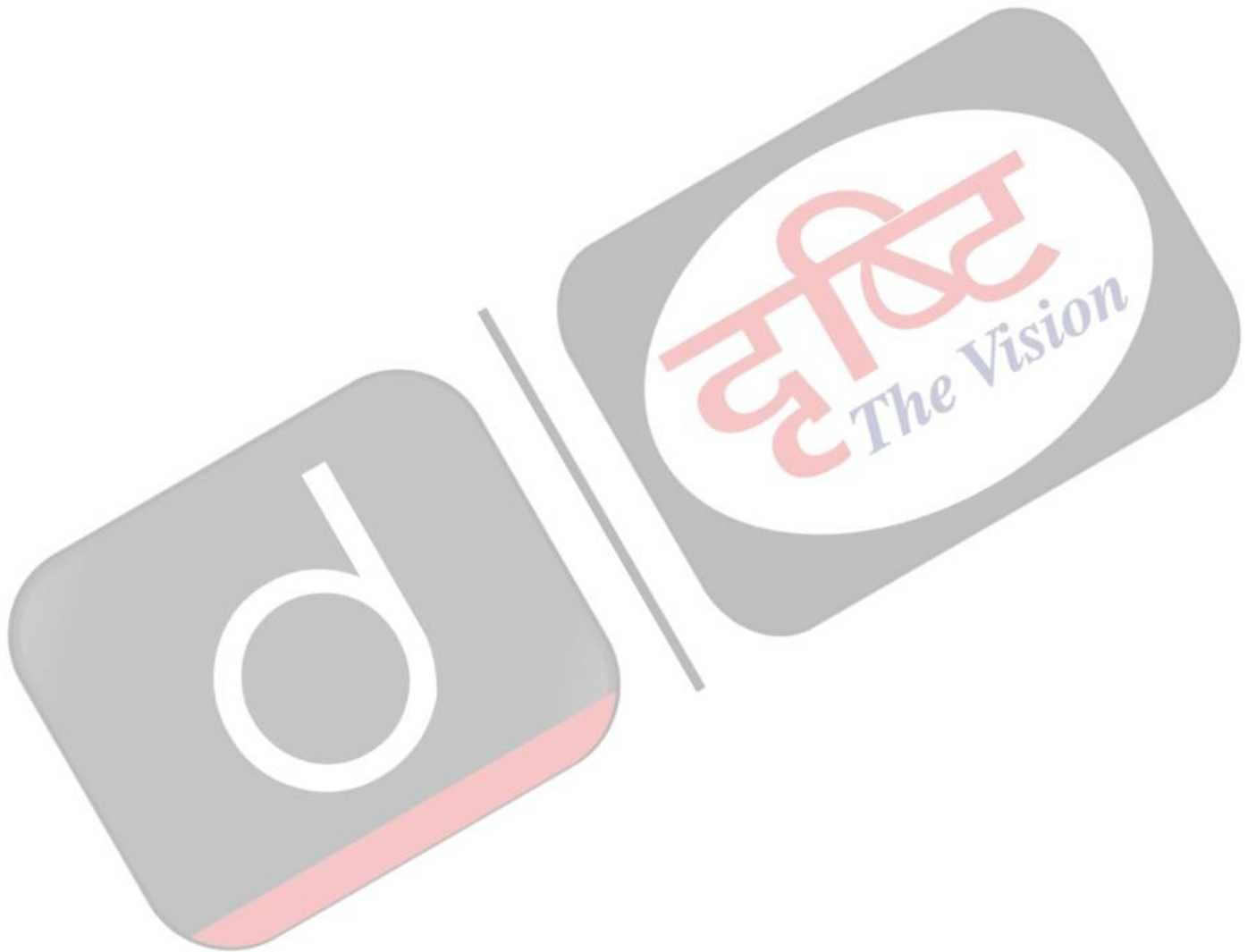




Human Migration in India



Human Migration in India

Definition

- The International Organization for Migration defines a migrant as any person who is moving or has moved across an **international border** or **within a state** away from his/her habitual place of residence, regardless of the **person's legal status**, movement is **voluntary or involuntary**, causes for the movement and **length of the stay**.

Factors

- **Push Factors**
 - **Demographic and Social Infrastructure:** Young age structure and population growth, inadequate educational and medicare institutions, lack of social security infrastructure
 - **Economic:** Unemployment, low wages, poverty, low consumption
 - **Political:** Bad governance, human rights violations, civil war, terrorism, oppression of minorities
 - **Ecological:** Natural or manmade disaster, desertification, lack of natural resources, lack of environmental policy
 - **Migrant Flows:** Decision of family, information flows, media
- **Pull Factor**
 - **Demographic and Social Infrastructure:** Stable population, demographic ageing, welfare policies and social security benefits, educational and medical institutions
 - **Economic:** Labour demand, high wages, high consumption and living standard
 - **Political:** Democracy and political stability, peace and security, protection of human and civil rights, protection of minorities
 - **Ecological:** Better environmental policies, protection of natural resources, environment protection
 - **Migrant Flows:** Diaspora, ethnic community, information flows

Types

- **Internal Migration**
 - **Key Source States:** Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh.
 - **Key Destination States:** Delhi, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Haryana, Punjab and Karnataka.
 - **Internal migrants:** 30 percent of the population of India; where female constitutes 70.7 of the total population.
 - **Male Migration:** Mainly for employment-related reasons.
- **External Migration**
 - **Emigration:** India to various parts of the world.
 - **Immigration:** From different countries to India.
 - **Refugee Migration:** Involuntary or forced immigration to India in the form of refugees.

Causes

- **Employment:** Seasonal and circular migration.
- **Educational opportunities.**
- **Social reasons:** Marriage, ethnic conflicts, political turmoil, social unrest.
- **Environmental and disaster-induced factors.**

Impact

- **Positive Impact**
 - Labour demand and supply
 - Economic remittances
 - Social remittances
 - Demographic advantage
 - Climate change adaptive mechanism
- **Negative Impact**
 - Demographic profile
 - Political exclusion
 - Population explosion and the influx of workers
 - Victimization of illiterate and under-skilled migrants
 - Increased slum at destination
 - Brain drain at the source area

Challenges

- Inclusion and integration of migrants
- Psychological and emotional stress
- Employment challenges
- Contract wage system
- Health hazards
- Lack of information
- Exclusion from social benefits

Way Forward

- **The Human development report** by the United Nation Development Programme (2009) highlights, **migration as integral to the developmental process**.
- **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)** also suggests an inclusion and integration of migrants in development.
- Migration centric **policies, institutional mechanisms and social securities**.



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