CHAPTER: MIGRATION

Types, Causes and Consequences

**Points to remember:**
1. **During colonial period (British period)** millions of Indians labourers were sent to countries such as Mauritius, Caribbean islands, Fiji and South Africa by British from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar to work as plantation workers.
2. **In the 20th century** semi-skilled Indians migrated to the neighbouring countries such as Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Brunei and African countries as artisans, traders and factory workers.
3. **In recent times,** professionals like doctors, engineers, software engineers, management consultants, financial experts, media persons, migrated to countries such as USA, Canada, UK, Australia, New Zealand and Germany, etc. These professional are highly educated, the highest paid.
4. Data on Migration was first recorded in the first Census of India conducted in 1881. This data were recorded on the basis of place of birth.
5. Life-time migrant means if the place of birth is different from the place of enumeration.
6. Migrant by place of last residence means if the place of last residence is different from the place of enumeration.
7. Intra-state (within the state) migration is largest in India.
8. Most of immigrants in India have come from Bangladesh.
9. Maharashtra has received maximum net in-migrants.
10. Net out-migrants are from Uttar Pradesh.
12. Majority of male migrate due to work and employment reasons.
13. Majority of female migrate due to marriage reasons.

**Q.1** Which type of information on migration is asked in the census of India?
**Ans.** The census of India records four types of information on:
   i. Place of birth i.e. village or town
   ii. Duration of residence (stay) at the place of enumeration.
   iii. Place of last residence.
   iv. Reasons for migration from place of last residence.

**Q.2** Which are the two bases of enumeration of migration in the census of India?
**Ans.** In the Census of India migration is enumerated on two bases:
   (i) **Life-time migrant:** OR (place of birth) if the place of birth is different from the place of enumeration. (30% of total population).
   (ii) **Migrant by place of last residence** OR (Place of residence): if the place of last residence is different from the place of enumeration. (31% of total pop.)

**STREAMS OF MIGRATION**

**Q.3** Name four streams of internal migration in India.
Ans. Four streams are identified under the internal migration:
(a) Rural to rural (R-R);
(b) Rural to urban (R-U);
(c) Urban to urban (U-U); and
(d) Urban to rural (U-R).

Q.4 Explain the difference between the streams of the intra-state and inter-state migration in India.
Ans. The differences between the intra-state and inter-state migration are:
(i) Intra-state migrants are larger than inter-state migrants, i.e. people prefer to migrate within the state.
(ii) Intra-state migration is dominated by female migrants whereas inter-state migration is dominated by male migrants.
(iii) Female migrants due to the reasons of marriage whereas male migrants due to the economic reasons.
(iv) Females prefer short distance rural to rural migration whereas male migrate to long distance rural to urban regions.

Q.5 Name the countries from where people have migrated to India.
Ans. India has also experienced immigration from the neighbouring countries. In 2001 more than 5 million people have migrated to India from other countries.
(i) Most of them (96 per cent) came from the neighbouring countries such as Bangladesh, Pakistan and Nepal.
(ii) Refugees from Tibet, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran, and Myanmar have also come to India.

SPATIAL VARIATION IN MIGRATION

Q.6 Describe the spatial variations in the migration in India.
Ans. The internal migration varies from state to state.
1. Maharashtra, Delhi, Gujarat and Haryana have largest numbers of net in-migrants.
   (These states attract migrants from other states).
2. Largest numbers of out-migrants are from states such as Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.
3. Among the urban agglomeration (UA), Greater Mumbai received the higher number of in-migrants.
4. Intra-state in-migrants are largest in Greater Mumbai.

CAUSES/REASONS OF MIGRATION IN INDIA

Q.7 Explain the push and pull factors of migration of people in India.
Ans. People leave their places of birth and residence due to many reasons. These reasons can be put into two broad categories:
(i) **Push factor**: these cause people to leave their place of residence or origin;
   a. People leave their place of residence due to poverty, high population pressure on the land, lack of basic infrastructural facilities like health care, education.
   b. Apart from these factors, natural disasters such as, flood, drought, cyclonic storms, earthquake, tsunami, wars and local conflicts also give extra push to migrate.
(ii) **Pull factors**, factors which attract the people from different places.
   a. These are the better job opportunities, availability of regular work and relatively higher wages.
Q.8 Explain the difference in the reasons for migration of males and females in India.

Ans. The reasons for migration for males and females are different in India.

(i) Majority of male (38%) in India migrates due to Work and employment reasons whereas only 3 per cent of female migrated due to this reason.

(ii) Due to this reason Males dominate migration in urban areas.

(iii) Majority of female (68%) migrate due to reasons of marriage whereas it is only 2% for male migration.

(iv) Due to this reason Females dominate migration in the rural areas of India.

CONSEQUENCES OF MIGRATION

Q.9 Explain the Economic consequences of migration of people in India.

Ans. There are positive and negative economic consequences of migrations.

1. Positive consequences:
   i. The remittance (payments) sent by migrants to their homes help in the growth of economy of the region.
   ii. This money is mainly used by the family for purchasing food, repayment of debts, medical treatment, marriages, children’s education, purchasing agricultural inputs, construction of houses, etc.
   iii. Many poor villages of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, depend on this money for their survival.
   iv. Similarly remittances from the international Indian migrants are one of the major sources of foreign exchange in India. In 2002, India received US$ 11 billion as remittances from these people.
   v. States such as Punjab, Kerala and Tamil Nadu receive very large amount of money from their international migrants.

b. Migration of people from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, to the rural areas of Punjab, Haryana, has resulted in the success of green revolution and agricultural development in Punjab and Haryana.

2. Negative consequences:
   a. Unregulated migration to the metropolitan cities of India has caused overcrowding.
   b. Development of slums in industrially developed states such as Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Delhi is the result of unregulated migration.
   c. The under-development gets even worse due to out migration of skilled people.

Q.10 Explain the Demographic consequences of migration of people in India.

Ans. There are positive and negative demographic consequences of migrations.

1. Positive consequences:
   a. Migration leads to the redistribution of the population within a country.
   b. It results in balanced distribution of people according to resources.
   c. Rural-urban migration is one of the important factors contributing to the population growth of cities.

2. Negative consequences:
   a. It results in imbalances in sex composition due to selective male or female migration. Large cities have unfavourable sex ratio as compared to rural areas due to high male immigration.
   b. Rural areas face shortage of skilled people because most of skilled and semi-skilled people migrate to urban areas.
Q.11 Explain the **Social consequences** of migration of people in India.
Ans. There are positive and negative social consequences of migrations.

1. Positive consequences:
   a. Migrants act as agents of social change. The new ideas related to new technologies, family planning, girl’s education, etc. get spread from urban to rural areas through them.
   b. Migration also leads to intermixing of people from diverse cultures and results in the evolution of composite culture.
   c. The mind set of people changes. They start thinking broadly and the narrow views changes.

2. Negative consequences:
   a. It also causes anonymity, which creates social vacuum and sense of dejection among individuals.
   b. Continued feeling of dejection may motivate people to fall in the trap of anti-social activities like crime and drug abuse.
   c. Migration affects the women more. In the rural areas, male selective out migration leaving their wives behind puts extra physical as well mental pressure on the women which increases their vulnerability.

Q.12 Explain the **Environmental consequences** of migration of people in India.
Ans. There are environmental consequences of migrations.

a. Overcrowding of people due to rural-urban migration has put pressure on the existing social and physical infrastructure in the urban areas.

b. This ultimately leads to unplanned growth of urban settlement and formation of slums shanty colonies.

c. Apart from this, due to over-exploitation of natural resources, cities are facing the acute problem of depletion of ground water, air pollution, and disposal of sewage and management of solid wastes.