Socio-Economic Profile of Inter-state and Intra-State Urban Migrants

A Case study of Nashik, Maharashtra

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Abstract:

Migrants are a vulnerable group, throughout the relocation process. The following study is funded by Indian Council of Medical Research and conducted by Public Health Foundation of India in collaboration with Disha Foundation, working in migrant issues. The study is focused on understanding the demographic and socio-economic status amongst the inter-state and intra state migrant population in Nashik, Maharashtra. This is attempted through a primary survey covering aspects of socio-economic profile, housing characteristics, access to basic amenities and social networks in the urban environment. The survey covers 4002 migrants, 2357 intra state and 1643 inter-state migrants, working in construction, agriculture and the informal economy. The challenges faced by migrants include hazardous living conditions with the majority living in slums and as squatters and exclusion from social welfare schemes. The out of Maharashtra migrants score way below the Maharashtra migrants on all parameters, and the inter-state migrants are therefore more vulnerable than the state migrants.

The study highlights the poor living conditions of the migrants and their poor access to basic amenities. The study highlights issues for migrants in general and also compares the status between the intra and inter-state migrants.

Keywords: migrant status, basic amenities, access, social welfare schemes, housing characteristics, social networks.

Introduction

Migrant statistics say that about 192 million people are living outside their place of birth, representing about 3% of the world's population. *(Bell M and Muhidin S, 2009)* However, migration of persons within national borders is nearly four times more than those who moved internationally. In Asia, Africa and Latin America, approximately 40 per cent of urban growth results from internal migration from rural to urban areas. Internal labour migration has become an important livelihood strategy for many poor groups across the world (Borhade A, 2015). However, this population faces exclusion from existing mainstream programs such as education and health.

Migration has socio-economic and environmental implications. Migration varies from country to country, continent to continent, developed countries to developing countries and even within a country depending on the socio-economic, demographic and cultural factors. It is important to study the socioeconomic

characteristics of migrants to understand the background characteristics of migrants *(Rokib and Islam,2009).*

The NSSO, Migration in India Report, estimates, 326 million internal migrants in India, i.e. 28.5% of the population in 2007-08. The Indian constitution provides basic freedom to move to any part of the country, right to reside and earn livelihoods of their choice. Thus, migrants are not required to register either at the place of origin or at the place of destination. A number of economic, social, cultural and political factors play an important role in the decision to move. The effects of these factors vary over time and place. Thus it is important to understand the patterns and implications of such migration processes. *(Bhagat R.B.,2009).*

In recent years, several changes in India are likely to have impacted on the pattern and pace of migration. The pattern of growth in the last two decades has steadily widened the gap between agriculture and non-agriculture and between rural and urban areas, and is concentrated in a few areas and a few states. The growing spatial inequalities in economic opportunities must have necessarily also impacted on the pace and pattern of migration. Uneven growth and a growing differential between agriculture and industry is a necessary concomitant of the pattern of development. Migration has historically played a role in reducing the gap in living standards between sectors and areas and in fueling growth in the more dynamic sectors. The crucial question is whether, and to what extent, migration has been able to play this role in the Indian context.

About the study:

The main objective of study is to analyze the demographic and socio-economic status of the inbound migrant population in Nashik district. This is attempted through an understanding of the basic demographics, housing characteristics, access to basic amenities and social networking in the destination city.

Study Area: The study was undertaken in **Nasik city**. Nasik, in Maharashtra, is situated at a distance of 200 km from Mumbai as well as Pune. The city is an ancient place of pilgrimage in India and is an important and vibrant urban conurbation of northern Maharashtra. The city experiences substantial in-migration from all over the country because of the work opportunities. It is considered as one of the most rapidly growing industrial cities in Maharashtra with an Information Technology park, wine park zone, and educational institutions. There are 174 medium and large industrial units, 6 five star industrial development

corporations, 10 co-operative industrial estates and 7 sugar factories in the district. All these factors have attracted skilled and semi-skilled migrants to Nasik for better livelihood opportunities. According to Census 2011, Nasik's population is 30 lakhs, of which migrant population constitutes 20%, including both, within Maharashtra as well from neighboring states Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.

Methodology:

A survey was conducted through face-to-face interviews of migrants, using cluster random sampling.   The questionnaire was designed by brainstorming among all investigators based on objectives of the study, and was pilot tested among migrants and finally refined for use. The questionnaire was structured to capture descriptive statistics on the socio economic, demographic details of the migrants along with the access to basic amenities and pattern of social support.

For the survey, a cohort of migrant households who migrated not more than 10 years ago but at least within the last 30 days of enumeration, was selected. The Census and NSS, define migrants as those staying in the destination place for at least 6 months, however, a minimum period 30 days was taken to capture seasonal and circular migration. *(NSSO, 2010)*

The required sample size was calculated according to the formula $n = z_{1-\alpha/2}^2 (1-P)/\varepsilon^2 P$ *(Lwanga and Lemeshow, 1991).* By considering prevalence of utilization of government healthcare service (P) of 15% (This rate is based on an ongoing study in Delhi (Kusuma, personal communication), with 10% relative precision and 95% confidence interval, by considering the design effect (DEFF) of 1.7 as cluster sampling was adopted, and 5% non-response rate was factored, the sample size of 3886 was finalized. The selection of sample for qualitative study was purposive and the number of each type of interview/discussion and decided upon reaching saturation of data.

The major challenge was to locate and identify the widely dispersed migrants meeting the cohort definition. Hence, it was decided to identify certain high concentration clusters where around 15-20% of the households were new migrants. The clusters to be considered for inclusion were identified and care was taken about the spatial representativeness of these clusters. The participants were randomly chosen.

Initially, the survey personnel visited several slums, slum like areas, resettlement colonies, habitations along the railway tracks and fly over bridges, as well as temporary habitations near the existing slums, habitations on or near the foot paths, road side, and construction work sites, where people set up temporary tents and huts to live. The key findings and discussion is based primarily on the variables where the p value is statistically significant with the hypotheses having 99% confidence level.(e.g., insert Table 1 here)

Key Findings:

Basic Demographics of the Inter-State and Intra State Migrants, Nashik

Table 1 summarizes the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of the migrant cohort under study. A total of 4002 migrants were surveyed, out of which 2357 are intra state migrants i.e. from within Maharashtra and 1645 are inter-state migrants i.e. from the various states of India, into Nashik.

The age composition of migrants, both in the intra state and inter-state groups show majority of migrants are less than 30 years age group. (21 to 30 years-45.9%; p= <0.001) More than 50% of the migrant population is male and below 30 years old. There were more young inter-state migrants (20% below 20 years and 47% between 21 to 30),as within Maharashtra there is significant but lower proportion of who migrate in post 30's as well (27% in 30-40 years). About 61% of migrants within Maharashtra are male compared to 79% from outside Maharashtra. In response to reasons for their migration, 97 % of those questioned said it is for livelihood and better earnings. Females appear to migrate less for livelihood especially when migration is inter-state, 21% as against 39% of within Maharashtra migrants

47% of the within Maharashtra migrants belonged to scheduled tribes category with, in the non- Maharashtra group it was OBC's (39) and scheduled tribes 28%. This reiterates what was identified in other studies of the trend towards distress migration of ST's to cities. There is not much difference in the religious composition, as both groups were mainly Hindus, 99% in intra state and 90.8% in inter-state migrants.

The survey of migrants, when seen in the context of origin states, 63% were from within Maharashtra, whereas, other states are UP (10%), Bihar (4.8), Gujarat (4.4%) and Bengal (3.7%). 59% spoke Marathi as the Maharashtra group formed a high proportion of the sample. Among the inter-state migrants, the common languages are Hindi (18%), Bhojpuri (4%), Gujarati (4%), Bengali (4%) and Tamil (1%). (e.g., insert Table 2 here)

Housing Characteristics of Intra and Inter- State Migrants in Nashik

Both intra and inter-state migrants reside in migrant camps (Table 2), the percentage being greater among non-Maharashtra group (71%). The greater concentration of these migrants were in non-notified slums, the residence in notified slums being as low (1 and 0.7% of the migrants).

40% of both the groups stay in katchha houses and partially katchha structures, such poor quality accommodation do not come under either rented/owned category, but are illegally occupied free residences. Most of these houses are thus, single roomed, with no separate kitchens and no clean fuels. Dependency on hearth type kitchen fuel poses a serious health hazard in such poor ventilation conditions. The non- Maharashtra migrants are also highly dependent on kerosene for fuel. (e.g., insert Table 3 here)

Access to Basic Amenities amongst Intra and Inter- State Migrants in Nashik

Table 3 summarizes access to basic civic amenities amongst the urban migrants. 48% of within Maharashtra and 44% of outside Maharashtra migrant households do not have a private source of portable water and are dependent on public taps. Only 13% (intra state) and 25% (inter- state) migrants have piped water at home. Similar poor conditions in the area of sanitation and hygiene exist, as more than 85% of the Maharashtra migrants do not have separate toilets and 61% still use open fields for defecation. However, more number of non- Maharashtra migrants have separate toilets, about 50% use community toilets. Although, migrant households have metered electricity connection 40-57%, 60% of the households are unsewered, highlighting the unhygienic living conditions, the migrants live in.

Both intra & inter-state migrants are at a disadvantage of dispossessing PDS ration cards, by 83% and 90 % respectively. The Below Poverty Line PDS ration card gives additional subsidies to the poor in procurement of food grains and other essential commodities. Data shows, that more Maharashtra migrants have managed

to get a Below Poverty Line ration card, than the non- Maharashtra migrants, which even after the poor socio-economic statistics, are possessing Above Poverty Line ration cards only. This deprives them of the BPL benefits, which they actually deserve. Proof of identification is necessary to access basic necessities and80% of within Maharashtra migrants do not possess such ID and proportion is higher in the non- Maharashtra group, 85% (e.g., insert Table 4 here)

Social Networks in Urban Environment among Intra and Inter- State Migrants, Nashik

Social networking is important to get a settled in a new city, the study suggests that more than 60% have relatives living in the same locality and a reference before coming to the city. Such networks definitely affect their decision to migrate and facilitate their integration into the city. Apart from such contacts, interaction with the outside world is limited due to very restricted access to television, radio and newspaper, as shown in the response Only 11% of intra state migrants have radio and read newspaper, whereas 18% of inter- state migrants have radio and 12% read newspaper.

The question whether there is presence of any community based organization in their locality, reveals that migrant localities lack any presence of civil society organizations/Non-Governmental Organizations to support and facilitate their integration and access in urban environment, as 75% of Maharashtra and 73.% non- Maharashtra migrants did not have any civil society organizations where they lived. However, membership of community based organizations such as local Ganesh Mandal, was high 46% and 30 % in Maharashtra and non- Maharashtra respectively. This may have been due to a misunderstanding of the term 'community based organizations' as membership of socio-religious local groups such as Ganapati Mandals where migrants participate in was the reason why the proportion of positive response to this question was high.

Discussion:

The study reveals that migrants to urban areas are mainly young males primarily to earn their livelihood. Women appear to migrate but less when the movement is to another state. The results of this study identifies that scheduled tribes form a high proportion of the migrants and appears to correlate to other studies highlighting the issue of distress tribe's migration. (Borhade A, 2011) This needs further examination, specifically in Maharashtra where the rates seem higher for Nashik.

Studies have shown that large scale migration from rural to urban areas has resulted in great pressure on housing and public resources in Indian cities (OECD, 2016) The results of our study appears to reinforce this finding as the majority of the migrants live in slums which are non- notified and non- regularized. They have no access to sewered drains, piped water and have poor and congested housing with poorly ventilated houses with only unclean fuel available for cooking and no access to toilets which pose serious health hazard for this group.

The basic means of food security are compromised as the migrants do not have Ration Cards and are unable to access PDS shops to get subsidized rice, wheat, etc. Despite the poor socio economic profile many non-Maharashtra migrants are excluded from the BPL category also. They do appear to have a strong social network in the destination cities in the form of relatives and village acquaintances who form the key link for their decision to move to urban environment and also for their daily sustenance. Interaction with the outside world through newspapers, television etc. is limited There is also lack of any Non-Government Organizations/ Community Based Organizations in these areas.

Our study in this area highlights issues related to language barriers, lack of appropriate information and accessibility to health and social care and the paucity of organizations to support the migrants and ensure their rights with employers, which act as barriers to improve the conditions of the migrant population. Thus, it is important to review the   policies for migrant protection and ensure appropriate interventions are put in place to improve the living conditions and support provided to them.

 Conclusion:

Internal migration in India is large and diverse. Migration goes hand in hand with growth and development but can have both costs and benefits for households and individuals as well as economies and societies. Migration needs to be facilitated through a proper development strategy and a coherent policy, so that its benefits can be maximized at all levels. *(Borhade A, 2006)*

A growth strategy which transfers large costs to the poorer migrants themselves will ultimately defeat the objectives of both growth and development. Our study shows that internal migrants in Nasik are a vulnerable group who miss out on the most basic civic amenities and social welfare programs provided by the state.

Living in single room with unhygienic surroundings, with no proper drainage system and no proper defaecation make migrant workers vulnerable to diseases. Destination places offer only poor living conditions with poor amenities. They are exposed to multiple health problems as a result of the poor living conditions and lack of knowledge of and subsequent poor utilization of social security rights. The non-Maharashtra migrants score way below the within state migrants, accentuating their case for swift intervention.

There is a need for proper information provision about their social rights and access to essential provisions. There needs to greater coordination between the source and the destination administrations to dovetail welfare schemes for this vulnerable group. The lens through which migration to cities is seen as a bane to urban environment needs to be modified and the process should be facilitated and managed for migrant's betterment. Cities need to understand the importance of the contribution of the migrants to their economic growth and ensuring the health and welfare of the migrants is an important factor in making their cities healthier and economically stronger.

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Annexures

Basic Demographics and Living Status	Total	Origin		P value
		Maharashtra	Non-Maharashtra	
Table 1: Basic Demographics of Inter-State and Intra State Migrants, Nashik				
N	**4002**	**2357**	**1645**	
Age	**4002**			
<= 20 years	549	214 (9.1)	335 (20.4)	
21 - 30 years	1837	1062 (45.1)	775 (47.1)	
31 - 40 years	993	654 (27.7)	339 (20.6)	<0.001
41 - 50 years	435	296 (12.6)	139 (8.4)	
>50 Years	188	131 (5.6)	57 (3.5)	
Gender	**4002**			
Male	2742	1440 (61.1)	1302 (79.1)	<0.001
Female	1260	917 (38.9)	343 (20.9)	
Caste/ Social Category	**4002**			
ST	1565	1106 (46.9)	459 (27.9)	<0.001
SC	754	588 (24.9)	166 (10.1)	
OBC	1079	444 (18.8)	635 (38.6)	
Others	604	219 (9.3)	385 (23.4)	
Religion	**4002**			
Hindu	3835	2341 (99.3)	1494 (90.8)	<0.001
Muslim	150	10 (0.4)	140 (8.5)	
Sikh	6	1 (0.0)	5 (0.3)	
Christian	11	5 (0.2)	6 (0.4)	

*P-values can be calculated using Chi-square test or Fisher-exact test (if number in any cell of table is <5)

Housing Characteristics	Total	Origin		P value
		Maharashtra	**Non-Maharashtra**	
N	**4002**	**2357**	**1645**	
Type of Slum	**4002**			
Notified Slums	35	24 (1.0)	11 (0.7)	<0.001
Non - Notified Slums	760	488 (20.7)	272 (16.5)	
Migrant Camps	2675	1508 (64.0)	1167 (70.9)	
Open Space	307	209 (8.9)	98 (6.0)	
Other Inhabitation	225	128 (5.4)	97 (5.9)	
Type of House	**4002**			
Squatter hut	733	527 (22.4)	206 (12.5)	<0.001
Katcha house	1664	984 (41.7)	680 (41.3)	
Semi pucca house	954	499 (21.2)	455 (27.7)	
Pucca house	395	197 (8.4)	198 (12.0)	
Open space	256	150 (6.4)	106 (6.4)	
House Ownership	**4002**			
Own house	264	197 (8.4)	67 (4.1)	
Rented	1048	601 (25.5)	447 (27.2)	<0.001
Free	2690	1559 (66.1)	1131 (68.8)	
Number of Rooms	**4002**			
1 room	3217	1928 (81.8)	1289 (78.4)	<0.001
2 rooms	710	404 (17.1)	306 (18.6)	
3 rooms	55	17 (0.7)	38 (2.3)	
4 or more rooms	20	8 (0.3)	12 (0.7)	
Separate Kitchen	**4002**			
Yes	726	390 (16.5)	336 (20.4)	0.002
No	3276	1967 (83.5)	1309 (79.6)	
Kitchen Place	**3276**			
In living room	2735	1623 (82.5)	1112 (85.0)	0.002
Open space	414	249 (12.7)	165 (12.6)	
Others	127	95 (4.8)	32 (2.4)	

*P-values can be calculated using Chi-square test or Fisher-exact test (if number in any cell of table is <5)

Access to Basic Amenities of Inter-State and Intra State Migrants, Nashik

Access to Basic Amenities	Total	Origin		P value
		Maharashtra	Non-Maharashtra	
N	**4002**	**2357**	**1645**	
Cooking Fuel	**4002**			<0.001
Gas	609	350 (14.8)	259 (15.7)	
Hearth	2032	1410 (59.8)	622 (37.8)	
Kerosine	1179	480 (20.4)	699 (42.5)	
Others	182	117 (5.0)	65 (4.0)	
Source of Portable Water	**4002**			
Piped water in the house	710	306 (13.0)	404 (24.6)	<0.001
Hand pump	619	293 (12.4)	326 (19.8)	
Public tap	1858	1138 (48.3)	720 (43.8)	
Tanker truck	48	43 (1.8)	5 (0.3)	
Others	767	577 (24.5)	190 (11.6)	
Separate Toilet	**4002**			
Yes	744	338 (14.3)	406 (24.7)	<0.001
No	3258	2019 (85.7)	1239 (75.3)	
Place of Defecation	**3258**			
Community toilet	1379	766 (37.9)	613 (49.5)	<0.001
Mobile toilets	12	7 (0.3)	5 (0.4)	
Open fields	1867	1246 (61.7)	621 (50.1)	
Drainage	**4002**			
Open drain	256	126 (5.3)	130 (7.9)	<0.001
Closed drain	1691	873 (37.0)	818 (49.7)	
No drainage	2055	1358 (57.6)	697 (42.4)	
Electricity Connection	**4002**			
Metered Connection	2756	1466 (62.2)	1290 (78.4)	<0.001
Drawn from street lights	119	64 (2.7)	55 (3.3)	
No Electricity	1127	827 (35.1)	300 (18.2)	
Possession of Ration Card	**4002**			
Yes	578	411 (17.4)	167 (10.2)	<0.001
No	3424	1946 (82.6)	1478 (89.8)	
Type of Ration Card	**578**			
Have that meant for BPL	329	243 (59.1)	86 (51.5)	0.238
Have that meant for APL	242	163 (39.7)	79 (47.3)	
Have other type of card	7	5 (1.2)	2 (1.2)	
Possession of voter ID	**4002**			
Have voter ID	733	490 (20.8)	243 (14.8)	<0.001
No voter ID	3269	1867 (79.2)	1402 (85.2)	

*P-values can be calculated using Chi-square test or Fisher-exact test (if number in any cell of table is <5)

Social Networking	Total	Origin		P value
		Maharashtra	**Non-Maharashtra**	
N	**4002**	**2357**	**1645**	
Social Networks				
Have relatives in the city	**4002**			
Yes	2599	1601 (67.9)	998 (60.7)	<0.001
No	1403	756 (32.1)	647 (39.3)	
Relatives lives	**2599**			
In same locality	2007	1188 (74.2)	819 (82.1)	<0.001
In other locality	592	413 (25.8)	179 (17.9)	
Have people in the locality from their native place	**4002**			
Yes	2413	1430 (60.7)	983 (59.8)	0.583
No	1589	927 (39.3)	662 (40.2)	
Community Based Organization	**4002**			
Yes	401	209 (8.9)	192 (11.7)	0.009
No	2965	1757 (74.5)	1208 (73.4)	
Don't Know	636	391 (16.6)	245 (14.9)	
Member of any CBO	**401**			
Yes	154	96 (45.9)	58 (30.2)	0.002
No	247	113 (54.1)	134 (69.8)	
Communication Channel				
TV : Possesses TV	**4002**			
Yes	1155	701 (29.7)	454 (27.6)	0.151
No	2847	1656 (70.3)	1191 (72.4)	
Radio : Possesses Radio	**4002**			
Yes	537	240 (10.2)	297 (18.1)	
No	3465	2117 (89.8)	1348 (81.9)	<0.001
Newspaper	**4002**			
Yes	445	249 (10.6)	196 (11.9)	0.198
No	3557	2108 (89.4)	1449 (88.1)	

Table 4:

Social Networking amongst Inter-State and Intra State Migrants, Nashik

*P-values can be calculated using Chi-square test or Fisher-exact test (if number in any cell of table is <5)