The Feasibility Of Reverse Migration In Odisha: An Application Of Interpretive-Structural Model

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ABSTRACT
The main purpose of this research paper is to discuss, the feasibility of reverse migration (urban-rural) in Odisha. It also tries to establish various key factors which would further encourage urban to rural migration for obtaining overall growth and productivity of the rural sector. An Interpretive Structural Modelling (ISM) methodology has been applied to find out some of the key driving factors responsible for the attainment of reverse migration. Secondary data has been used for this study from various sources like, Odisha Economic Survey, Census data of India, ICSSR (Indian council of Social Science Research), UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and cultural Organization) Report, NSS (National Sample Survey) data, Statistical abstracts of Odisha and Odisha Annual plan 2011-12. Finally with a broad discussion over the nature, trend, causes and consequences on internal migration, the strategy of reverse migration has been suggested to be the key enabler for the revolutionary change in rural Odisha.

KEY WORDS - Reverse, Migration, Rural, Urban, Development, Odisha.

INTRODUCTION
The very phenomenon of migration has been persistently found right from the ancient era of human civilization. The inherent tendency of human being is to get himself accustomed with the new and comparatively convenient circumstances. Income, health, education and comfort have become the modern life priorities apart from the basic needs of food, clothing and shelter. Consequently people migrate from remote rural areas to urban sector for obtaining better amenities of life. On the contrary sometimes the same reason stands as a constraint in terms of excessive land pressure, pollution, distress and miseries. Hence urban areas turn to be bane in the name of opportunities. Presently a lot of focus has been given on the process of reverse migration even though it is in the nascent stage. In this article an attempt has been made to highlight the feasibility of reverse migration for the state like Odisha where the migration has become the perennial cause of underdevelopment. Seasonal migration, distress migration are mostly found in this particular state, where people suffer from poverty, inequality and underutilization of resources.

The present study on the feasibility of reverse migration can be broadly discussed with the following objectives.

1-To identify important constructs for the success of reverse migration.
2-To establish possible relationship between the constructs through ISM methodology.
3-To suggest appropriate measures for the feasibility of reverse migration based on the findings of the ISM methodology.

India provides 65% of the working population in the macro economic scenario but since
economic liberalization, both industrialization and GDP growth have been the pivotal focus of successive governments. In the similar manner, we have achieved a significant growth in the services which has led to rapid urbanization for last two decades. Even though India is passing through the most revolutionary phase of development for last few decades, about 50% of the villages are suffering from the poor socio-economic conditions which includes poverty, illiteracy, malnutrition, seasonal unemployment, disguised unemployment and low productivity. Consequently, rural people migrate to urban sector with the hope of getting better scope of living.

Since Independence there is found a higher increase of population in urban areas than rural areas. As per the latest census, the rural-urban distribution is found to be 68.84% and 31.16% respectively. The level of urbanisation increased from 27.81 per cent to 31.16 per cent in the census 2001-2011, while the proportion of rural population declined from 72.19 per cent to 68.84 per cent. In the present day situation, we can find a significant change in the growth trend of population in the rural areas. As per the census 2011, the slowdown in the growth rate of overall population is significantly lower which decreased from 21.5% (2001) to 17.6% (2011). The substantial decline in the population is found in the rural areas from 18.1% (2001) to 12.2% (2011) respectively. On the other hand in urban areas, there is found a marginal increase of population from 3.15% (2001) to 3.18% (2011) respectively. Internal migration is considered as the major factor responsible for this situation. People shift from their native rural area to the comparatively affluent area for the attainment of better standard of living. Even though they are ready to engage themselves in various activities, due to failure of policies, schemes and awareness, people either migrate or there is found massive unemployment and other socio-economic hurdles.

PUSH FACTORS AND PULL FACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR RURAL MIGRATION

The most popular theory on the factors responsible for migration has been given by Lee in the year 1966. This is popularly known as Lee’s push-pull theory. He has distinguished the factors of migration into two categories, namely push factors and pull factors. When in a region there is found the absence of some elements for which people are motivated to migrate to other sectors are called as push factors. On the other hand pull factors are found due to the presence of favourable elements in a particular region which attract people to migrate from other regions. Lack of employment, inadequate income, absence of health facilities, lack of education, lack of infrastructure, absence of technology, poor climatic support and lack of socio-political support are some of the reasons for push factors found in the rural India. On the contrary better living conditions like job opportunities, better medical support, education, proper infrastructure, housing facility, technological advancement, suitable climate, and comparatively more socio-political freedom can pull people towards urban sectors. Consequently we find the growth of people in the urban sector. As per the development economists of 1950s the gap between rural and urban wages is the main pull factor causing rural migration. Other pull factor for migration includes, quest for learning new skill, availability of new opportunities in both industries and services. Fall in the agricultural commodities prices, distressed sales are some of the persistent factors responsible for rural to urban migration in Odisha.

CURRENT FACTS AND FIGURES OF INTERNAL MIGRATION IN INDIA

The Constitution of India (Article 19) gives the right to all citizens “to move freely throughout the territory of India (to reside and settle in any part of the territory of India)”. Unfortunately as per the UNISCO Report,
Indian migrants are floating and invisible population who have been given very lesser priorities in terms socio-economic and legal policy support of the government. Following facts have been traced by the UNESCO report to know the nature and trend of internal migration.

- As per the Census 2011, among the total population which stands at 1.21 billion, internal migrants in India constitute, 309 million or 30 per cent of the population (Census of India 2001), and by more recent estimates 326 million or 28.5 per cent of the population (NSSO 2007–2008) against the estimates of Indian emigrants (11.4 million) by The World Bank 2011).

- Migration in India is predominantly of two types, namely Long-term migration, resulting in the relocation of an individual or household and short-term / seasonal/ circular migration, involving repeated movement between a source and destination. Estimates of short-term migrants vary from 15 million (NSSO 2007–2008) to 100 million (Deshingkar and Akter 2009).

- Most short-term migrants belong to socio-economically deprived groups, such as Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes, with poor educational attainment, limited assets and resources.

- Out of the total internal migrants, 70.7 per cent are women (Census of India 2001). Marriage is observed as a main reason for female migration in both the rural and urban areas. It constitutes 91 per cent of rural female migrants and 61 per cent of the urban female migrants (NSSO 2007–2008).

- Similarly employment opportunities is found to be the main cause for male migration in both rural and urban areas These constitute 29 per cent for rural male migrants and 56 per cent for urban male migrants (NSSO 2007–2008).

- Lead source states of internal migration are Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Uttarakhand and Tamil Nadu where as Key destination states are Delhi, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Haryana, Punjab and Karnata.

- Migrants are mostly engaged in the sectors like construction, domestic work, textile, transportation, mines, brick-kilns, excavations and agriculture (Deshingkar and Akter 2009).

- Migrants suffer from the low accessibility to subsidized food, housing, drinking water, sanitation, health facilities, education and banking services. They unfortunately work in the poor conditions and usually get deprived of social security and legal safeguard.

THE TREND OF MIGRATION (RURAL-URBAN) IN INDIA

The rural migration and urbanization are considered to be the integral part of the socio-economic transformation and the entire process cannot be stopped easily. The process of internal migration is too responsible for the socially dynamic, culturally innovative, economically prosperous societies (UNESCO-2012). In Asia approximately 40 per cent of urban growth results from internal migration from rural to urban areas (UNESCO/ UN-HABITAT, 2012). In India rural migration contributes 20% of increase in the urban sector (HPEC-2011) and about 400 million constitutes the internal migrants (census report 2011). The study reveals that migrant employing sector contributes about 10% to the national GDP (Deshingkar and Akter, 2009). Since 2011, UNESCO is trying to build all the facilities like, access to food, housing, health, employment and all other facilities for social inclusion of migration. Similarly as per HPEC-2011 report urban sector is considered as key reason for the structural transformation. The structural transformation is typically associated with the reduced dependence of population in agriculture and increased migration from rural to urban sector in search
of employment. The rapid economic growth has entailed a significant structural transformation in the economy such that the share of agriculture in the GDP has declined from 34 per cent in 1983-84 to about 15 per cent in 2009-10. There has been a sharp increase in the share of services in the GDP from 40 per cent to 57 per cent and while the share of industry has remained relatively constant at 20 per cent. It has been found that, net migration from rural areas contributed about 21 per cent to the increase in urban population in the 1990s, a little smaller than its contribution of 22.6 per cent in the 1980s. Natural increase rate of population has been by far the largest source of increase in urban population (62.7 per cent in the 1980s and 59.2 per cent in the 1990s).

GDP in the industry and services sectors grew at 6.9 and 9.4 per cent per annum during 2001-11, compared with 5.7 and 7.3 per cent per annum respectively in the 1990s. GDP in agriculture grew at 3.1 per cent per annum in 2001-11 compared with 2.8 per cent per annum in 1991-2001, indicating that agricultural growth continued to be much slower than growth in the non-agricultural sectors. An important feature of urbanisation in India during the period 1981-2001 is that there was relatively smaller contribution of rural migration towards urbanization.

It has been observed that the rural-urban differentials in productivity have widened since 1993-94, indicating, there is a scope for raising the employment opportunities for migrants in non-agriculture sector. The McKinsey Report (2010) on India’s urbanisation prospects estimates that over the period 2010-2030, urban India will create 70 per cent of all new jobs in India and these urban jobs will be twice as productive as equivalent jobs in the rural sector. However although the experts and many global level committees are quite optimistic and are in favour of urbanization, but the nation is bound to be impacted by some drawbacks of urbanized economy.

The urban population increased from 62 million to 377 million from the year 1951 to 2011. It has been predicted that about 42.5% of the people will stay in urban areas by the year 2015. Even though the concentration of people in urban areas are not high as compared to the developed countries but it has got the negative consequences like unemployment, spread of diseases, poverty, lack of sanitation, malnutrition, growth of slums and pollutant impacts. Thus it brings overall pressure on the

Source: Census of India
land, water and air. The most precarious impact of urbanization is rapid growth of people migrated from rural to urban areas, responsible for the rising number of slum areas as well. In Mumbai about 50% of people stay on slum areas. Similarly in Kolkata has 32% of slums population. It is because of the rural migration many people end up by choosing the unhealthy occupation of rag pickers and construction. Large amount young people are migrating from rural areas as rural areas are saturated and cannot provide employment opportunities for the growing population, (KLaxmi Narayan 2011).

THE TREND OF MIGRATION (RURAL-URBAN) IN ODISHA

The concept of reverse migration has got greater potential for the achievement of rural development. Odisha has emerged as a major labour sending region across all the regions of the country. The majority of population live in rural Odisha and agriculture forms the main stay of livelihood. However as per the recent composition of Odisha economy from the year 2004-05 to 2013-14, it is clearly becoming less agricultural, more industrial and more service oriented economy. In the year 2013-14 the total share of agriculture, industry and services constitutes 15.18%, 25.40% and 59.02 respectively. Whereas it was 17.1%, 25.16% and 57.83% as per the year 2012-13. The following figure shows the Composition of Odisha’s economy 2004-05 till 2013-14 where migration is the key reason for the lower composition of agriculture in comparison to industry and services.

The Planning Commission Vision 2020 document says that from 9th Plan onwards, the unemployment rates in the state have experienced a declining trend but the conditions of work are far from ideal. The employment generation is found to be minimal in an organized sector. The number of workers employed in the organized sector in Odisha has actually fallen from 7.98 lakh to 7.22 lakh in 2011 (Government of Odisha, 2014). About 94.5 percent of the work force is engaged in the unorganized sector National commission of enterprises for unorganized sector (NCEUS, 2007). The following chart shows the state-wise distribution of people who are seasonally migrating from Odisha.
State | % of seasonal migration from Odisha
---|---
Chhattisgarh | 16.8
Maharashtra | 16.2
Gujarat | 13.5
UP | 12.5
Kerala | 8.8
AP | 6.9
Tamil Nadu | 5.6
J&K | 4
Goa | 3.6
Karnataka | 2.6
Delhi | 1.6
West Bengal | 1.4
HP | 1.3
Punjab | 1.2
Rajasthan | 0.7
Jharkhand | 0.6
MP | 0.6
Haryana | 0.6
Chandigarh | 0.5
Assam | 0.3
Bihar | 0.3
Other | 0.2
Total | 100

Source: Panchayat Level Data - Odisha

APPLICATION OF ISM METHODOLOGY (INTERPRETIVE STRUCTURAL MODELLING) FOR AN ANALYSIS OF REVERSE MIGRATION

The following variables have been taken from the literature review which would be responsible for the reverse migration being successful in Odisha. By taking into account viewpoints of experts and rural sector researchers, ISM methodology has been framed to examine the feasibility of reverse migration in Odisha.

I-GROWTH OF EMPLOYMENT/ INCOME

The economy of a state is reflected by its GSDP (gross state domestic product) and agriculture contributes the most key role towards overall growth and productivity of the country. It also attributes for the employment generation in the economy. Following figure shows the percentage share of workers towards the agriculture shows the declining trend. For rural Odisha we can find the schemes like National Rural livelihood Mission (NRLM), Aam Admi Bima Yojna (AABY), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Schemes (MGNREGS), for the rural sector employment generation.

II-HEALTH BENEFIT

Health Sector plays the most import role for the growth of a state. So far the birth rate is concerned it is 19.9% in Odisha against the national average of 21.6 %( Odisha economic survey 2012).Odisha has still the highest death rate of 8.5% against the 7% at the national
level. The rural Odisha’s death rate stands for 8.9% against the 7.6% in rural India as per the year 2012. However the lower infant mortality rate and high life expectancy rate are some of the positive indicators for growth of a particular sector. Government health programmes and policies are quite responsible for this successive growth rate in the health benefit.

III-EDUCATION

Education is an important input for the skill and knowledge empowerment among rural community. It helps for the access of productive employment in future. Odisha has promoted the Right to free and compulsory education act 2010. The literacy rate of Odisha is marked by the decadal increase between the years 2001-2011. It has attained 72.87% in 2011 that remained almost at par with the national average of 73% (Odisha Economic Survey 2013-14). Odisha has got a successive growth rate as per the primary, upper primary education, secondary education, higher secondary education, different vocational training, technical and other fields of specialization. We can find higher female literacy rate and low rate of dropouts due to successful implementation of government policies and programmes. Those policies include SSA (Serva Sikshya Abhiyan), NLM (National Literacy Mission, Mid-Day Meal Scheme, TET (Teachers Education Training), SIET (State Institute of Educational Technology).

IV-INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

Good infrastructure is a pre-requisite for the accelerated growth of an economy. It further helps for the quality of life of the people. Odisha is pioneer in power sector reforms although the transmission and distribution (T & D) losses continue to be a matter of concern. Over 80% of villages in Odisha are now electrified. This situation is likely to improve further project works like Rajeev Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana, Biju Gram Sarpanchali Vidyutikaran Yojna. Similarly Agriculture Promotion and Investment (APICOL), Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP), River Valley Project (RVP), Integrated Watershed Development programme (IWDP) are some of the examples of infrastructure development projects.

V-TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT

It is another important tool for the development of any region. Modern technology and scientific innovation contributes a vital part for rural Odisha. The industrial policy resolution 2001 has identified electronics, telecommunication, and IT enabled services. National E-governance plan has introduced some policy initiatives in rural Odisha. Thus for the agriculture productivity, rural sector development we can find the adoption of science and technology to have a growth at par with urban sector. The telecommunication has helped in enhancing growth prospects of the rural economy.

VI-AGRICULTURE PRODUCTIVITY

The agriculture sector includes agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries, forestry and other farm related activities. It is highly dependent on the climatic condition. In Odisha climate is characterized by high temperature, high humidity, medium to high rainfall, and mostly by mild winters. The state agriculture sector highly suffers from cyclones, droughts and flash floods which substantially affects productivity of agriculture. The state has got 15.6% of the share from agriculture in 2013-14. Due to natural calamities the share of this sector has been declining. However through irrigation projects and other natural disaster control schemes it is trying to get out of the situation.

VII-BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
Odisha is considered to be heavily dependent on the central transfers. The developmental capital outlays are 2.1%, 2.2% and 2.7% of GSDP in 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 respectively. This in turn leads to lesser fiscal surplus for the economy. However various institutional measures have been taken to enhance the rural productivity. There has been phenomenal growth and spread of banking sectors in rural Odisha. The sectoral distribution of loans by banks for agriculture constitute about 47.7% in the year 2013-14. The role of NABARD (National bank for agriculture and rural development), RRB (Regional rural development), ORHDC (Odisha Rural Housing Development Corporation), KCC (Kishan Credit Card), KKGC (Kalinga Kishan Gold Card), Swarojgar credit cards and artesian credit cards are some of the financial support for rural people.

**VIII-RURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

The rural entrepreneurship is the most important factor for utilizing the natural, physical, financial and capital resources through proper scope and opportunities. It helps to build up innovative ideas for the overall solution to the rural growth and productivity. It helps to generate growth and employment opportunities for which rural migration is largely curbed. The latest rural India is largely observed for the eco-friendly entrepreneurial activity and schemes.

**IX-RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**

It is one of the important tools for making the entire sector developed. In recent years Odisha has made significant achievements in terms of higher economic growth, poverty reduction and other socio economic indicators. It is through research and development the potential growth of the agriculture and rural sector can be developed. The state Government has articulated various development strategy for the efficient research and development work.

**X-GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND SCHEMES**

In Odisha the rural sector is still found with the problem of low agriculture productivity, poor standard of living and low growth rate. However Government has taken various initiatives for farming, livestock, animal husbandry, fishery, forestry, wild life and environment. It is essential on the part of the government to cater growth with effective policy implementation and schemes for rural sector.

The ISM model has been suggested by Transfield et al. (2003) which has got wider application in the field of social sciences. In this model, following steps have been applied to reach at the driving factor for the success of reverse migration in Odisha.

1-Identification of constructs through Systematic literature review. Those 10 constructs have already been explained above.

2-The establishment of relationship among the constructs through questionnaire and view from experts. As per the given instructions the experts are asked to enter the V, A, X, O depending upon the nature of relationship among the variables in the matrix (Structural self-interaction matrix). The relationship matrix has been found in the following way.
3- Initial reachability matrix has been derived using binary digits (0 or 1) depending upon the nature of linkage. The initial reachability matrix has been presented in the following way.

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4- Initial reachability matrix is further converted to final reachability matrix by considering transitivity property.

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5- Level partition has been applied, based on the reachability and antecedents. Then ISM model has been found out after getting the intersections of the sets derived from the antecedents.

Level 1 – II
Level 2 – I, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII
Level 3 – IX
This means variable X (Government policy and initiative) has the highest driving factor to enable reverse migration followed by variable IX (Research and Development). This also shows that variable II (Rural health) has the least driving power and it is dependent on other variables.

**CHALLENGES FACED BY THE RURAL MIGRANTS OF ODISHA**

- Western Odisha constitutes a major source area for migrants. Multiple reasons like highly unequal land distribution, poverty due to landless and marginal farmers and low quality of human capital, industrialisation, urbanisation, diversification into non-farm occupations and poor governance are responsible for this situation.
- Action Aid estimates that nearly 200,000 people migrate from Western Orissa to brick kilns surrounding major cities of Andhra Pradesh (Action Aid, 2005). Research conducted under the DFID-funded Western Orissa Rural Livelihoods Project (WORLP) in Nuapada and Bolangir shows a dominance of STs and SCs in migration streams from these poor districts.
- Workers are usually enlisted by an agent or contractor known as a Thikadars. This is popularly known as “Dadan Sramika” system and was the main cause of the formulation of the Inter-State Migrant Workmen Act.
- Children are hired by contractors from the rural and semi-urban areas to hire in for brick work. These child labourers are extremely vulnerable to exploitation and all other social hazards. Hardly 10% of these migrants are registered with the labour department.
- Many NGOs with Action aid programmes are working, to free labourers from bondage and to facilitate education and other essential support for their children and family. However due to cheap labour cost and other political interests, they are employed with these sectors in a large scale.
- Macro databases such as the Census fail to adequately capture flows of short-term migrants and do not record secondary reasons for migration. Similarly there is an absence of concrete data in both statistical and economic survey of Odisha for migration related aspects. There exists a huge data gap on the amount, nature and magnitude of internal migration including for the states like Odisha.
- Internal migrants face various constraints, including lack of political support, inadequate housing facility, low-paid wages, and insecurity at work, limited access to state-provided services such as health, education, discrimination based on ethnicity, religion, class and gender.
- Regulations and administrative procedures exclude migrants from access to legal rights, public services and social protection programmes accorded to residents, because of which they are often treated as second-class citizens.
- Western Odisha is said to be vulnerable to natural calamities for which due to poverty and other socio-economic factors, people are engaged as bonded labour in other states. It has been found out, in Bolangir more than 90% migrants are engaged in brick-kilns in Andhra Pradesh.

**CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The trend of reverse migration (urban-rural) occupies the strategic importance for the
growth and development of Indian economy. The policy of reverse migration has been highly suggested to ensure that both skilled and unskilled workers would be gainfully employed in the rural sector. However with the below mentioned suggestions the strategy of reverse migration would be made feasible from the practical ground.

As per the results, Government schemes and initiatives are the primary driving factor for the success of reverse migration. Moreover corporate sector should be encouraged to participate in rural entrepreneurship and government should motivate them through different measures (tax benefit schemes).

The numerous government schemes should be consolidated as per the local needs and the local bodies (Gram Panchayat) should be empowered to decide and allocate as per the priorities and practicalities.

The popularity of rural art and crafts should be highly encouraged. An appropriate policy measures should be made to generate employment opportunity in this sector. This in turn would boost tourism and commercial activity in the region.

Public awareness programmes should be undertaken to ensure that the initiatives reach the stakeholders and corruptions can be effectively minimized.

Emphasis has to be given, to ensure that all development activities would be made eco-friendly. At the same time we can adopt effective mechanism for making recycling process, large scale afforestation, solar power usage and all other eco-innovative measures to make the rural sector suitable for sustainable living.

Apart from the above mentioned suggestions the true success of the reverse migration can be made achievable with a proper coordination of government policy initiatives, private sector involvement and community participation as a whole.

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