sanitation and amenities (20.83) per cent of them interstate migrant workers and Lack of Healthcare and insurance (15.83) per cent and (12.50) per cent of them interstate migrant workers were lack of social security benefits. Nearly (5.00) per cent of migrant worker opined that the Poor access to education and recreation. More than (6.66) per cent and (5.00) per cent of them interstate migrant worker expressed financial distress and Language & cultural barriers were interstate migrant worker problem. Finally, (3.33) per cent of them interstate migrant worker were the Job insecurity and exploitation by middlemen.

**Table-2**  
**Problems faced by the inter-state migrant worker in the study area**

Sl. No	Problems	Numbers of Migrant workers	Percentage
1.	Unsafe and hazardous working conditions	31	25.83
2.	Poor housing, sanitation and amenities	25	20.83
3.	Lack of Healthcare & insurance	19	15.83
4.	Lack of social security benefits	15	12.50
5.	Poor access to education and recreation	12	10.00
6.	Financial distress	08	06.66
7.	Language & cultural barriers	06	05.00
8.	Job insecurity & exploitation by middlemen	04	03.33
<b>Total</b>		<b>120</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: computed primary data

## VI. FINDING OF THE STUDY

- It is clear from the analysis the more than interstate migrant workers are under 30-40 years of age groups.
- The Musahar (Bihar) caste (61.33) percentage is the Major categories of interstate migrant workers in the study area and the other constitute less proportion of representation.
- The illiterate (43.33) educated respondents constitute the interstate migrant workers.
- The majority of the (42.50) per cent of them migrant workers were earned the income level above 4000.
- The major interstate migrant workers have married of (44.16) per cent and (26.66) per cent of have not married of migrant workers.
- Unsafe and hazardous working conditions was also one of the major problem of migrant workers were expressed by (25.83) per cent.
- The other problems were Poor housing, sanitation and amenities (20.83) per cent of them interstate migrant workers and Lack of Healthcare and insurance (15.83) per

cent and (12.50) per cent of them interstate migrant workers were lack of social security benefits.

- Nearly (5.00) per cent of migrant worker opined that the Poor access to education and recreation.
- More than (6.66) per cent and (5.00) per cent of them interstate migrant worker expressed financial distress and Language & cultural barriers were interstate migrant worker problem.
- Finally, (3.33) per cent of them interstate migrant worker were the Job insecurity and exploitation by middlemen.
- The government should promote rural employment in the country. Simultaneously, special attention is required to promote education and vocational training among unskilled rural migrants that may help them to enlarge their employment choice in the country.

## VII.CONCLUSION

Migration is likely to increase in the future, not decrease. The issue is how to manage – and not how to stop. The Government and the Policy Makers take some concrete steps for ameliorating the Socio-Economic life of Migrant Workers. The Government must amend or Modify the existing Law as an exhaustive and comprehensive legislation could streamline the Employment Procedures, Working Conditions, Wages and other Welfare Facilities.

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