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SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF INDIAN MUSLIM MIGRANTSDr. R. Malini¹A. Ayisha²**Abstract**

Human migration is a physical movement of human beings either as individuals or as groups from one place to another place for in numerous causes. These migrations are not new and since time immemorial, the human beings have been shifting from one place to another as families, tribes, hordes and other forms of social groups for food, shelter, security and other reasons. The purpose of settling down, commonly known as migration and it has been a universal phenomenon. The objective of the paper is to analysis the socio-economic condition of Indian Muslim migrants. Both primary data and secondary data were used for the study. The primary data collected from 120 Indian Muslims who migrated from Tamil Nadu to Gulf countries. The collected data were analyzed with the help of Percentage Analysis and Neutral Score. The main findings of the study revealed that Socio Economic Condition of the Muslim migrants has been improved due to migration. Finally, it is concluded that, this will spark encouragement to young people to study harder as the people that migrated out of the country become an example for them.

Keywords: Muslim Migrants, Socio Economic Condition, Purpose of Migration, Economic Status of Migrants

Introduction

Human migration is a physical movement of human beings either as individuals or as groups from one place to another place for in numerous causes. These migrations are not new and since time immemorial, the human beings have been shifting from one place to another as families, tribes, hordes and other forms of social groups for food, shelter, security and other reasons. The purpose of settling down, commonly known as migration and it has been a universal phenomenon. The factors influencing the decision of an individual to migrate are varied and complex. The relative influence of economic and non – economic factors may vary not only from nation and regions but also within geographical areas and population because migration is a selective process which affects individuals with certain economic, social, education and demographic characteristics. The migrants take into consideration various labour market opportunities available to them between rural and urban sectors and choose the one that would maximize their expected gains from migration. Migration is becoming

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a very important subject for better job and life. Many opportunities and attraction of foreign countries pull large numbers of people to foreign countries. Migration can have positive effect on socio economic life of the migrants. It is proved by the review of literatures such as Mishra(1978) Singh and Yadav(1981) Chatterjee (1983) Sidhu and Grewal (1984). Hence, this research work aims to make an in-depth study by addressing the socio-economic conditions of Muslim migrants.

Objectives of the study

The following objectives are formulated in order to know the "Socio Economic condition of Indian Muslim Migrants".

- To know the demographic profile of Indian Muslim migrants.
- To identify the purpose of migration and selected migrated place
- To study economic and occupational status of Indian Muslim migrants.

Research Methodology

Both Primary and secondary data were used for the study. The primary data collected from the Indian Muslims who migrated from Tamil Nadu to Gulf countries. The major portion of the primary data collected via internet. The secondary data collected from annual records, guidelines, broachers, and evaluation report maintained by government of India and previous study. 120 Indian Muslim Migrants were selected as sample by using stratified convenient sampling technique. The collected data were analyzed with the help of Percentage Analysis and Neutral Score.

Analysis and Interpretation

Table 1: Age Wise Classification

Sl. No.	Age	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	20 - 35	66	55
2	36 - 50	54	45
Total		120	100

Source: Primary Data.

From the above table it is inferred that, 55% of the respondents are belonging to the age group of 20 - 35 and the remaining 45% of the respondents are belonging to the age group of 36 - 50. It is revealed that majority of the migrants (55%) are youngsters.

Table 2: Gender Wise Classification

SL No.	Gender	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Male	101	84
2	Female	19	16
Total		120	100

Source: Primary Data.

The above table shows that the percentage of the Male respondents is 84 percent and that of the Female respondents is 16 percent in the Gulf migration category. The percentage of female respondents is very low when compared to male respondents. This clearly indicates that maximum percentage of the migrants to the Gulf countries is of male respondents.

Table 3: Marital Status

Sl. No.	Marital Status	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Married	98	82
2	Unmarried	22	18
	Total	120	100

Source: Primary Data.

From the above table it is inferred that the percentage of Married respondents is 82 percent and that of the Unmarried migrants is only 18 percent. From this it can be inferred that the married people are highly migrating to other countries compared to the unmarried people.

Table 4: Educational Level

Sl. No.	Educational Level	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Post-graduation	24	20
2	Under graduation	72	60
3	H.S.C	10	8
4	S.S.L.C	14	12
	Total	120	100

Source: Primary Data.

The above table depicts that 20 percent of the respondents are Postgraduates, 60 percent of the respondents are Undergraduates, 8 percent of the respondents have passed H.S.C and 12 percent of the respondents have completed S.S.L.C. It is identified from the study that the majority of the migrants (60%) are Undergraduates.

Table 5: Purpose of Migration

Sl. No.	Purpose	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Searching for a job	58	48
2	Settled with family	14	12
3	To get high salary	30	25
4	Family situation	18	15
	Total	120	100

Source: Primary Data.

It shows that 48 percent of the migrants have migrated to Searching for jobs, 12 percent of the migrants for they have Settled with their families, 25 percent of the migrants to get high salary and 76 percent of the migrants to tackle their Family situation. This precisely indicates that the maximum 48 percent of the migrants' migration to Gulf is to search for a job.

Table 6: Occupational Status

Sl. No.	Occupational Status	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Engineer	36	30
2	Accountant	14	12
3	Labourers	29	24
4	Physical Labourers	4	3
5	Supervisor	14	11
6	Manager	11	9
7	Software Developer	12	11
	Total	120	100

Source: Primary Data.

The above table shows that 30 percent of the respondents are Engineers, 12 percent of the migrants are Accountants, 24 percent of the respondents are Labourers, the least 3 percent of respondents migrate as Physical Labourers, 11 percent of migrants are Supervisors, 9 percent of the respondents are Managers and 11 percent are Software Developers. It is identified from the analysis that being the major proportion, 30 percent of the migrants are Engineers.

Table 7: Reason for Selected Migrated Place

Sl. No.	Reasons	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Work Opportunities	45	37
2	Reasonable Cost	10	8
3	Strong Kin Network	15	13
4	High Income	25	21
5	Easy Assessable	25	21
	Total	120	100

Source: Primary Data.

From the above table it is exhibits that, 37% of the respondents told that they are selecting migrated place because of vast Work Opportunities, 21% of the respondents told that they are selecting migrated place because of High Income can be earned in this place and Easy Assessable from their native place, 13% of the respondents told that they are selecting migrated place because of Strong Kin Network, and the remaining 8% of the respondents told that they are selecting migrated place because of Reasonable Cost. It shows that majority of the respondents (37%) are selecting migrated place because of vast Work Opportunities.

Table 8: Economic Status of Muslim Migrants

Sl. No.	Statements	SA	A	MA	DA	SDA	Total Score
1	Increase in Household Income	66	36	10	5	3	517
2	Increase in Expenditure	52	63	4	1	0	526
3	Increase in Savings	34	32	42	8	4	444
4	Increase in Land Possession	12	26	18	43	21	325
5	Increase in Non-Productive Assets	32	42	10	17	19	411

Neutral Score: $(120*3)360$

From the above analysis, it is revealed that most of the respondents agreed that due to migration their Household Income has been increased. It is proved from the total score value of 517 it is more than that of the neutral score. Majority of the respondents agreed that, due to migration their Expenditure has been increased. It is found from the total score value of 526 it is more than that of the neutral score. Most of the respondents agreed that, due to migration their Savings has been increased. It exhibits from the total score value of 444. The respondents told that, due to migration the Land Possession of Muslim migrants is not increase appreciably because the total score is less than the neutral score of 325. Most of the respondents moderately agreed that, due to migration their Non - Productive Assets has been increased. It is found from the total score value of 411.

Findings of the study

The following are the main findings of the study

- It is revealed that majority of the migrants (55%) are youngsters. It shows that mostly youngsters are attracted for migration than others.
- Maximum percentage of the migrants to the Gulf countries is of male respondents. It reveals that Males are preferred for migration than female.
- From the analysis, it can be inferred that the married people are highly migrating to other countries compared to the unmarried people.
- It is identified from the study that the majority of the migrants (60%) are undergraduates. It shows that graduates are mostly influenced for migration to other countries.
- This precisely indicates that the maximum 48 percent of the migrants' migration to Gulf is to searching for a job. It exhibits that Searching for a job is most influencing factor for migration of Muslim to other countries.
- It is identified from the analysis that being the major proportion, 30 percent of the migrants are engineers.
- It shows that majority of the Muslim migrants (37%) are selecting migrated place because of vast work opportunities.
- From the analysis, it is revealed that, most of the respondents agreed that, due to migration their household income has been increased. It shows from the total score value of 517.
- Majority of the respondents agreed that, due to migration their expenditure has been increased. It is found from the total score value of 526.
- Most of the respondents agreed that, due to migration their savings has been increased. It exhibits from the total score value of 444.
- Due to migration the land possession of Muslim migrants is not increased appreciably because the total score is less than the neutral score of 325.
- Most of the respondents moderately agreed that, due to migration their non - productive assets have been increased. It is found from the total score value of 411.

Suggestions

Based on the findings the following suggestions were offered in order to improve the "Socio Economic condition of Migrated Muslim".

- Education plays an important factor in choosing a better job and earning more. The migrants those who have not completed their graduation are unable to get a job opportunity in foreign countries. Besides those who completed school education are employed as a labourer and getting a very low pay. It is suggested that the migrants should complete graduation to get a better job and better life.
- Most of the migrants are spending their income on the purchase of costly non-productive assets such as refrigerator, T.V, washing machine,

furniture. It is suggested to spend their money in investing in the productive asset such as purchase of land, house and agriculture land. It helps them to focus him as a financially sound personality in the society and enjoys a high standard of living.

Conclusion

The practice of moving away from home in search of a better place is becoming common. The ease of global mobility allows people to migrate to distant places around the world. The rate of human migration has increased recently due to many factors. There are a few factors that cause people to migrate from one country to another. Some people who migrated out of their country in search of a better lifestyle and a higher salary will mostly send money back to their parents in their own respective countries. This will help the economic growth of the sending country. In addition, people back at home will be motivated when they see higher salary being paid to people with more knowledge. It is concluded that, this will spark encouragement to young people to study harder as the people that migrated out of the country become an example for them. The study revealed that the migrant took interest to look the wealth and wellbeing of themselves and to grow the wellbeing of nation too.

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