Internal Migration: Issues Prevailing in the NCT (National Capital Territory) of Delhi

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Abstract: India is currently facing an issue of high internal migration. As per the Economic Survey of India, there were about 454 million internal migrants and has witnessed 9 million annual migrants between the year 2011 to 2016. Data shows among states, Delhi is witnessing major inflow of internal migrants and is now home to 8 million in-migrants and is one among the megacities of the world with population about 18.5 million in the year 2018 and is expected to grow to 38.94 million by 2030.It is important to note that these migrants do contribute to the development of the city and how their Speedy growth in population has increased the issues and challenges in form of Health, Education, Child labor and other social and economic issues with that affects a decent living to them. The paper aims to study the internal migration scenario in NCT of Delhi and the challenges and issues faced by migrants as discussed above. Secondary data (like research papers, publications and reports by government of India and Government of Delhi) was used to analyse the above mention issues. The findings highlight need to strengthen migrant policies and implementation of labor laws which could safeguard and benefit migrant population.

Key words: Internal migration, Child labor, Migration Scenario, Development

1. Introduction

Migration is a global phenomenon, with both international (across borders) and national (within country) movements. Migrants are drawn to cities in search of economic, social and creative opportunities. As per UN there were 763 million internal migrants outnumbering international migrants with the numbers of merely 244 million (UN DESA, 2013; World Economic Forum, 2017). It is observed that globally large cities attract international migrants whereas developing county cities attract internal migrants (Bhagat, 2017; IOM, 2015; UNDP, 2009). There were almost 454 million internal migrants in India and it has been gradually increasing in every census count (Government of India, 2017). India accounts for one-fourth of the fastest growing cities in the world (World Economic Forum, 2018). Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata are having most

populous urban area in the country and rural-urban migration happens to be one of the reasons of this (World Economic Forum, 2017).

At the time of declaration of Millennium Development Goals (MDG) for the year 2015 by United Nations in summit of the year 2000, the topic of Migration was not taken intoconsideration. But at the time of announcement of the SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) for the year 2030 in the year 2015 "Migration" was given utmostimportance and was included in 17goals set by the UN. The 11goal of the SDG gives importance on 'sustainable cities and communities' which is to make cities and human settlement inclusive, safe and resilient, while goal number 8 has its target to ensure protection of labour rights and promotion of safe and secure working environments for all workers including migrant workers (Taran 2016).

The Dual Sector Model, which was introduced by Sir Arthur Lewis in 1954, is considered to be the cornerstone for development economics. The Dual Sector Model, which was developed further by Todaro (1976), includes internal migration as part of a long-term process of structural change, specifically from an agrarian to an industrial society. The surge of internal migration continues unabated. Agricultural sector in India is stagnant for many decades. This has led to a movement of labour from agriculture (rural) into industry and various services (urban). In most areas, a large wage gap persists between the rural and urban regions, making migration is an ongoing phenomenon (Lucas 2015). As observed by Lewis and Todaro, internal migration is an integral part of development. The model of Bhagat (2018) on impact of migration and urbanisation on overall development of the country also underlines migration's role in making positive impact both at areas of origin as well as at destination. The message is that development planners have to address any issues the migrants face in cities as it is a process of inclusive development.

Literature has highlighted the positive and negative benefits of migration. The urban area is benefitted due to mainly agglomeration economy, reduction in cost of production, rising productivity, size of consumer and capital market corrections in the labour market, and innovations (Bhagat 2017). At the same time many of the urban problems like increasing slum population, overcrowding of public spaces, traffic congestion , air pollution, higher rates crime and violence were attributed migration of rural people to urban area. It is to be noted that the

benefits of migration is outstripping the drawbacks of the same. In this paper, therefore, it is intended to study the issues that are confronted by migrant labour who are significantly contributing the development of economy and how their numbers were continuously increasing specially in the NCT of Delhi.

2. Objectives and Methodology

This paper is written with the objective of studying internal migrants and the issues and challenges faced by them while they make their way to sustenance in NCT of Delhi. It aims to highlight migration scenario in India and how NCT of Delhi has become a migrant capital and what challenges migrants were facing in terms of health, education, job security, working conditions, housing and so on. The research is done using secondary data resources such as government websites, reports of government, published articles and other relevant publications.

3. Internal Migration- Scenario in India

Migration now-a-days has become an easy option with more transportation and communication facilities, it has become a part of process of Urbanization and Industrialization (Ansari, 2016). Internal migration has been a cause of concern for many countries including India. As per Census of India for the year 2011, there were 453.6millioninternal migrants in the country. The Economic Survey of India 2016-17 estimated that internal migration in India was 9 million annually between the years 2011 to 2016. Faster growth and development attracted people from all the parts of a country to excel and gain better life and income opportunities which have given rise to migration within the country
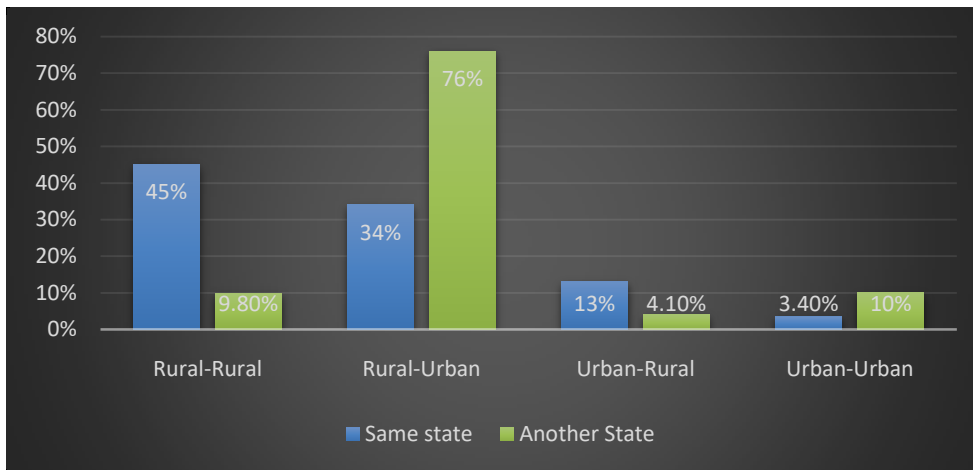
Table 1: Internal Migrants in India

Year	Number of Migrants
1991	220 million
2001	315 million
2011	454 million

Source: Census of India 2011

'Migration' is about changing places in search of better living. Movement of people from their home to another city, state or country for a job, shelter or some other reasons is called migration. "Internal Migration" is all about changing places within the boundaries of a country. It is mainly of four types:-

i.   Rural to Rural- moving from one rural area to another.

ii.   Rural to Urban- moving from rural area to urban area.

iii.   Urban to Urban- changing places from one urban area to another area.

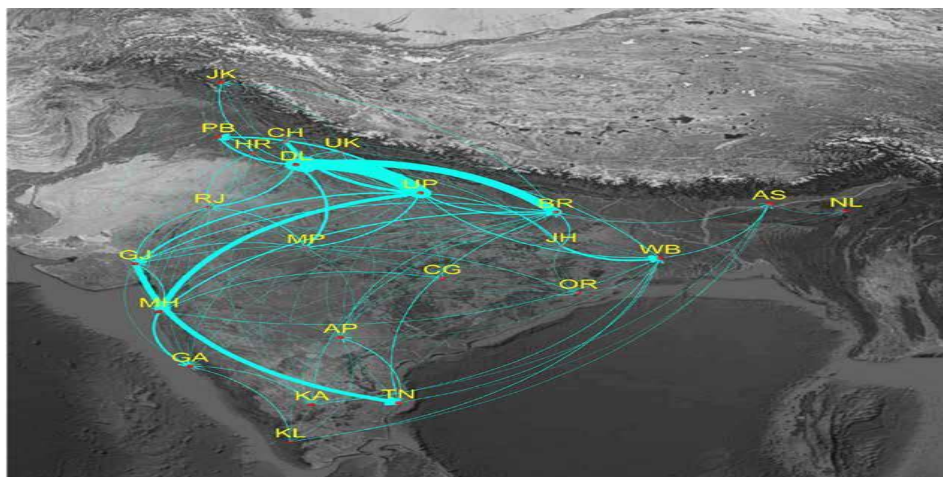iv.   Urban to Rural- it is a rare form of internal migration which is moving from urban area to rural area.

Figure 1: Spatial distribution of internal migrants, 2011-12

Figure 1 shows spatial distribution of internal migrants in India for the year 2011-12. Migration from one state to another on Rural to Urban basis is as much as (76 per cent) whereas; migration within the same state shows high Rural to Rural migration with (45 per cent) migration.

Figure 2: Top Inter-State Migration Routes with Highest Passenger Density

Source: Economic Survey of India 2016-17

[1] *(Retrieved from* http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/429181519662555108/Indias-internal-labor-migration-paradox-the-statistical-and-the-real*)*

The Figure 2 highlights top Inter-State Migration routes with highest passenger density. As shown states like Delhi, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Gujarat shows highest passenger movement from states like UP, Bihar and MP. Whereas, Kolkata attracts migrants from nearby places like Jharkhand, UP and Odisha.
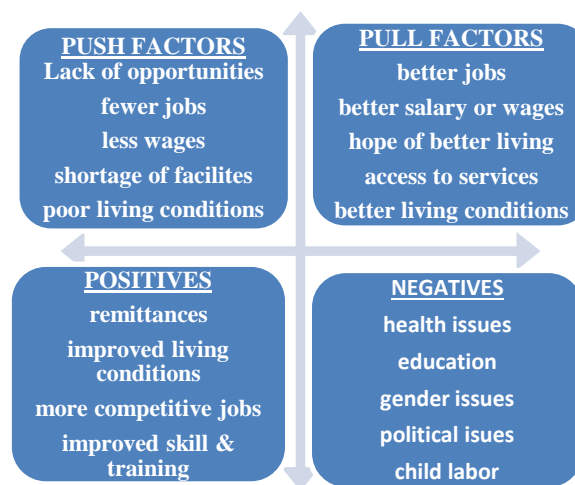
Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are the largest migrant sending state. From Bihar basically people reallocate to Delhi and West Bengal. Other migrant sending states being Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh. The cities of Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata were the largest destination for internal migrants in India (Census of India, 2011).

The Government of India 'Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979' was passed in order to address unjust conditions of work for migrant workers which includes employment opportunities and right to wages and for having ideal working conditions was passed but still lack acceptance in many states of India and was not completely in practice and so far so little has been done in order to provide them with necessitate services.

4. Why internal migration in India?

Migrant is much rational and calculative when he decides to migrate and moving to a particular city (Todaro & Smith, Economic Development, 2015). There are various reasons for people to migrate whether internally or externally those are discussed below:

Figure 3: Migration its causes and effects

PUSH FACTORS
Lack of opportunities
fewer jobs
less wages
shortage of facilites
poor living conditions

PULL FACTORS
better jobs
better salary or wages
hope of better living
access to services
better living conditions

POSITIVES
remittances
improved living conditions
more competitive jobs
improved skill & training

NEGATIVES
health issues
education
gender issues
political isues
child labor

Source: own compilation

The Figure 3 shows that people decides to migrate when they face issues of less salary, lack of facilities or poor living conditions. Whereas the likelihoods of their movement are better jobs, better wages or more approachable services. There brings positives of remittances back home which not only improved theirs but their family living conditions as well, improved skill and knowledge and enhanced job opportunities. But as there are always two sides of a coin so, they face challenges while adjusting themselves to new places like lack of healthcare facilities, lack of education opportunities to their kids, gender biasness towards women, and are prone to child labour a social curse in society.

Another set of data from Delhi Human Development Report 2013 (Figure 4) shows various reasons of migration as shown below. More than 50 per cent of migrants have moved from their homes in search of employment whereas, movement in hope of better salary and wages are 23 per cent and education is the reason for migration for the meagre of 18 per cent people.

Figure 4- Reasons for migration by the years of migration
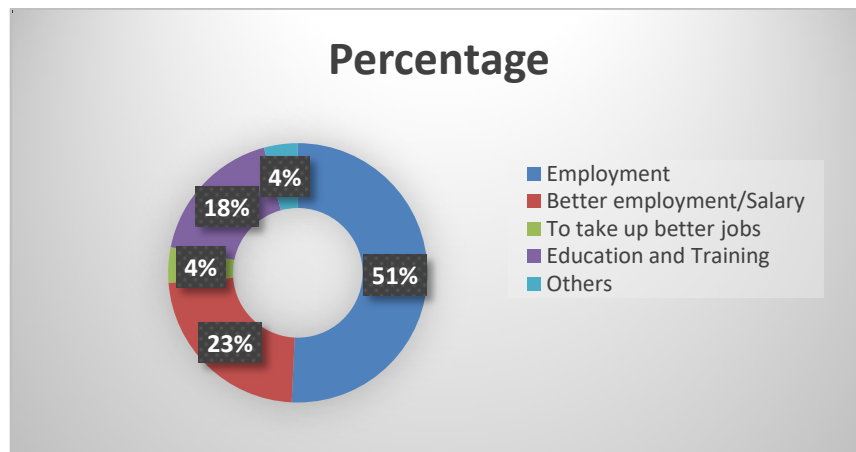
Source: Delhi Human Development Report 2013

5.   Growth of Urban Population in India

In order to give an understanding of the macro picture of urbanisation in India and its problems we devote this section to elaborate the growth of urban population and the places where the growth rate is higher. Table 2 features Indian Urban Population growth in comparison to rural population and clearly indicates a sharp increase in urban India as compared to rural one.

Table 2: India Population and Growth rate of Population

India: Population (in Crores)			
	2001	**2011**	**Difference**
India	102.9	121.0	18.1
Rural	74.3	83.3	9.0
Urban	28.6	37.7	9.1
Growth rate of Population (in %)			
	1991-2001	**2001-2011**	**Difference**
India	21.5	17.6	-3.9
Rural	18.1	12.2	-5.9
Urban	31.5	31.8	+0.3
Urban Population as Percentage to Total Population			
	2001	**2011**	**Difference**
India	27.8	31.2	3.4

Source: Government of India, Census of India, 2011.

In another estimation urban population from the year 1961 to the year 2050 increase by manifolds and around 48 percent of India's population would be urban by the year 2050. This indicates that the urban infrastructure has to expand in quality and quantity to meet the surge of growing urban population.

Figure 5: Urban population in India, 1961–2050

Urban Population in India (in %)
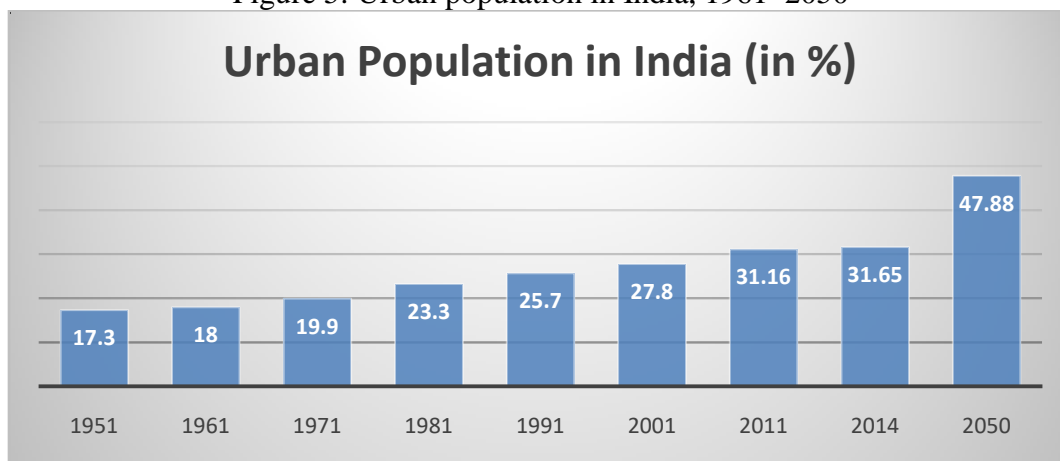
Source: Census of India 1961 to 2011[2]

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[2] *Note: Calculation for the year2014 and 2050 is From WMR, 2015 and World Urbanization Prospects, 2018*

6. Growth of Delhi as a Major City and becoming migrant's capital

Delhi became the capital of the British Indian Empire in 1911, the population of the city rose from 238,000 in 1911 to 696,000 in 1947. After Independence, Delhi became the capital of the newly formed Indian Union and had to face a massive transfer of population following the partition. During the 1941-51 periods, the population size grew from almost 700,000 inhabitants in 1941 to 1.4 million in 1951, corresponding to an annual growth rate of 7.5 per cent. In the later census Delhi experience a rather high growth rates and still it continues as seen from Table 4. Among the metropolitan cities, Delhi's growth rate was the highest 26.69% (this was true in the previous Census of India too: 1981-1991 43.2%; 1991-2001 36.2%)

Table 3: Biggest cities of India[3]

Serial No	City	Population (Metropolitan) 2001	Population (Metropolitan) 2011	Population Growth rate 2001-2011
1	Mumbai	16,434,386	18,414,288	12.05%
2	Delhi	12,877,470	16,314,838	26.69 %
3	Kolkata	13,205,697	14,112,536	6.87%

India is one of the fastest developing economy in the worldand as stated, globally large cities attract international migrants whereas developing county cities attract internal migrants. (Bhagat. 2017; IOM, 2015; UNDP, 2009). The NCTD is one amongst the megacities of the world ranking second below Tokyo (World Urbanization Prospects, 2018). With the population about 18.5 million in the year 2018 (which is about 2.1% of India's population) and is expected to grow to 38.94 million by 2030 (as it has shown a population growth rate of 81.7% during 2000 -2018). States in India like Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Orissa which are home to 65 per cent of poor in India and people with the desire for a better and improved livelihood make a move to cities like Delhi which is now home to 8 million in-migrants

NCTD has migrant population about 43per cent with half coming from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar (GNCTD, 2017). In the last few years Delhi has been a major attraction for large section of

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[3]**Source:**http://www.censusindia.gov.in/2011-prov-results/paper2/data_files/India2/Table_3_PR_UA_Citiees_1Lakh_and_Above.pdf

people and the number of migrants has shown agradual increase from the year 2013-2016 and has become major destinations for inter-state migrant labors.

In Average Net Flow of Internal Migrants at State Level (Fig 6) the largest recipient of in-migration was Delhi which accounted for more than a half of migration for the year 2015-2016 while UP and Bihar taken together covers almost half of out-migrants.

Figure 6: Average Net Flows at State Level
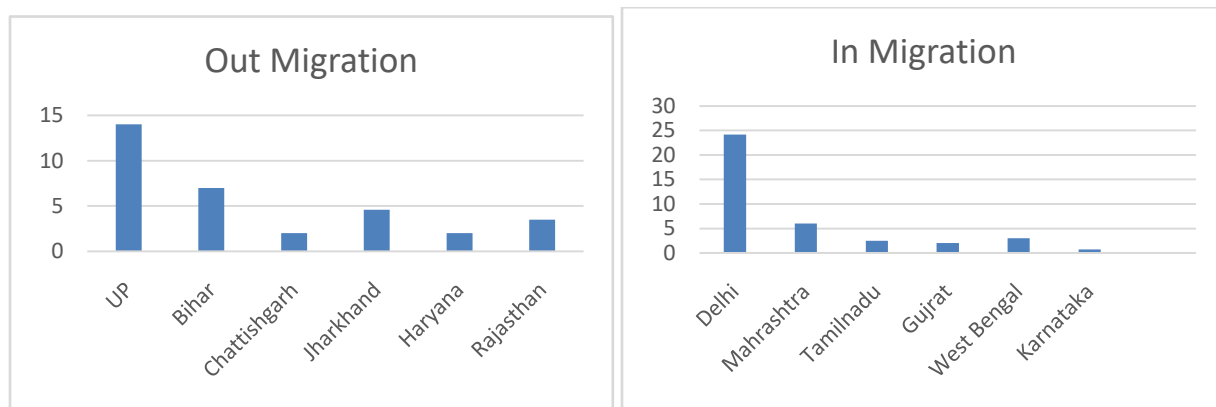
Source: Economic Survey of India 2016-17, (**Economic Survey 2016-17 - Volume 1 [PDF 5.54 MB]**)

Delhi has paid a price for the rise in prosperity the biggest of which, is internal migration (GNCTD, 2017).The services and opportunities grooming in the city could be the reason for attraction of migrants. And with this humongous movement the challenges to merge them and provide with facilitates and opportunities are imposing in front of local government.

7. Challenges and risks faced by Internal Migrants in their way of sustenance in NCT of Delhi

Increase in Urbanization hasincreased human mobility consequences of which are increase of slums and shanties in cities and making their movement more vulnerable due to lack of services available to them. And some challenges were discussed below which they contact while adjusting in the city:

Education: Education is one of the essential needs for one's life. After migrating, children of labourers are deprived of basic education due to lack of documents or paper work and financial crunch which is required for admissions due to which they cannot have admissions and are forced to child labour. Unlike countries in Southeast Asia and East Asia, the bulk of the migrant workforce in India has little or no education. (Srivastava and Sasikumar, 2013). Children often faces difficulty to cope up different curriculum and language due to change of places (UNESCO,

2013; Deshingkar and Sandi, 2012). One more report from UNESCO'S Global Education Monitoring Report (GEM) 2019 shows that children that are left behind by migrating parents face fewer education opportunities. Average years of schooling is quiet low in Delhi Slums (Bag et.al, 2016).

Health: Healthy body not only helps to gain strength but also increase one's confidence to perform. Lack of access to sanitation is quiet evitable in (NCAER, 2002) and NFHS-3 (2005-06) validates this statement stating that only 5 per cent of poor families in Delhi had personal toilets. Health is a must facility and is one of the essential requirement for human being but due to shifting of places migrants face lack of facilities and changes in weather and benefits provided by the government are the other deficiencies (UNDP, 2009/13). Another study says that migrants often face accidents or injuries at workplace but do not enjoy health benefits (Borhade, 2012). A study conducted by (IOM, 2009) says that migrant women with HIV are vulnerable. Many migrants were forced to go for private health services due to incompetent public healthcare sector (Mandar and Sahgal, 2010).

Working conditions: Migrants (laborers) mostly come through Labour contractors in the city due to which they have to face the situation like long working hours or timid lights at work place (NCEUS, 2007).working conditions of vulnerable occupations in Delhi is quite high and people are prone to work in unhygienic and inhumane environment that too with low wages and timid labor laws (Deshingkar et. Al. 2008: Srivastava and Sasikumar, 2003). Out of every 1000 workers bruised on the premises, 165 are in India (ILO, 2002). Especially Women workers who are injured on job, are removed from jobs instead of getting compensation (Acharya and Reddy, 2016).

Political needs: Government regulations, benefits, schemes, health benefits are factors which migrants (laborers) are deprived of. Government do have proposed various bills but still conditions are undernourished (NCEUS, 2007). Regulations and administrative procedures exclude migrants from social rights, political rights and access to legal rights. (UNESCO, 2011). These displaced many a times lack access to basic services and have no legal protection (Bag et. al., 2016). Many a times people working even for low skilled jobs like rickshaw pulling had to bribe and wait in long queues to get license and permit to rent rickshaws (Menon, 2000).

Housing: After food and clothing one of the important human needs is house. But, rush in the cities and the high cost makes it difficult for them to have house of their own and to live in mostly crowded and filthy conditions (Sheikh Et. al., 2014). A study conducted by IGSSS (2010) states that many people living on the streets of Delhi are migrants from Bihar, UP, West Bengal, Rajasthan and MP. They have left their places in distress situation in hope of better living in the city of Delhi. Housing shortage and increase in number of slums has been seen from past few years (Delhi Human Development Report, 2013). Another report by NFHS-3 (2005/06) says people in Delhi slums households have 7 or more people sleeping in same room with almost 48 per cent of households.

Water and Electricity: Lack of potable water and housing facilities make migrants live in shanties or huts near workplace (NCEUS, 2007) with no proper supply of electricity or they have to face large power cuts or no proper wiring make it unsafe and dangerous (IOM, 2015). Bag et.al. (2016)in their survey reported that poor population of Delhi had to wait in queues to have access to water through standpipes.

Lack of skills or training: Lack of skills or training of jobs put them to risk which increase number of accidents at the workplace (PRS, 2019). Lack of skills is quite evident in slum area migrants of Delhi, where people lack job training and directly put to work. Many a time's serious accidents were reported in the industries of Delhi due to lack of skill and training (SNCL, 2002; NCEUS, 2007).

Job security: Migrant (laborers) are in informal sectors which lack job security and Labour laws were hardly followed. They were deprived of good working conditions and benefits associated with laborers. Migrant laborers are generally absorbed in informal sector jobs and are poorly paid and work under insecure jobs. (UNDP, 2009/13). Many females were not even recorded in stats and found invisible in the records of Brick and tiles manufacturing units in Delhi (Gupta, 2003).

Distress wages: They were force to work under distress or less wages and to cope with day to day expenses of cities they took up their jobs. Even when they take work off due to injuries or other they have to pay for their own food, fuel, water and medical expenses (Sarde, 2008). Low income levels and low levels of human development is apparent in Delhi slums (Banerji, 2005). They have no choice they either have to leave up their jobs or to return to their native place.

Gender biasness: Gender gap of more than 50% shown in Labour Force Participation rate for the year 2015 (OECD, 2017). Gender biasness is common in society and migrants are no different to it, less pay to female Labour, sexual abuse at workplace, long working hours or lack of maternity benefits are quiet common which need to be strengthen with appropriate Labour laws. Delhi Development Report for the year 2013 also stresses on the need of reducing gender inequality and guaranteeing a safe environment to people. Another work by (Acharya and Reddy, 2016) highlights the issue of discrimination and exposure of females to sexual harassment in Delhi.

Little or no asset: Antagonistic economic conditions make them move to cities such as debt and low income which is the major reason to move (Banerji, 2005). Labors shifts to new workplace with little or no asset of their own which make it difficult to survive in the city (NCEUS, 2007). Basically, migrants invest all the money they have a survival in the city (Mandar and Sahgal, 2010). Many laborers work as bonded laborers in the cities like Delhi, Punjab and Haryana and are trapped in debt burden with no asset or little money they were many a times exploited by upper caste (Srivastava, 2005).

High expenses: Migration is difficult for the livelihood of these poverty ridden, skill and asset deficient persons who are economically and socially backward (NCEUS, 2007). The dazzles and hope of good income source attract them to cities bring them here but the high prices and expenses make it difficult for them to survive here.

Child Labor: Child Labour has been an important issue from many years. Although no clear data was available but there are approximately 15 million child migrants in India (Smita, 2007). In general children of migrant's lives in unhealthy conditions, miss going to school and mostly help their parents in earning (UNICEF, 2011). As identified by Mandar and Sahgal (2010)there are many migrants in Delhi who couldn't send their children to schools and put them to work due to suppressed economic conditions.

'Migrant workers are an asset to every country where they bring their Labour. Let us give them the dignity they deserve as human beings and the respect they deserve as workers' (Former ILO Chief, 2012). Making a move is not an ordinary task they not only risks their jobs but also their family and livelihood. This should not go waste and they have every right to be included in the existing population and served with equality.

8. Conclusions and Policy Implications

People are migrating or shifting their places since the time being and the role of migration in the form of remittances in poverty reduction and a positive impact on building assets and improving health and education could not be ignored (Deshingkar and Sandi 2012; Ratha 2013; Kumar and Bhagat, 2017). Internal migration is a part of economic process no economy can ignore or avoid internal migration. Once on his visit to India in the year 1951 Kingsley David a well-known demographer has said that India is an immobile country where 3 out of 10 Indians are Internal Migrants. Therefore, some steps to improve their situation is need to be taken so that they could be included in the respective states they visit, well and could contribute to the economy by improving theirs as well as others..

There are various reasons to improve the conditions for migrants as discussed below:

i. Migrants provide large support in the form of Labour supply.
ii. Internal migrants not only fulfil their financial needs but also provide valuable skill and Labour to the society.
iii. Migrants can reduce income disparities and can bring poverty reduction.
iv. Better salary and skills to internal migrants could help them to earn more and send better remittances back home which will bring more flow of income in the economy.
v. Better conditions of health, social needs, political needs, and education could make them more efficient and they will no longer will remain burden on economy internal migration leads to more job opportunities and access to better services by rising competition.

Recommendations:

i. In order to provide them with safe and healthy living the govt. should make them registered. A registered portal should be initiated to make their record and analyze their movement.
ii. The policies framed should be timely monitored and regulated to ensure their implementation and make a change to their living.
iii. The governments (State and Centre) should work to expand and improve infrastructure (Transport, healthcare, education and housing) in order to give them just conditions.

iv.   There is a need to frame an identity card especially for the ones working in urban informal sectors in lieu of providing with regulated working conditions and accordingly remunerations should be granted.

v.   They should be granted with easy and accessible healthcare and education with less paperwork requirement to give them ease of participation as many are illiterate and have to wait in queues to make things happen.

This paper brings the issue of 'internal migration' with special reference to Delhi in limelight. It has discussed how increase in Urbanization brings challenges in front of cities in the form of internal migrants which changes places in the hope of better and improved living. It has discussed various patterns of internal migration in India and in Delhi, it also discusses causes and movement of people towards Delhi and making it a capital of Migrants and discussed why people migrate and the challenges faced by them while they are important for make their sustenance in the economy. Although, there are always two sides to a coin and the issue of internal migration is no different, it too have some pros (availability of cheap labour, reduction in income disparity by sending remittances etc.) and cons (increase in crime rate, conflicts, population rush etc.). Migration is a complex issue but every economy slowly but steadily is learning to deal with it and it is need to be addressed with patience and utmost care. States like Delhi which has become a major attraction for the in-migrants as discussed above, this issue needs more attention and had to be addressed on a serious note. Governments with the initiatives by ILO has planted various policies and with better implementation and people's support, this issue could be resolved, so that population rush and issues like health, education, social and political could be timely handled and were merged well into the city.

Among policy options, the government should frame appropriate policies which can make the transition of migrants from one state to another easier. The laws framed by ILO should be strengthened and regulated properly. In order to ensure proper functioning of labor laws and migrants welfare, awareness among migrants regarding the safeguards and benefits available to them need to be made through trade unions and other skill and training programmes. Nurseries, schools and childcare facilities should be made available near workplace. There is also a need to eliminate intermediaries so that direct link between workers and employers could be made and more accessibility of jobs be made. Policy adoption by different States could be monitored forbetter inclusion of migrants.

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