

Migration

Migration is a way to move from one place to another in order to live and work. Movement of people from their home to another city, state or country for a job, shelter or some other reasons is called migration. Migration from rural areas to urban areas has increased in past few years in India.

Migrants

People who move from one place to another in search of work or shelter are called *migrants*. Most of the times migrants people are not skilled or educated therefore they usually employed as daily wagers (*workers who are paid at the end of each day, for their services*). Daily wagers do not get enough [money](#) for the survival of their families and suffering from many problems such as they do not have enough [food](#) to eat, sanitation, [hygiene](#), a proper place to live etc.

Impacts of Migration

Migration is becoming a very important subject for the [life of cities](#). Many opportunities and attraction of big cities pull large numbers of people to big cities. Migration can have positive as well as negative effects on the life of the migrants.

Positive Impact

- [Unemployment](#) is reduced and people get better job opportunities.
- Migration helps in improving the quality of life of people.

- It helps to improve social life of people as they learn about new culture, **customs**, and languages which helps to improve brotherhood among people.
- Migration of skilled workers leads to a greater **economic growth** of the region.
- Children get better opportunities for higher **education**.
- The **population density** is reduced and the birth rate decreases.

Negative Impact

- The loss of a person from rural areas, impact on the level of output and development of rural areas.
- The influx of workers in urban areas increases competition for the job, houses, school facilities etc.
- Having large population puts too much pressure on **natural resources**, amenities and **services**.
- It is difficult for a villager to survive in urban areas because in urban areas there is no **natural environment** and pure air. They have to pay for each and everything.
- Migration changes the population of a place, therefore, the distribution of the population is uneven in India.
- Many migrants are completely illiterate and uneducated, therefore, they are not only unfit for most jobs, but also lack basic knowledge and life skills.
- Poverty makes them unable to live a normal and healthy life.

- Children growing up in poverty have no access to proper nutrition, education or health.
 - Migration increased the slum areas in cities which increase many problems such as unhygienic conditions, crime, [pollution](#) etc.
 - Sometimes migrants are exploited.
 - Migration is one of the main causes of increasing nuclear family where children grow up without a wider family circle.
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Significance of Migration:

- Labour Demand and Supply: Migration fills gaps in demand for and supply of labor, efficiently allocates skilled labor, unskilled labor, and cheap labor.
- Skill Development: Migration enhances the knowledge and skills of migrants through exposure and interaction with the outside world.
- Quality of Life: Migration enhances chances of employment and economic prosperity which in turn improves quality of life. The migrants also send extra income and remittance back home, thereby positively impacting their native place.
- Economic Remittances: Economic well being of migrants provides insurance against risks to households in the areas of origin, increases consumer expenditure and investment in health, education and assets formation.

- **Social Remittances:** Migration helps to improve the social life of migrants, as they learn about new cultures, customs, and languages which helps to improve brotherhood among people and ensures greater equality and tolerance.
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Challenges Related to Migration

1. **Issues faced by Marginalised Sections:** The people who are economically rich and sociologically accepted widely (such as upper caste in India or white in the Western countries) find it quite easier to move and get easily accepted into other societies.

Whereas the people who are poor or belong to a marginalised section do not find it as easy to get into many of these countries and even if they get, they might not be able to mix up.

2. **Socio- and Psycho-logical Aspects:** Many times, the host countries do not easily accept the migrants and they always remain as a second class citizen. So, the confidence level of interaction is also affected.

Any person migrating to a new country faces multiple challenges, from cultural adaptation and language barriers to homesickness and loneliness.

3. **Exclusion from Political Rights and Social Benefits:** Migrant workers are deprived of many opportunities to exercise their political rights like the right to vote. Moreover, the need to provide proof of address, ration

cards, Voter IDs and Aadhaar cards, which is difficult due to the fluidity of their lives, deprive them from accessing welfare schemes and policies.

Causes of migration

There are many different reasons why migration occurs. Let's take a look at the 'push and pull factor' idea, a helpful way of understanding the movement of migrants.

Push factors are the things going on in their place of residence that make people want to leave. Pull factors are those which attract people to a place.

Push factors for migration include:

- Extreme weather (droughts, which can affect things like agriculture).
- Lack of economic or social opportunities (work, school).
- Lack of safety - (war, the threat to life, persecut

Pull factors for migration include:

- Improved job or economic opportunities (income, skills).
 - Better healthcare
 - Equality (gender)
 - Better political conditions (stability).
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Consequence of Migration:

The consequence of migration may be economic, social, political and demographic.

1. Social effects of migration:

Let's take a look at the many social effects of migration:

(a) Culture and diversity:

Migration can increase the cultural diversity of a host country, as an introduction of a new culture can bring a whole new market of products and services that were not available in the host country prior to the arrival of migrants. Migration in this sense, can have very positive impacts on the host nation. However there can be negative impacts for the migrants themselves, for example, there can be a significant loss of cultural norms, as they may be entering a host country that has a completely different way of societal living than their origin country.

(b) Assimilation:

Assimilation is the integration of migrants into their host country. This occurs naturally, at different rates, and over a long period of time. Assimilation rates are affected by many different factors, such as the level of similarity between migrants and local people or perhaps the existence of tensions between migrants and local groups.

Social consequences of migration

Let's take a look at some of the social consequences of migration:

(a) Cultural clash

Migrants may have entirely different cultural values or characteristics to those of a host nation. When there are differences between the host and the origin country, tensions may build up between them. This is often called a cultural clash or cultural conflict.

(b) Discrimination

International migration may create spaces for discrimination. Migrants may have a different ethnicity, religious practice, or cultural characteristics from their host nation, or there may be language barriers, which can sometimes cause migrants to be discriminated against in every aspect of their everyday lives, either directly or indirectly.

(c) Segregation

Segregation divides people up due to their differences.

Let's take a look at ethnicity and race. Unlike race, ethnicity is not necessarily connected to biological traits and more often refers to cultural background. For example, Latin Americans are an ethnic group, as they share a common cultural background, but within Latin America, there are people from different races (White, Black, East Asian, Indigenous and Mixed). When international migration occurs, migrants may face racial or ethnic segregation,

which may occur in different forms. In large urban areas, there often exists designated neighbourhoods for different ethnicities. This can happen due to migrants being treated differently, affecting their access to certain types of housing, or if local populations make active choices to live away from migrant groups. Segregation may also happen because it is attractive for migrants to live in spaces with people who have similar cultural characteristics.

Negative attitudes toward migrants, fueled by racism and discriminatory beliefs, can also have a negative impact on policies in the host nation. Brexit, for example. Negative attitudes towards migrants influenced many people to vote for leave, to reduce the number of migrants entering the UK.

(d) Smuggling and human trafficking

The process of international migration is often complicated, and immigration laws can be very strict. This can lead potential migrants to hire the services of illegal immigration officers, commonly known as smugglers or coyotes. Due to the illegality of their services, there is no guarantee the migration process is safe.

Human trafficking is something different to smuggling. Human trafficking occurs when people (migrants, but human trafficking also happens domestically) are forced into undertaking unpaid forced labour, or sex work, for example. Human trafficking may also occur as a result of smuggling if they are held captive or are forced to work to pay off the often expensive smuggling fees², but this isn't always the case..

Political consequences of migration:

There are multiple political consequences that result from migration, but first let's get a better understanding of some commonly misused words:

An asylum seeker is a person who has fled a country due to a threat to their security, but has yet to be granted confirmation of refugee status. Being granted refugee status isn't always guaranteed.

A refugee is a person who has left their home country due to a threat to their security.

International borders and asylum seekers

International borders are not always well-defined. Some territories share border control authorities from different countries, and this can cause conflict. Regarding migration, it becomes unclear who is responsible for the migrant movement.

Disadvantages of migration

There are disadvantages of migration, for both the host country and country of origin.

2. Human Capital Flight and economic development:

With international migration, origin countries often lose large proportions of the highly skilled workforce. Developing countries, such as [India](#), suffer from the loss of this highly trained workforce, due to migration. This is called Human Capital Flight or Brain drain, which negatively impacts economic growth.

After a migrant has entered their host country, they may send part of their income back to their origin country. This is called remittance. [India](#), for example, receives around 80 billion US dollars per year from remittances (2.7% of their total Gross Domestic Product (GDP)). Despite the fact that most of these workers will still send remittances back to their origin country, these remittances aren't enough to deal with the economic impact of this human capital flight, which can impact the development levels of the origin country.

3. Population and demographic changes:

International migration can affect the population and demographics of both host and origin countries. Through migration, the population in the host country increases. This can increase pressure on public services, as more people are using or needing them.

With Human Capital Flight and Brain Drain, it tends to be the younger population leaving to seek better opportunities elsewhere. This leaves behind an increasingly elderly population in the origin country, and with a growing younger population in the host country.

Q.1. what are the social consequences of migration?

Answer: The social consequences of migration are Cultural Clash, Segregation, Discrimination and Human Trafficking.

Q.2. what are the economic consequences of migration?

Answer: The economic consequences of migration are Human Capital Flight, Brain Drain and Remittances.

Q.3. what are the positive and negative consequences of migration?

Answer: Migration may be positive for host countries as they increase their young working population and cultural diversity. For origin countries, they may benefit from remittances.

Migration may be negative for origin countries due to Brain Drain, and the loss of young people. Migration can also cause other problems, such as Segregation, Cultural Clash, Discrimination and Human Trafficking.

Q.4. what are 3 effects of migration?

Ans: Here are 3 effects of migration (though there are many more!)

Increase in cultural diversity for host country.

Brain Drain for origin country.

Political tensions at borders regarding refugees and asylum seekers.

Q.5. what are the consequences of migration in India?

Economic and population consequences in the form of brain drain/human capital flight, meaning reduced economic growth, and loss of skilled and younger workforce. Remittance payments make up 2.7% of India's GDP.

Q.6. What are the economic consequences of migration?

Answer: The economic consequences of migration are economic, social, demographic and political.

Q.7. what are forms of migration?

Answer: Migration may occur internally, when people move from one place to another within the same country, or internationally when people move from one country to another.

Q.8. what are remittances?

Answer: Remittances are the money migrants send back to their home country to help their family members.

Q.9. How important are remittances for countries' economies?

Answer: Many countries benefit highly from remittances. India is the one that benefits the most receiving about 80 billion US dollars per year (2.7% of their total GDP).

Q.10. what defines culture?

Answer: Culture is defined as the complex system that comprises shared beliefs, values and traditions. This extends to food, music, religion, art, dress and language. This interchange of culture between host and source country can be either positive or negative.

Q.11. How does ethnicity differ from race?

Answer: Race is generally attributed to ancestry and phenotypical traits. Whereas, ethnicity is about cultural background. For example, Latin Americans are an ethnic group as they share a common cultural background, but within Latin America, there are people from different races (White, Black, East Asian, Indigenous and mixed).

Q.12. what is assimilation?

Answer: Assimilation is understood as the integration and adaptation of migrants in the host country culture.
