Managing Migrations with Digital Empowerment for Sustainable Development

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Abstract

Migration leads to the movement of inhabitants to find work while the development is advanced industrial growth. A qualitative cum subjective research analysis is presented to illustrate factors responsible for migrations and to focus upon its developmental outcomes. Primeval history of different types of migrations based on Indian ethos has been cited with the recent example of pandemic spread of COVID-19 across states. The problems of immigrants are concerning the entire business world. In migration, people move from their native place to a new place or country for livelihood and better career perspective abroad, irrespective of their demographic constructs such as their country of origin, religion, age, gender, marital status, and nature of profession whether skilled, unskilled artisans, casual labors, medicos, engineers and scientists, etc. in order to increase their wealth, to develop themselves and becomes more advanced and also for strengthening country's economy and growth. The digital empowerment initiatives seem to be the only workable solution required to fix accountability, to control the corruption and to establish the balance between growth and distribution network through the use of present available and future resources and to develop the trained and committed professionals to ensure consistent growth in order to provide a joyful and hassle free working environment, corruption free work culture in the country to fulfill the government responsibility of providing an easy, clean and transparent work culture to the citizens, where all the people of our country can live and work together fearlessly from the present era of living and working anxiously.

Keywords

Covid-19, Good governance, Migrant laborers, Social inclusion, and Sustainable development.

1. Prelude

Today the development has become a key factor in ranking emerging economies, while its outcomes can be directly linked with issues related to the migration. The known history of forced migrations along with ten number of case based factors found responsible were exemplified for academic purpose only. These were related to survival guilt and steep ignorance of migrant laborers, partition, livelihood, demographic, regional, fear, political and were legal in nature. To measure the developmental outcomes that crop up due to migration has been linked with sustainable development of the country's economic growth. The digital empowerment initiatives utilizing the latest technologies are the innovative workable solutions required to be adapted for paying immediate attention to the inland migrant laborers problems to concentrate on achieving the sustainable developmental outcomes of the nation.

2. Theoretical Discussions

Cambridge dictionary defines Migration as the process by which people travelling at a new place to live, usually in large numbers or being moved from one place to another to a new place or country in order to find work and live there temporarily or permanently. Development is cited as a process in which someone or something grows or changes and becomes more advanced it is defined as the organized increase of a country's industry and wealth in terms of its economy, it is also termed as the process of producing plan, idea, improvement of a skill, ability, and quality, of its human resources (Adapted from https://dictionary.cambridge.org/).

3. Qualitative Discussions

It is an established fact that Qualitative research is an umbrella term used to describe ways of studying perceptions, experiences or behaviors through their verbal or visual expressions, actions or writings, whereas Qualitative e-research is an umbrella term used to describe methodological traditions for using information and communication technologies to study perceptions, experiences, or behaviors through their verbal or visual expressions, actions, or writings (Janet Salmons,

2016). In traditional qualitative research the data is collected through observation, document analysis, archival and narrative research or through discourse analysis while in e-qualitative research it involves Interviews, Observations, and Document or archival analysis using available online methods. The same methodology has been utilized.

4. Case-Based Discussions

To establish that there exists a direct relationship between migration and development outcomes, ten case-based examples are selected to discuss the theoretical part behind the theme of the subject for its qualitative analysis for academic purpose only.

4.1 Historical Factor

The known history of migration in Arabic literature is described as Hijrat and origin of World Hijri Calendar is a momentous example cited for the development of a religion of Islam across the globe from the arid deserts of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia which clearly specifies and establishes that there exist a direct relationship between the act of migration of people and its resulted developmental outcomes in terms of growth of religion, trade, business, and economic wealth of a particular community, party, industry, region of a country as a whole.

4.2 Pandemic Factor

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic from the city of Wuhan in China is one of the most perfect examples of recent times to understand the direct relationship between migration and development outcomes across the globe. The top ten affected countries out of 192 regions with 11,37,46,166 global cases and 25,24,133 global deaths are the USA, India 1,10,79,979 cases 1,56,938 deaths, Brazil, Russia, United Kingdome, France, Spain, Italy, Turkey, and Germany (Retrieved from https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html, on 28/02/2021, 07.53 AM).

4.3 Migrant Laborers Factor

Possibilities of the spread of the deadly virus from tens of thousands of Migrant Laborers, who migrated after first lockdown announcement by the Govt, to their native adjoining states on barefoot in the fight against hunger from East Delhi, Anand Vihar

Terminus in search of life at home, cannot be ruled out? The inland migrant laborers were again found gathered in huge numbers at Bandra Terminus Mumbai, Surat, Gandhi Nagar, Ahmadabad, and Hyderabad on 14 April 2020, after the second lockdown was declared for returning to their native places to fight against acute hunger by defying prohibitory lock down orders, in hope that they will return home safely if rail transport resumes from tonight. The fear of death by hunger due to lack of work and wedges at work place of migrated cities of their own country of origin was mainly responsible for forcing them to return back to their native place by any means in search of life at home by defying the threat of life due to pandemic spread of COVID-19.

4.4 Partition Factor

An archaic example in the Indian context is undoubtedly the unfortunate partition of India on 14 August, 1947. The world has witnessed one of the biggest migrations from the Asian sub continent, where people migrated from both countries to each other's land as per their faith and choice in pursuit of their overall development issues. Similarly, the other prehistoric examples of migration of people were reported between North America, Western Europe, Oceania, Gulf Co-operation Council Nations and Developed parts of East and South-East Asia (McKinsey Global Institute Report, Oct. 2016).

4.5 Livelihood Factor

Brain Drain is also a perfect example of migration and development outcome issues, one can find Indian IT professionals, medicos, engineers, and scientist across the American, European and Australian subcontinents, while Indian origin businessmen can be prominently seen in the African and commonwealth countries and the unskilled laborers and artisans work force are generally found migrating to the gulf countries in search of their livelihood and better career prospects abroad. Other top listed international migration corridors are Mexico-US, Russian Federation-Ukraine, Russian Federation-Kazakhstan, China-Hong Kong, Syria-Turkey, Syria-Lebanon, Myanmar-Thailand, Palestine-Jordan, India-Kuwait, and India- Saudi Arabia (World Economic Forum Report, Oct. 2017).

4.6 Demographic Factor

Demographic factors are also responsible for initiating migration within the country as it is pertinently noticed in the peoples of North Eastern Region that they develop an inherent character to migrate to Delhi-NCR in search of better career prospects, for fulfilling their higher education, advance sports related coaching, up skill training and employment needs irrespective of their gender and marital status due to better facilities, infrastructure, connectivity, career, working environment and higher pay and emolument structures (Mohammad Iqbal, 2019).

4.7 Regional Factor

The long pending issues of Migrant Kashmiri Pundit's and the revocation of Article 370, on 05 August 2019, for the overall development of Jammu, Kashmir, and Laddakh regions also establishes a direct relationship between migration of people and development outcomes. (Adapted from, the Gazette of India, 2019).

4.8 Fear Factor

Migration due to fear has also been reported in India during 2014-2016, and owing to its significance, it was described by Wikipedia as Kairana and Kandhla Migration Controversy (also known as Kairana-Exodus), where due to some religious controversy few hundred families of this village situated in the Shamli District of UP near Delhi-NCR, migrated out of fear. This migration initiated a very strong political development outcome in the country's political scenario. This proves that there exists, a direct relationship between migration of people and its development outcomes (https://wikipedia .org).

4.9 Political Factor

A political trend, which is prevailing nowadays where large number of elected people representatives of lower or upper houses of a political party migrates for affiliation to another political party and as a result of this development, the new government takes over the administration of the state or parliament as witnessed recently in cases of change of guards in the states of MP and earlier in Karnataka, in both cases Hon. Supreme Court of India has to

intervene to establish the rule of law. These types of political migrations also prove that there exists a direct relationship between migration and development outcomes (https://sci.gov.in).

4.10 Legal Factor

The enactment of the CAA-2019 Bill by the Parliament of India on 11 Dec 2019 to facilitate the migration of persecuted minorities of specific communities of other neighboring countries and the National Register of Citizenship exercise which was carried out in the Assam under the supervision of Hon Supreme Court of India was aimed to actually identify the permanently settled Bangladeshi Migrants in the region, hampering the development of actual native citizens of Assam also proves the relationship between migration and development outcomes (Adapted from, the Gazette of India, 2019).

5. Literature Survey and Related Discussions

Development is an organized increase of a country's industry and wealth in terms of its economy. Resulted developmental due to migration has to be systematically assessed. The governance is a method of decision making and good governance is the process by which good decision can be put into the system (Sheng, Yap Kioe, 2013). Thus a good governance system focusing on digital empowerment has to be adopted to monitor the sustainable development. In absence of any such system in place, implementing the uniform policies and codes within the organizations will be quite difficult, thus it is necessary to measure the sustainability of developmental outcomes stimulated due to migration of people. The good governance system with eight prominent characteristics of accountability, consensus, efficiency, equity, participation, responsiveness, Rule of Law, and transparency, can improve the process of administration as it is in the proportion of corruption. If there is less corruption, of course, there will be good governance (World Bank Development Report, 1989). In working together to build stronger communities by implementing effective and sound good governance systems, the present challenges faced in the service delivery sector can be significantly reduced up to a greater extent (GDN Publication, 2011).

The administration is a process of decision making and good governance is the processes by which good decision can be implemented. It influences the overall design, procedures and operational techniques of the administration. The digitally empowered system can mutually control corruptions, reinforces accountability, and is capable of establishing a balance between growth and distribution network by use of present and future available resources required for monitoring sustainable development. Nations that persist with bad governance will have to tolerate with the slower growth and private players' involvements in the infrastructure development area will require more accountability and transparency (Emerging Asia: Changes and Challenges, 1989). Thus implementing digitally empowered public policies for managing forced migrations is inevitable for achieving the nation's development.

6. Implementing Digitally Empowered Public Policies for Migrants

We must understand the inland migrant laborers problems and provide effective remedies by Implementing digitally empowered public policies through proper care and courtesy, initiative and innovations, integrity and transparency, showing promptness and perfection, by devotion and dedication towards our duties. Every government servant must be committed to respect the rights of their masters i.e. every respectable citizens and peoples of their country, whether residents or migrants to provide a joyful and hassle-free working environment, corruption-free work culture to provide an easy, clean and transparent working environment. Thus Implementation of digitally empowered public policies has become inevitable to reduce the number of public complaints, personal grievances leading to an increase in PIL. Implementing good governance system in a planned manner will provide clean working environment, built corruption-free employees, and develop a highly transparent service culture as per ethical standards of the good governance systems. It will ensure zero public complaints and will provide a hassle-free work culture in the country (Mohammad Iqbal, 2015). Therefore all service delivery managers are provided with innovative hands on experiences on the latest digital transformational technologies (Geoffrey Cann et al, 2019) to achieve excellence in enhancing efficient, prompt, courteous, and selfless service delivery to

the public for improving their performances by implementing digitally empowered public policies to achieve the sustainable development of the nation in terms of its economic growth.

6.1 Visualizing Future Comprehensive Possibilities for Migrants

The recent example of migrant laborers gathering, noticed after lockdown, in the cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Surat, Ahmadabad, Gandhi Nagar, Jaipur, Hyderabad, Chennai, parts of Punjab and UP where tens of thousands of migrant casual laborers from Bihar, Odhisa, WB, UP and Andhra got stranded without food and shelter as fear of death due to hunger.

It has forced them to migrate back to their native place in search of life, and they started to leave barefoot, empty stomach with family by putting their luggage on the head, bearing the true load of life, and defied the fear of death due to Covid-19. Lessons from these types of painful incidents must therefore be seriously taken up by the policy makers, regulators, economists, labor reformers, and specially business researchers in order to provide harmonious solutions.

6.2 Solving Problems of Migrants

Solving Inland Migrant Laborers Problem is the sole responsibility of the Govt. Migrants basic rights has to be protected in the interest of the nation and bare minimum facilities like food, pure drinking water, shelter, health care, wedges, and day today sundry livelihood expenses must be taken care of. To start with Social Welfare Department of State Govt. shall initiate a mandatory digital registration procedure for all migrants at every Revenue District, Tehsil Head Quarter and at every Gram Panchayat Level, where each and every type of migrants irrespective of their monthly income, profession, and origin of states get registered with their present local occupation, local address and local contact details so that they can be easily evacuated in case of any emergency through contact tracing and financial mapping methodologies to provide every possible relief in disastrous types of situations to save them from dying due to acute hunger and starvation as noticed in the aftermath of lockdown, where migrant laborers were left with no choice but to die either by hunger or by COVID-19. Issues related to

providing Social, Health and Emotional Securities to all affected migrants must be addressed by the policy makers and Govt. agencies like NITI Ayog, RBI, Town Planners, DMs, CMOs, Labor Commissioners, Employment Exchange Executives, DSOs and PDS Authorities, instantaneously by taking suo-motu cognizance in the larger interest of the nation.

6.3 Encouraging Digital Mode of Payments for Migrants

These digitally registered migrants must be advised to give at least their local address and local contacts and their personal bank accounts of their home branch along with their permanent residence identification details so that they can be provided financial help, shelter, food, water, essential life-saving drugs, ambulances, etc and can be rescued during a pandemic, disaster, flood, tsunami and fire and explosion types of situations in the region, where they are presently lodged by the local district authorities. They must be motivated for enrollment to direct benefit transfer schemes of the Govt. using their native place bank account details and at the same time, they must be appropriately trained to use the digital mode of payments by encouraging the use of ATM Debit Card, Kisan Card, and Rupay Credit Cards, etc.

6.4 Providing Basic Civic Facilities to Migrants

The mandatory digital registration of migrants at their new place of work city as suggested must get them eligible to use free health facilities, free public toilets and baths, and free night stay at shelter homes, free clean drinking water, free electricity units, free DTH facilities, free incoming voice call and free data usage facilities up to some bandwidth or free Wi-Fi facility, free city bus transportation where they are presently residing. For the BPL category of migrants free ration through PDS and free LPG gas cylinders, free pathological test facilities, free family planning facilities, free menstrual and dental hygiene kits, free post-pregnancy and delivery expenses, free immunization and vaccination to their new borns and free school admission, free tuition and hostel fees for their children, free municipal crematory facility to perform last rites of any deceased family members at the migrated place.

6.5 Protecting Basic Rights of Migrants

As inland migrant laborers are also the respectable citizens of our country and to protect their rights as migrants, save them from death due to hunger, starvation, pandemic, pollution and other disastrous situations are the constitutional duties of the state and at the same time it is a prime responsibility of every citizen of our country to extend every possible help to save the life of fellow citizens at the time of crisis. To cater the expenses for the welfare of migrants, special provisions in the annual budget may be made under eradication of poverty head, Tax Payers money up to some extent may be used, and proactive services of SHG and NGOs may be explored, Community Kitchen services like of Gurudwara's Lungar, Temple's Bhandara and Akshaya Patra Foundation's Mid-day Meals types of arrangements may be planned by engaging Asha workers of all the Aganwadee Kendras of the country on the pattern of Amma's Kitchen, as initiated by the Tamil Nadu Govt. for feeding people in need during disastrous situations, which was witnessed in the country during the series of lockdowns.

7. Conclusion and Recommendations

In order to achieve sustainable development goals, it is advisable to seriously resolve the migrant laborers problems first, as qualitatively it has been proved that migration is directly related to the developmental outcomes and migrants are the only available human resource to execute the developmental work required for industrial, agricultural and financial growth Thus it can be finally concluded that operational effectiveness and superior performance in the infrastructure development required for sustainable development can be very well achieved through managing migrant laborers by offering variety of services to them through digital platform by implementing better public policies for their social inclusion. Digital empowerment initiatives, to name a few like CC, IA, ICT, IIOT, IOT, IT, ITBPM, ITES, ML, VR and instantaneous communication technologies like 5G, High Speed Networking, Digital Reality, Digital Analytics, Robotics, Bioinformatics, 3D Printing, Sensor and Autonomous Technology, Digitalized ERP, Gamification Technologies, Remote Sensing Technologies, Intelligent Geo Spatial Data Analysis and Block Chain Analysis or combination of these real time Hybrid and Nano

Based Data Science Technologies can certainly provide workable solutions required for attaining Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Therefore, it is recommended to significantly improve our monitoring system and implement better public policies on digital platforms by understanding core principles of good governance systems for effectively managing the challenges ahead and to focus on the emerging problem of inland migrant laborers to create basic awareness amongst them, by implementing digitally empowered public policies in the larger interest of the nation's development as adopted by the other emerging economies.

8. Disclaimer

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