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## Factors Responsible For Migration Of Rural People

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**Abstract:** Rural India continues to face a multitude of challenges including malnourishment, illiteracy, unemployment, poverty, alcoholism, and a lack of essential infrastructure such as schools, colleges, hospitals, and sanitary facilities. This phenomenon has resulted in the migration of rural youth from villages to urban areas for employment purposes. The research named "Investigation of factors contributing to rural-urban migration" was done to examine the underlying reasons for migration. The research was carried out in two economically underdeveloped areas of Uttar Pradesh, namely Agra. One block was picked and four villages were chosen. From each village, 10 respondents were recruited using purposive random selection from the list of families of rural migrants. The whole sample size consisted of 80 respondents. The data were gathered via face-to-face interviews using a standardized questionnaire and then analyzed using measures of central tendency (mean score) and ordinal ranking. After compiling a comprehensive list of reasons via extensive interaction with local residents, the causes were classified into five distinct categories: economic considerations, social factors, natural factors, favorable urban amenities, and other aspects. The research findings indicate that the primary economic drivers of migration were job prospects, poverty, limited agricultural output, land fragmentation, and indebtedness. The primary social variables that incentivize migration include having a big family, the aspiration to escape poverty, seeking improved educational prospects, being drawn to a higher standard of life, and experiencing a decline in social status. Of all the natural elements, the depletion of natural resources was identified as the most significant. The key factors that attract people are enhanced opportunities for earning a better life, access to quality education and healthcare facilities, efficient communication infrastructure, and reliable electricity supply. Additional issues deemed significant by the participants were the absence of essential facilities in rural regions, improved working circumstances in metropolitan areas, and aspirations for a promising future. Ultimately, investigators concluded that there is significant potential for conducting micro studies on the migration process and its impact on both urban and rural locations.

**Key Words:** Migration Of Rural People, Employment, Migration, Illiteracy, Unemployment, Poverty.

The majority of the Indian population, comprising 68.86 percent, lives in rural areas and relies on agriculture and related cottage businesses for their livelihood. The growing population strain on land led to the fragmentation of land holdings. The limited size of their land holdings forced the majority of inhabitants to seek employment outside the hamlet, outside the realm of agriculture. Despite India's political freedom, the country's many rural development programs have failed to adequately offer livelihood opportunities for villages. Consequently, the availability of facilities like as healthcare, education, and social security has generated a longing among rural residents to migrate to cities in order to increase their income and improve opportunities for their children. Rural urban migration may be defined as the process of moving from mostly agricultural regions to locations where the bulk of job opportunities are non-agricultural. Migration is a social phenomenon in which individuals relocate and change their career in order to enhance their quality of life, driven by economic and social considerations.

Migration often refers to the movement of individuals from underdeveloped regions, characterized by limited economic prospects, to more developed places with many work possibilities. The deplorable rural poverty, marked by high rates of unemployment, underemployment, and low income levels, might be seen as contributing causes to rural-urban migration. The primary factors driving extensive migration are the division of land holdings, insufficient revenue from agriculture, poor pay levels, and limited job prospects. The increasing patterns of rural-urban migration and the resulting challenges prompt one to go deeper and thoroughly examine the many facets of these difficulties, while seeking various solutions to mitigate the impacts of such movement.

Research Methodology

The research was carried out in economically underdeveloped areas of Uttar Pradesh, namely Agra. One block was picked

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from and four villages were chosen. From each village, 10 respondents were recruited using purposive random selection from the list of families of rural migrants. The whole sample size consisted of 80 respondents. After compiling a comprehensive list of variables in collaboration with local people, the reasons were classified into five distinct groups, each of which is represented by a corresponding table. The data were gathered by face-to-face interviews using a standardized questionnaire and evaluated using statistical methods such as percentages, averages, mean scores, and rank orders.

**Results and Discussion-** The movement from rural to urban areas was discovered to be influenced by five distinct groups of causes, including economic considerations, social factors, natural factors, favorable urban amenities, and miscellaneous factors. Responses were recorded using a three-point scale and evaluated using mean scores and rank orders, as shown in the accompanying tables. It is important to note that the majority of individuals in the study region relocated due to many or unspecified reasons. Therefore, it would be incorrect to attribute their migration just to one specific factor. Despite this, we may comprehend the key variables of rural-urban migration from the subsequent findings.

The data presented in Table 1 clearly indicates that the primary factor driving migration was the availability of job prospects. Additional significant economic variables influencing migration are poverty (II), poor agricultural production ranking III, fragmentation of land holdings (IV), and indebtedness (V) in that order. In addition, three other reasons, namely uneconomic cottage industries (VI), low pay rate (VII), and proprietary tensions (VIII), also contributed to some degree in encouraging the movement of rural people.

The statistics presented in table 2 reveal that the primary social determinant of migration was the substantial size of the family. Additional significant societal determinants were a strong motivation to escape poverty, accompanied by improved access to education and a preference for a higher standard of life, ranked as II, III, and IV correspondingly. Additionally, additional social elements were identified as contributing to the migration of individuals into metropolitan locations. The reasons contributing to these issues include a decline in social status, increasing social tensions, rural ignorance, societal pressure, and the glamorous lifestyle of major cities, ranked as V, VI, VIII, VIII, and IX respectively.

The data shown in table 3 indicates that the "exhaustion of natural resources" is the predominant natural factor contributing to rural migration. The ranking sequence of the events is as follows: drought (II), flood (III), fire breaks (IV), epidemic/contagious illnesses (V), and earthquake (VI). The event that obtained the highest rating is not specified. During the inquiry, several respondents elucidated that the depletion of natural resources is a significant disadvantage for the rural impoverished, compounded by drought. Other factors have comparatively less impact on them.

These issues might potentially force individuals to relocate from their respective locations throughout various regions. According to table 4, the factor ranked first in terms of its impact on rural-urban migration was the availability of greater opportunities for earning a better living, followed by educational facilities, medical facilities, and communication facilities. Additional elements that enticed rural people to relocate to urban regions were reliable electricity supply (V), efficient transportation systems (VI), liberation from informal social constraints (VII), and appealing marketplaces (VIII). The availability of more opportunities for improving one's standard of living and access to educational resources are the primary factors that attract rural people to metropolitan areas.

**Table 1. Economic factors and rural migration**

S. N.	Factors	Mean Score	Rank Order
1.	Job prospects	2.62	I
2.	Conflicting interests related to ownership and control	1.80	VIII
3.	Holding fragmentation	2.38	IV
4.	Indigence	2.54	II
5.	Inefficient small scale industries	1.94	VI
6.	Debt	2.00	V
7.	Inadequate agricultural production	2.44	III
8.	Low remuneration level	1.90	VII

**Table 2. Social factors and rural migration**

S. N.	Factors	Mean Score	Rank Order
1.	Diminishment of societal status	1.86	V
2.	Desire for improved conformity	1.92	IV
3.	Societal pressure for conformity	1.76	VIII
4.	Aspiration to overcome poverty	2.34	II
5.	Significant family size	2.48	I
6.	Enhanced educational prospects	2.00	III
7.	The vibrant lifestyle of metropolitan areas	1.74	IX
8.	Mutual social conflicts	1.82	VI
9.	Rural Scottish culture	1.80	VII

**Table 3. Natural factors and rural migration**

S. N.	Factors	Mean Score	Rank Order
1.	Exhaustion of natural resources	2.10	I
2.	Flood	1.74	III
3.	Drought	1.94	II
4.	Fire breaks	1.58	IV
5.	Epidemic/contagious diseases	1.52	V
6.	Earthquake	1.50	VI

**Table 4. Good facilities in city and rural migration**

S. N.	Factors	Mean Score	Rank Order
1.	Educational facilities	2.18	II
2.	Medical facilities	2.00	III
3.	Communication facilities	1.90	IV
4.	Good conveyance/transportation	1.78	VI
5.	Good electric supply	1.84	V
6.	More avenue for earning better livelihood	2.32	I
7.	Freedom from informal social pressure	1.76	VII
8.	Attractive markets	1.74	VIII

**Table 5. Other factors and rural migration**

S. N.	Factors	Mean Score	Rank Order
1.	Hope of bright future	1.94	III
2.	Various political stipulations	1.82	IV
3.	Religious/Caste Tensions	1.74	VI
4.	Better working conditions	2.10	II
5.	Means of Recreation	1.78	V
6.	Lack of basic amenities in rural areas	2.28	I
7.	Gym/ Fitness centers	1.72	VII

Table 5 clearly indicates that several significant elements, which were not addressed in previous tables, also influenced the migration of rural individuals to urban areas. The primary element that is placed first is the absence of essential facilities in rural regions, while the second factor is improved working circumstances, and the third factor is the expectation of a promising future. While migrants may not prioritize some characteristics, such as political constraints, methods of leisure, religious/caste conflicts, and gym/fitness centers, these elements nonetheless attract many individuals to cities. These criteria are ranked IV, V, VI, VII, and VIII, respectively. Therefore, it can be inferred that the absence of essential facilities in rural regions and improved working circumstances are the primary causes that motivate rural residents to abandon their current location and relocate to urban areas.

**Conclusion-** The research determined that the primary economic drivers of rural-urban migration are job prospects, poverty, limited agricultural output, land fragmentation, and indebtedness. The primary socioeconomic causes contributing to migration include having a big family, the aspiration to escape poverty, seeking better educational opportunities, being drawn to improved living conditions, and experiencing a decline in social status. The research regions mostly identified the depletion of natural resources as the predominant natural cause, whereas other natural variables were deemed insignificant. A considerable number of families or members of joint families relocated in order to take advantage of the superior amenities offered by the metropolis. Key amenities that attract people are increased opportunities for economic prosperity, access to quality education and healthcare, efficient communication infrastructure, and reliable electricity supply. Additional issues deemed significant by the participants were inadequate infrastructure in rural regions, improved labor circumstances in metropolitan areas, and aspirations for a promising future.

This is an attempt to get a comprehensive understanding of the process of rural-urban migration and identify the key elements driving it. There is a significant opportunity to perform detailed research on the migration process and its impact on both urban and rural regions.

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