



e-ISSN:2582-7219



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH IN SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

Volume 5, Issue 12, December 2022



INTERNATIONAL
STANDARD
SERIAL
NUMBER
INDIA

Impact Factor: 7.54



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A Study of Population Settlement Plan for Upcoming Immigration Wave in Jaipur City

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ABSTRACT: Migrant labourers form the largest part of the country's vast unorganized work force and 46.26% of rural households in Rajasthan have one or more family members migrating to other place for work. According to a report by Aajeevika Foundation in association with Unesco, previously UP and Bihar were known for rural migration for decades. But now newer migration corridors like Rajasthan, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, and recently, North East have become major sending regions of manual labour. As many as 5.79 million people in Rajasthan, or 10% of the state's population, migrate in search of work. Lack of opportunities and resources and absence of a strong policy are forcing nearly half of the rural households to migrate to big cities in Rajasthan, says the survey, which surveyed 40,000 households in the state.

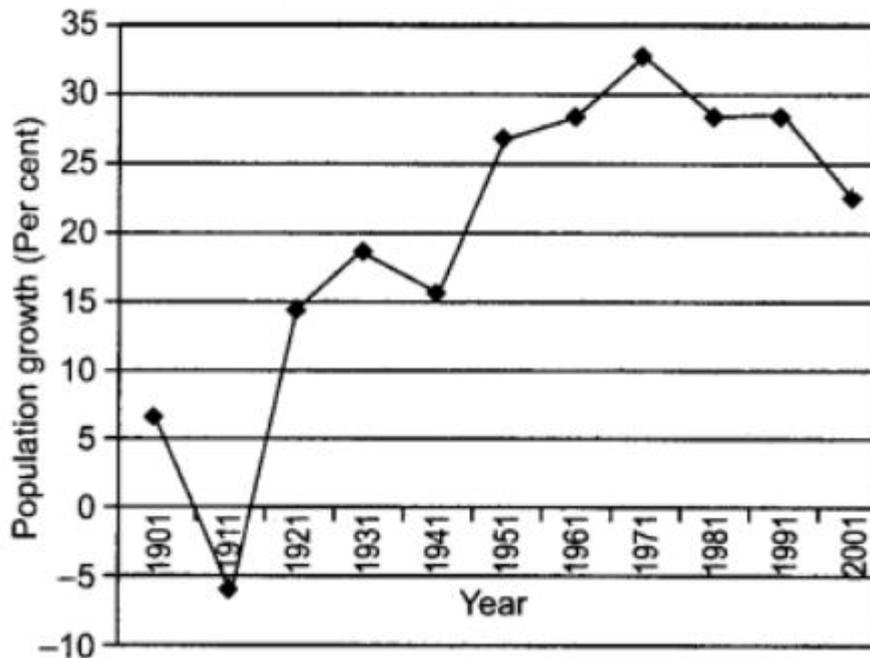
KEYWORDS: Jaipur, population, immigration, population, settlement, labour, state

I. INTRODUCTION

Around 10 percent of Rajasthan's population migrates seasonally in search of work. The majority of these belong to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, a new study has found. According to a report in The Hindu, the study "Their own country: a profile of labour migration from Rajasthan" [1] also found that half the migrant population joins the construction, transportation and the mining sectors with nearly one third of them doing hard labour as they are illiterate. The study also shows that 4.38 million households send out 5.79 million people to other states looking for employment. There are also high levels of intra-State migration with Jaipur and Jodhpur being the popular work destinations within the state. An analysis of 38,828 households from 10 districts spread across five National Sample Survey regions reveals that 46.26 percent of the total rural households have a member or more migrating for work. Barmer and Jodhpur in the western region are those that send the largest number of migrants, followed by Dungarpur and Udaipur, from Mewar and Vagad regions, in south Rajasthan. Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh are the top three destinations, collectively accounting for 83 per cent of the migration. The report which is supported by the Sir Dorabji Tata Trust and brought out by the Centre for Migration and Labour Solutions of Aajeevika Bureau, says that the migration results in new issues. The rural women in Rajasthan face a lot of challenges as the male population migrating causes the need for them to cope with problems like exclusion, isolation, insecurity and lack of access to government facilities because of low literacy, awareness levels and procedural hassles. The report suggested that a Rajasthan migrant and unorganized labour protection and welfare authority be set up and an inter-state task force comprising of representatives from Rajasthan and the states to which these people migrate be formed.[2]

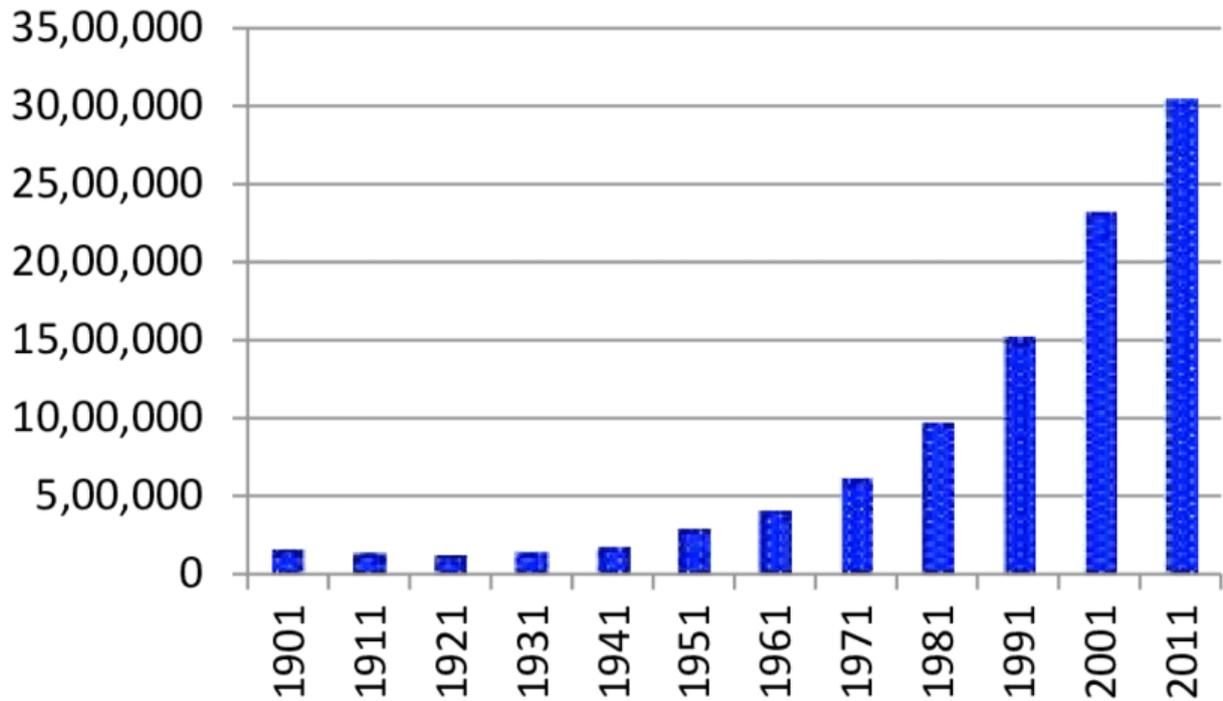


Graph : Rajasthan-Population Growth



Jhalana Chhod is a small locality and a former village located in the township of Mansarovar, southern Jaipur municipality, Rajasthan, India. It is a small residential area with the population close to 15,000 people. Local community is dominated by Hindu speaking people, but there is a good portion of former immigrants who speak English and some other European languages. It is very easy to reach Jhalana Chhod since there is a large railway station in the neighborhood.

Jaipur urban area has grown tremendously in last three decades. Composition of People migrating due to various reasons has display a meticulous trend. Dominance of people moving due to marriages is getting sturdy whereas Jaipur city is losing its lustre in attracting persons for education and business. Short duration migration from Jaipur district to urban area has gone down to a very low level. Flow of migrants from Rural areas to Jaipur outpaced the migrants from urban areas and its composition from various in terms long and short distances migration has substantially changed over two consecutive decades. Movements of males and females were differ on many criterion as male moving faster than females for employment & education and females move faster than male for marriages and moving along family was found evident in short, medium and long distances migration. Gender gap in 45 people migration from different reasons was observed[3] and a gender specific trend was seen favour. Short duration migration and migration due to education & employment is not as prominence as it was two decade back



Population growth of Jaipur city

Attractive incomes, ample employment opportunities and comparatively low living costs are driving interstate migrant populations to smaller cities that are emerging as counter-magnets to megalopolis. Analysis of various reports shows that smaller cities are rapidly growing, but at the same time struggling to cope with the infrastructure demands as civic revenue resources are on decline.

The Ministry of Rural Development told the Rajya Sabha in February 2019 that the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) had not conducted a survey on migration during 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2017-18. The Ministry has no fresh data on migration, but it claimed that the government was implementing various schemes to provide basic needs and develop rural infrastructure for improving living conditions of rural masses so that distress migration of people from rural areas to cities could be reduced.

In a market economy like India, the movement of people for better economic opportunities is inexorable, said the government. It, however, claimed that Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme succeeded in reducing such migration.[4]

However, the analysis of different reports shows that interstate migration is multiplying and migrants prefer smaller cities to settled down. ‘Migration and its impacts on cities,’ a report by the World Economic Forum, cites the example of Pune, which has become a counter-magnet to Mumbai.

“The high cost of living and overcrowding in Mumbai has drawn migrants to Pune in search of better opportunities in all areas of life. It is now a preferred destination for many citizens in Maharashtra for job opportunities, education, healthcare services, real estate investment and better quality of life, among others, given that Mumbai is already crowded with a comparatively higher cost of living. The same applies to many citizens all over India, who migrate to the city for better jobs and education,” the report said.



II. DISCUSSION

Rajasthan's Banswara district, bordering Gujarat, with tribal population of more than 76 per cent (census 2011), is infamous for both rural distress and migration. For a large part of the year, houses of adivasi families in the district remain locked up as they travel far looking for work.

However, a quiet but significant change is spreading in the tribal-dominated district, about 500 kms south of the state capital Jaipur, as several migrant families have returned home and have taken up organic farming as means of their livelihood. These tribal farmers are now becoming torch bearers of organic cultivation in the state where the government is pushing for zero-budget farming to increase farmers' income and restore soil health and fertility. [5]

Mansingh Damor, a 40-year-old farmer from Amlipada village is one of the farmers who have taken up organic cultivation. "I stopped using chemical fertilisers and pesticides when I learnt of the harm they could do to health, about three years ago," the farmer told Gaon Connection. For two years now, he has been growing organic fruits, vegetables and wheat. "I also have guava and mango trees on my land," a proud Damor said. Organic farming has become the mission of Chowka Bhai Maida too. "I did not know about the ill-effects of chemicals, now I do," said the farmer from Nagda Badi village in Kushalgarh tehsil, Banswara. "I am earning more as I now cultivate vegetables, fruits, wheat and maize in my five bighas of land. I also prepare my own organic fertilisers," Chowka Bhai told Gaon Connection.

There are approximately 500,000 farmers in Banswara that has a population of about 1.8 million. The land under cultivation of kharif crops is about 235,000 hectares, where soybean, urad dal, rice and cotton are grown. And for the rabi crops of wheat, chana and maize, 142,000 hectares of land are under cultivation.

"Banswara has about thirty thousand hectares of land under organic cultivation," RK Varma, district agriculture officer, Banswara, told Gaon Connection. "Kushalgarh tehsil is where most of the organic cultivation is happening in the district," he said. [6]

The Rajasthan government has been encouraging zero-budget agriculture that promotes low cost cultivation and the use of inexpensive natural fertilisers and pesticides such as cow dung, cow urine, jaggery, etc. This gave an impetus to farmers in 39 villages of Banswara where they were taught about zero-budget farming. Groups of 50 farmers were created for this purpose. These farmers were shown how with the dung and urine of just one cow of a native breed, 30 acres (over 12 hectare) could be fertilised and kept safe from harmful pests. The farmers had no need to spend money on buying fertilisers and pesticides from the market. Even the use of water and electricity for irrigation came down. With almost nil input costs, the organic farmers could get better and healthier yields.

According to the Union ministry of agriculture and farmers' welfare, as of March 2020, of the 140.1 million hectares of land under cultivation in the country, 2.78 million hectares were under organic cultivation, that is about 2 per cent of the total cultivated area.

III. RESULTS

Progressive organic farming is getting its much needed boost in Banswara with the help of VAAGDHARA (Voluntary Association of Agricultural General Development Health and Reconstruction Alliance), a non-profit that works with farmers.

"The farmers in Banswara are adopting new practices along with the traditional modes of farming," Jayesh Joshi, who heads VAAGDHARA, told Gaon Connection. "Through the farmers collective we are providing several training capsules as a result of which the farms are flourishing, especially in the adivasi areas," he said.

There are many examples of farmers who have embraced the organic way. Bhurji Katara from Banswara who once struggled to grow anything on his two bighas of barren land, is a happy man now. With the use of organic fertilisers made of cow dung and cow urine, his land has come alive and he now grows an abundance of fruits and vegetables that is earning him a good income. [7]



“It is heartening to see so many farmers adopting organic cultivation. They are becoming aware of the value of natural farming, indigenous seeds and the importance of a healthy soil,” Joshi said.

Many of them, who were on the verge of selling off their land because it yielded nothing, have changed their minds, the head of Wagdhara pointed out, as awareness drives and training in organic farming in several villages helped them rejuvenate their lands.

That is what happened with Arjun Damor of Chulipada village whose land had a steep gradient and therefore could hold no water that would always run off. But in one of the awareness drives organised by the non-profit Wagdhara, Damor learnt of check dams and bunds and he now took measures to ensure there was no runoff and his land had enough moisture. Apart from the district’s hard working farmers, there has been an effort to reach more water for irrigation to the region that was predominantly rainfed. Now pumps and motors allow the farmers to access groundwater too. This has led to more areas coming under cultivation.

For example, in 2007-2008, soybean was cultivated in this region in 20,000 hectares. Between 2010 and 2021, the area of soybean cultivation has gone up to 72,000 hectares. While maize was not grown traditionally here, now nearly 40 hectares is under maize cultivation. Wheat is grown in about 100,000 hectares. “There has been a significant change in cultivation in Banswara in the last one and a half decades,” Pramod Rokdiya, former divisional director, agricultural research centre, Banswara, told Gaon Connection.[7]

“Farmers are cultivating cash crops now. In both the plains and in the hilly areas, organic farming is gathering momentum, especially in the forested Kushalgarh and Gangar Talai areas,” Rokdiya said.

“Migrations have come down, the government is supporting organic farming and, in due course of time, the results will be happy,” the official hoped.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

In the decade 1911 – 21, a decrease in population was recorded. Main causes of this decrease were drought and the outbreak of epidemic. After 1991, the population growth rate is decreasing because of the success of the family welfare programs. This is an indicator of the economic development of the state. 1. Slow population growth period (1901 – 1941): Due to droughts, outbreak of epidemic and lack of health – related facilities, slow population growth was seen.

2. Medium Population Growth Period (1941 – 1971): During this period, death rate was less in proportion to birth rate. Main reasons were development of irrigated land, economic development and the availability of health – related facilities. [6]

3. Rapid Population Growth Period (After 1971): During this time period, population increased rapidly due to notable decrease in death rate and stability of birth rate. Death rate decreased due to economic progress and the betterment of health – related facilities. But due to some social evils like child marriage, superstition and backwardness, birth rate could not be reduced as estimated.

In 2013, birth rate was 25.6 per 1000, while death rate decreased and remained at 6.5 per 1000, and because all of these reasons population increased rapidly. In the districts of Barmer, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Jaipur and Jalore, population growth rate was more than 26 per 1000. In the districts of Sri Ganganagar, Jhunjhunu, Pali and Bundi, population growth rate was less than 16 per thousand, and in the remaining districts, it was between 16 to 26 per thousand.[7]

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Impact Factor
7.54

ISSN

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