



INTRODUCTION



CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Since time immemorial, the man is restlessly moving from one place to another as part of a process of adaptation to his social, economic, cultural and ecological environment. In the most primitive society, migration was the first mode of existence of the man. He used to migrate from one place to another in search of food, livelihood and security. Since then he has aimed to have a stable and stationary life which is supposed to be more secured and developed. Therefore, human migration is a natural and universal phenomenon existed throughout the history of man in one form or other.

Chauhan (1966) regards migration as change or shifting of residence from one geographical area to another for a more than certain specific period of time (one year or more). The word *migration* denotes movement of population with the change of residence. The change of residence may occur from one village or town to another village or town, or from town to village within the district or commune or between the district or commune, within the country or outside the country, during last one month, two months, three months or more (Lee, 1970).

He further adds, *Migrant* is a person who moves from one administrative unit to another. Some times migrants are also called *movers*. Thus, at any given time total population of a place or region may be divided into migrant and non-migrants or mover or non-mover.

Migration takes place from an area of *origin (departure)* to the area of *destination (arrival)* and a group of migrants with the common origin and

destination is called *migration stream (or current)*. Usually each stream has a *counter-stream (or counter current)*. The term Gross-migration refers to arrival and departure, or total volume of population turnover. *Net Migration* is the balance between In-migration and out-migration. If restricted to two units connected by migration stream, the total size of both stream and counter stream is called gross interchange between the two areas and the differences between the two as *Net-interchange*.

Migration rates state the relative frequency with which migration takes place during a specific migration interval. The difference in the rates of migration between various demographic, economic and social group is termed as differential.

It sometime happens that a person is willing to migrate but due to certain reasons like the lack of money, guidance or lack of information about job opportunities in the other places, remained in his native place. This type of person is called *Potential Migrant*. After certain time of stay away from home in a new place migrant may come back to the native place, he will be considered as *Returned migrant*. A person returned to his native place with the intention of spending holidays or meeting friends and relatives will be called *Visiting Migrant*.

Donald (1979) defines migration as a rationally planned action that is the result of conscious decision taken after a consideration or calculation of the advantages and disadvantages of moving and staying. Literally, migration means the settlement or shifting of individual or a group of people from one place to another, more or less permanently (Longman, 2004). In the opinion of Theodore (1954)

“The principle direction of migration are illustrated by more or less continuous movements from rural areas towards the city, from areas of stable population towards centers of industrial or commercial opportunity, from more densely settled countries towards less densely settled countries and from the centers of cities to their suburbs.”

Even the small towns are expanding due to rural-urban migration. Mushrooming of sub-urban settlements with migrants has become a significant phenomenon in the cities especially metropolitan cities. The living conditions in these settlements are poor without any basic public utilities. In spite of these precarious living conditions in these settlements and renewed emphasis of the small villages and towns, the influx of people to the sub-urban settlements is continuing.

1.1 Factors Influencing Migration Decision

Migration is a complex socioeconomic phenomenon and most responsive to various socioeconomic, cultural, natural and political developments in the society. It is a selection process which influence certain social, economic, educational and demographic characteristic. These characteristics vary not only from nation to nation but also from region to region and also within defined geographic areas and populations.

Motives of migration are usually complex and several aspects are associated with them. Man is neither sedentary nor migratory species, but restlessly changing his place of living as a part of a process of adaptation to his ever-changing socioeconomic, cultural and ecological environment. Then the question arises why do some people migrate and other doesn't? This is because of the difference in the responsiveness of the people to the changing situations. Hence, some people migrate while others do not.

Therefore, migration is a means of achieving a new mode of life or it may be innovative.

Under normal situation the causes of migration are never simple and not so easy to comprehend. But in the case of forced migration caused by droughts, floods and other social crisis the causes of human migration are simple. The causes of human migration have never been systematically understood. When people speak of them, they often have in mind either the motives that migrants carry in their heads or the conditions they face; it is not always realized that both kinds of 'causes' are relevant and mutually interdependent. Except when forced to do so, no one migrates without an end in view. At the same time, however, the effect of an end with respect to migration cannot be known until the conditions are understood. The same end may be satisfied at one time by one kind of behavior and at another time by an opposite kind, depending on the situation (Kingsley, 1984).

The determinants of migration in India vary from region to region due to the regional differences in economic activities, natural resources, social and cultural differences and the impact of various developmental activities. Some conditions in India like religious festivals, commercial fairs, dire famines, general wars and ruthless taxation in the past have accelerated the movement of population. Certain other conditions during the British rule in India favored migration. These were the development of the means of transport and communication, educational facilities, the decline of caste and family solidarity, the growth of large scale industries, the development of cities, the expansion of irrigation and increase in security (Kingsley, 1984). Besides these several other causes were insufficiency of cultivable land, disputes in the family, presence of friends and relatives which might

help the migrants to get a job, ruination of the hereditary occupation and loss of business, the attraction of city life, the absence of employment opportunities commensurate with their education in their native place, the desire for investment, official transfer, search for employment, political reasons and accompanying other elderly migrants (Majumdar, 1970).

1.2 Selective Characteristics of Migrants

Migration is age, education, sex, marital status and occupation selective. It was found that most of the people migrate between the age of 15 to 34 years, (Belhun, 1976; Bulsara, 1980; Singh, 1981; Oberai, 1983; Lakshaiah, 1984) among whom males are more migratory than females. Education also plays a vital role in migration. In India the tendency to migrate to urban areas is much higher among literate and educated people than the illiterate. It is also believed that people with higher education have greater chances of employment in the urban areas than in rural areas. People involved in skilled and technical occupation are more prone to migration. The poor migrate for economic reasons while the rich for economic pursuits.

1.3 Consequences of Migration

Studies show migration is selective of certain persons or groups. Lee (1970) describes the reason of selectivity as "persons respond differently to the set of negative and positive factors at the place of origin and destination. They also have different abilities to overcome the intervening obstacles. It is, therefore, necessary that migration be selective".

Movement of people makes the human resources mobile. Since, migration tends to be both age and sex selective, the migration of younger

persons from the places of origin may help to reduce, at least temporarily, the rate of population growth both through the loss of outmigration and through reduced fertility levels resulting from the movement of persons in the peak productive years. The selectivity of outmigrants with more educated and skilled persons may also represent a serious loss to the place of origin of trained individuals who could provide talent and leadership essential for social and economic development.

The impact of migration is not only seen on the place of origin but it also has serious implications for the population in the place of destination. Over crowded slums, shanty towns, difficulty of waste disposals, traffic congestion, housing shortage, inadequate education facilities, poor water supply, lack of open space for recreation are closely related with movement of population and inability of these centres to cope quickly with such multiplicity of social and economic problems. Moreover, the rapid rate of natural population increase augmented by large inflow of migrants in reproductive age compound the critical situation. Furthermore, if much of the movement to urban center is not fully justified by the availability of jobs, underemployment or unemployment result, the income of the migrants will be low affecting both the quality of their personal lives and their ability to contribute their proportional share to the costs of providing the basic government facilities needed for minimum standard of living in urban environment.

1.4 In-migrants' Contacts with their Place of Origin

It is difficult for a person to forget the place where one is born, brought up and grown up in a mature human beings. Though migrants leave their place of origin to migrate but they always maintain their links

with 'their people' in the respective places. These links with their kith and kin, in the villages, are usually maintained through visits and remittances.

Keeping the contact could be for various reasons like pure self-interest reasons, mutual–altruistic reasons, pure altruistic reasons and social factors (Reddy, 1998). Pure self-interest reasons include investment in income generation activities, repayment of debt, purchase of assets including land, supporting wife and children and assist parents to inherit their property. These reasons are closely associated with the remittances of the migrants. Mutual altruistic reasons include all the arrangements mutually beneficial between migrant and his kith and kin in the village, which are voluntary and self-enforcing contracts. For instance, the migrant may help their family in the village during drought conditions and at the times of other problems and may seek help from their people in the village during unemployment and other difficulties. In this situation, the remittances would flow to the people in the village at times of crop failure and to the migrant at times of demand for money and supply food grains. Pure altruistic reasons include, helping the old parents and assisting the unmarried sisters, brothers and their close relatives. In this type of relations, the remittances flow from the migrants to the kith and kin in their villages. This is due to the care and moral commitment of a migrant for those left behind. Social factors include participation in marriage, festivals, family rituals and funerals. In this type of links only mutual family visits are there and there is no flow of remittances from either side. Thus for various reasons migrants may maintain their links with their villages.

1.5 Use of sources of information by in-migrant families before migration

Migration is a process of de-rooting in which one leaves a motherland and move to put down his roots somewhere else. But this is Hercules task. Thus people try to acquire information about the people where they want to migrate. All the people in and around the house, in their relation and in their acquaintance are usually consulted for such kind of things. Thus, migration network – kins, relatives, caste members and friends - play an important role in the process of migration. Information is gathered about various aspects of living and employment. These provide an idea, information and arrangements for boarding, lodging and employment to new-migrants seeking entry to the towns and act as channels of migration. Unless the good and/or beneficial opportunities exist, people don't migrate.

1.6 Perception of Cost – Benefit Analysis

The assessment of costs and benefits of migration are very complex in nature because they include both economic and non-economic aspects, absolute and relative position and individual and social situation. However, it can be assumed that migrants will not move if the total benefits are not higher than the total cost but these all are behavioral in nature and so it is difficult to measure them. There is a possibility that the total benefits may not be optimized by migrants and that needs a thorough planning of labor movement.

1.7 Perceived Cost of migration

The cost of migration is assessed in terms of individual and social, economic and non-economic costs. When a person migrates from one place to other, the frequency and distance of movement decides the amount that an in-migrant has to pay. But the individual costs can be non-economic in nature. The in-migrants separate from their families carries social and psychological tension. Social crimes of gambling, drinking, theft etc. are related to frustration. Economic cost can be viewed through the concept of 'relative earning position'. Even if the income of the in-migrant is higher in urban area but at the same time cost of living in urban area is also high, therefore in 'relative terms' the earning of in-migrant will always be lower than the local one.

Due to low earnings, migrants have to stay in slums. The living conditions in slums are certainly below dignity for human existence. Generally, there are no basic amenities of human life like sewage, pure water for drinking and electricity for every day use. Other than the physical side, the social environment is also not dignified. Urban slums are dens of crime of all sorts.

1.8 Perceived Benefits of Migration

Migration plays an important role in the economic development of developing countries like India and it is socially an advantageous process in which it is believed that people with relatively low incomes shift to relatively higher incomes.

Migrants move to another place while they see some benefits at the place of migration. These benefits can be direct as well as indirect. The

direct benefits can be in terms of income or some other incentives associated with the work. The 'absolute income' i.e. the difference in total income before and after migration will show the direct economic benefit. It is expected, usually, the in-migrants will use their absolute income to improve their position either at the place of origin or at the place of migration or at both the places. Moreover, training-on-the-job, experiences, exposure to a better style of living are indirectly obtained economic benefits, which can be partly measured.

Migration results in less pressure of excess labor at the place of origin while productivity will increase at destinations where there is a need for labor. The overall income will increase for migrants who may act as a means for regional balance through increased population.

Another very important benefit- cultural integration- in a country like India can also be obtained. The process of migration brings various cultures closer to each other in a 'melting pot'. It also happens to introduce variety in their food and life-style. It provides an opportunity to interact and to gain an understanding of different cultures which ultimately helps in eliminating social inequality, casteism and working productively. An understanding of 'give and take' is enhanced and that is the foremost social benefit generated through migration.

1.9 Problems faced by migrants

Though the primary information is already collected by the family which decides to migrate but certain situations are unforeseen or their appearance is sudden enough to create the problems. It is very difficult to pull up the roots and resettle at the new place because new place is totally different in customs, norms, practices and values. It is their first-hand

experience with the new situations so it is difficult for them to manage the situations immediately after the migration which they encounter during search of employment, using transportation, providing education, managing family and adapting food habits. Parting with the family at the place of origin creates many psychological problems also like loneliness, tension. Habits that are deeply rooted, are difficult to change which creates great problem to adjust in neighbourhood, society, community and work place.

1.10 Coping strategies adapted by the in-migrant families

“Change is the law of universe.”

To come into the main stream of the place of migration, in-migrant has to change their habits, way of thinking, behaviours. Thus, they adapt certain coping strategies. They learn vernacular language. At times, the new place introduces variety in their food, clothing and life style. They also take help of community. Neighbours, friends, relatives are the good source of help. They improve themselves by taking new decision, and learn about the proper use of time.

1.11 Perceived Quality of Life

The person who coined the term ‘quality of life’ is not known but the concept or the topic has lately achieved a remarkable popularity in public debate, private small-talk and scholarly discourse alike. The expression ‘quality of life’ suggests the antonym of ‘quantity of life’ and prompts debate on the efficiency of the qualitative rather than quantitative appraisal of the aspects of reality concerned, or the converse (Mukharjee, 1989). Although the quality life research is only three decades old, it has spread

all over the globe and the venture has become so popular that the politicians who previously spoke of welfare of the masses, now speak of the quality of life of the people. However, the parameters of the quality of life are unspecified to a large extent.

A common attempt to delimit the field of concern with the quality of life is by enquiring the living conditions of the people. The attempt has made the field of enquiry more and more visible, but has not foreclosed its limits. This is noticeable from the words used from earlier times to depict the people's living conditions such as standards, the level and the style of living. These words tend to follow a sequence and register new inputs for the appreciation of the quality of life: from an exclusively quantitative and assumed objective base to an increasingly complex blend of quantity and quality and of the objective behavioral and the subjective perceptual variables.

The standard is usually constructed to determine from qualitative variations such as consumption of food, clothes, use of various kinds of durable goods like furniture and fittings, possession of items like radio, TV and other housing and necessities and amenities of life (United Nations, 1951).

The level of living measures the qualitative distinction of the standard of living such as level of living of the middle class, the working class and the peasantry. The items of information under headings are sharply differentiated by quality such as from food, clothing, health, housing, education, leisure and security to human freedom (United Nations, 1954).

The words 'style of living' introduces the concept of culture which bears Tylor's (1898) classic definition of "that complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, art, morals, law, customs and other capabilities and habits acquired by man as a member of society". The individual's style of living in a group will thus be represented by qualitative as well as quantitative attributes of culture.

Thus, quality as a measure variable would refer to both the subject and the object of enquiry by blending of the quantitative variables of the standard of living and the qualitative variable of the style of living and other expressions of culture.

Quality of life is a multi-faceted concept. It embraces not only the material aspects of life but the less tangible aspects of life also. Many factors contribute to Quality of life like cultural, social and economic factors, the environment itself and the personal characteristics of the individuals. How one defines Quality of life, also varies according to where one lives and works and who he is. Like beauty, quality basically lies in the eyes of the beholder.

Quality of life can also be defined (Mukharjee, 1989) as the degree of well being, satisfaction and standard of living. Using this definition, it can help us to explain the emphasis on improving quality of life for countries and their residents as practically any visible improvement in life will give rise to an increase in quality of life. Ideally any indicator to measure quality of life should incorporate all the attributes that enhance or improve human well-being.

1.12 Approaches to measure Quality of Life

Three approaches can be used to determine quality of life could be used. The first approach looks at the characteristics of the good life. These are dictated by the normative ideals based on a religious or philosophical stance. This approach believes that the good life must include helping others or get involve in community work or service because this is guided by our religious or value principles.

The second approach to determine quality of life is based on the satisfaction of preferences. This approach is based on the assumption that people will select those things that will most enhance their quality of life within the constraints of their resources and means. This approach to utility or the good life is very much based on economic or commercial reasons.

The third approach to determining 'Quality of Life' is in terms of experience of the individuals. If a person experiences his or her life as good and desirable, it is assumed to be so. Using this approach, factors such as feelings of joy, pleasure, life satisfaction, happiness and contentment are important. This approach is associated with a subjective well-being perspective used in behavioral or psychological sciences.

1.13 Objective and subjective measures

In view of the multi-dimensional nature of quality of life, the common indicator used to determine quality of life would, therefore, comprise both objective and subjective measures. Ideally both objective and subjective indicators should be used in order to yield a composite and comprehensive picture of individual living conditions. In many quality of life studies, the objective measures are often used because they are objectively verifiable aspects of life such as the state of economic and social conditions. These measures focus on material provision and rely heavily on the national

income accounts, which look at the degree of fulfillment of the basic needs in a society. On the other hand, subjective measures are much more difficult to ascertain, as they comprise measures of feelings about life and how people perceive their own quality of life through their assessment of satisfaction and happiness. The difficulty, however, lies in getting a convergence of both sets of indicators where one can draw some definite conclusions about quality of life.

1.14 Rationale of the study

Migration, one of the three basic components of population dynamics in any spatial unit, is an important indicator of economic and social condition. Article 19 of the Indian Constitution guarantees to all citizens the right to reside and settle in any part of the territory of India. The mobility of human resources assured by this basic freedom is vital for the efficient functioning of our national economy. India is a country where various cultures stay together. It is also said that here language changes in every 50 kms and with that culture, values everything changes. The change of place especially the residence brings numerous difficulties alongwith. Therefore, persons and agencies concerned with social welfare have a strong interest in migration since changes of residence are generally associated with the incidence of socio-economic problems and thus it is not surprising to find a widespread interest in the movement of population in this country.

Even though Delhi is the capital of India but now it is becoming a city of slums. Being the resident of Delhi, the researcher has seen a large addition in slums every year, which causes the chaos in the city. Though, numbers of programs were being carried out on a large scale but all the

efforts were in vain. Therefore researcher planned to carry out this study to know the reasons of enlargement of boundaries of the city as well as to enquire about the perceived quality of life of the in-migrants to Delhi.

The in-migrants and their family may face various kinds of problems mainly in managing the available resources at their disposal. These people leave their all the immovable available resources at the place of origin to move towards their place of work where first they have to acquire then modify, use and reuse the available resources within their available time and money resources. People use these resources or use alternate sources to reach to their desired and / or required goals. Therefore, knowledge regarding their problems and practices they follow to manage their resources would add to the knowledge in the field of Home Management.

Home management experts can extend their guidance and counseling services to families especially women having problems related to stress and strain generated due to the change in household environment and breakup of communication network with the people they had at their place of origin. The experts can help them to cope up with the problems like time and energy management, money management etc. The experts can explain them the money management practices, different ways to do saving, various credit schemes to overcome from these problems. They can also be taught income generating activities to supplement the family income. Mostly consequences of migration are studied as a part of migration pattern and the discussion are mainly limited to demographic consequences, like effect on the balance of population, changes in age and sex composition etc. Economic and social consequences of migration also have not been given much attention.

Government, non-government organization and social workers should take action for the migrated families which belong to lower income group and dwell in slums. They should be educated because this section of nation has a great impact on the social structure of the society and in other way it influences the economy of the country. More the educational level, higher the wages and so it influences per capita income that contributes to standard of living.

Furthermore, home management experts are often highly innovative and can adapt existing facilities and resources to be of service to the poor. An important function of home management expert is to make the migrant labour aware about the existing resources that are present in and around the house. They can help to know the wise and economic use of the resources available, its reuse or alternative use will help them to improve their quality of life.

Knowledge of migration pattern are important for developing planners and policy makers for estimating changes in housing, education, health, sanitation, employment and other needs. Equally important is to study how migration as a process has affected women and households both positively as well as negatively. Research studies are lacking to probe into the coping strategies followed by women and households and they have not sufficiently identified the interventions made available or required to help women and households to cope with problems caused by migration.

Migration has been a concern of sociologists, anthropologists, and economists over the years. They have conducted studies on the people who migrate in terms of migration pattern and its causes. Typologies have

been evolved related to migration of various groups based on age and sex. Repetitive studies have been conducted on characteristics of migrants. Those who comment on causes are engaged in age-old stated 'push' and 'pull' analysis.

The life style of migrant families, social and psychological consequences of migration on the family are relatively less touched areas of research. Therefore, it becomes imperative to find out different aspects and changes in life style of migrant's family members.

During the literature survey it was found that the studies are done on the migrated contract labourer (Darji, 1982). Bhil immigrants (Parikh, 1978), rural male migrants (Waghmare, 1980) and on the interrelationship between the poverty, unemployment and migration (Yousaf, 1983). Berry and Williams (1981) assessed the relationship between a number of factors, including quality of life, marital satisfaction and income satisfaction. Russell (1990) studied the quality of life in relation to sex and education. While Anjum (1995) conducted study on environmental conditions affecting the quality of life and Reddy (1998) studied about the food, clothing, housing quality of migrant people. But none of the study has actually focussed on the problems and coping strategies of the in-migrant families after migration and the factors that are influencing their quality of life therefore present study has undertaken.

Statement of the problem : The present investigation aims to study the factors leading to migration decision, perceived cost and benefits of migration, problems faced and coping strategies adapted and perceived quality of life of in-migrants to Delhi at the time when they migrated and at the time when the data were collected.

Objectives

1. To find out the background information of the respondents.
2. To find out the extent of influence of the factors on migration decision taken by the families of in-migrant of Delhi.
3. To find out the sources of information considered by the in-migrants' families before migration.
4. To analyze the cost and benefits of migration as perceived by in-migrant families of Delhi.
5. To find out the problems faced and coping strategies adapted by in-migrant families of Delhi.
6. To analyze the quality of life of in-migrants of Delhi as perceived by them.
7. To conduct a need based educational program to suggest coping strategies for meeting the problems and to improve the quality of life.

Delimitations

1. Those families who have migrated from other cities of India to Delhi and had started living from the year 1999 to 2001 at the time of data collection were included as the respondents for the present study.
2. The in-migrants who had migrated without their families (wife and children) were not included in the study.

Hypotheses

1. There exists a relationship between socio-economic status (before migration) and Quality of life (before migration).
2. There exists a relationship between perceived cost and benefit of migration and the Socio-Economic-Status.
3. There exists a relationship between extent of problems faced by in-migrant families and their Socio-Economic-Status and contact with their place of origin.
4. There exists relationship between extent of coping strategies followed and the Socio-Economic-Status of the respondents, the extent of problems faced and the extent of contact with the place of origin.
5. The perceived quality of life of in-migrants of Delhi has a relationship with Socio-Economic-Status, extent of contact with place of origin, perceived cost and benefit and the extent of problems faced and coping strategies followed by the respondents.