

Causes of Internal Migration in India: Based on NSSO Data

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Abstract

In a country like India, the study of migration is very crucial because India is one of the most diversified country in the world at the same time witnessing large number of internal migration. The detailed studies related to internal migration in India are few in number so the lack of a comprehensive picture of internal migration plays a challenge to the authorities in policy making. There are so many theoretical works that connect the development and migration and it is empirically proven that underdevelopment is one of the causes of migration. This study makes an attempt to look up the trends and patterns of migration in India and how it can be connected with development. Findings show that Per Capita Income is very strongly correlated with migration rate the high Per Capita Income state shows the large number in-migration rate and low Per Capita Income state shows the large out-migration rate and migration is highly influenced by the development of the destination place; however, the rural to rural movement is dominant direction of migration. The result shows that composition of internal migration has changed over the years. Moreover it is observed that there is a continuous increase of migration rate in the period of 1983 (38th Round) to 2007-08 (64th Round). This increase is mainly due to increase in migration rate of females. There is a downward trend of migration rate of male in rural area. The socially disadvantaged groups like SC, ST do not show higher mobility compared to others groups. The Probit model finds that Employment among male and Marriage among female are the most significant factor determining the migration decision.

Keywords: Internal migration, International migration, Development, Individual decision, Per Capita Income.

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