Chapter IV

Polarisation and trickling down effects of migration in Mumbai on Ratnagiri District
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POLARIZATION AND TRICKLING DOWN EFFECTS
OF MUMBAI ON RATNAGIRI DISTRICT

Mumbai is the most populous city in the country. The vast and diverse population a 'can-do' approach to life and willingness to put up with inconveniences for a livelihood appear to be among its unique features. Recently, the increasing globalization of commerce, industry and the services sector has further exposed the city to international scene with its neo-liberal policies; this has put Mumbai on the verge of being on overburdened but global city. The 'pull' of the city is the prospect of jobs of higher incomes, low barriers to migration, and hopes of better access to services and modernity. So people from various parts of the country, state as well as from Ratnagiri district migrated to Mumbai (Mumbai-Human Development Report, 2009).

On the other hand, the physiography of Kankan as well as of Ratnagiri district has led to shortage of level land due to the large area occupied by steeply sloping hills. The area is characterized by small land holdings, lack of irrigation, subsistence agriculture, life is hard away from the villages and the main roads, and often below the level of subsistence; hence people prefer to take up any type of employment in Mumbai rather than cultivate the land. Besides, there are severe constraints in development of fishing. So these factors have contributed to a very low level of unemployment and lower level of economic development which characterized the region and promoted to migration from the area.

The study brings into sharp focus the significance of rural-urban migration from Ratnagiri to Mumbai Metropolis, which lies in the immediate vicinity (Table 4.1).
The proximity of Mumbai has led to the immediate incentives to migration being undoubtedly economic from the district. Both ‘push’ and ‘pull’ factors have played an important role in migration. The push factors stem from the lack of development of Ratnagiri district which has reduced the employment potentials. The pull factors are a result of rural urban income differentials. Grater Mumbai has extended its influence far and wide in konkan region as well as in Ratnagiri district all time.

Table 4.1 indicates that near about 1/3rd of the migrants migrate from Ratnagiri district to Mumbai during 1971-2001. The maximum number of migrants, despite their decline in number over decades, originated from Ratnagiri district including Sindhudurg which has bifurcated from Ratnagiri in 1981.

By the process, the outgoing population influences the environment, society and economy of the places of origin. These effects may be favourable or harmful to society, economy and ecology of the region.
Trickling Down Effects of Mumbai on Ratnagiri District

Mumbai is a migrant friendly city and migrants have a share in its economic growth. The city is an industrial capital of India and industrialization is the process of manufacturing consumer good and capital goods. As such industrialization of Mumbai plays a major role in trickling down effects on Ratnagiri district as follows:

1. The benefits of industrialization will 'trickle down' to the other sectors of the economy in the form of the development of agricultural and service sectors leading to the rise in employment, output and income. It is found that 64.07 per cent people migrated from sample villages of Ratnagiri district to total migrants for the reason service only to Mumbai Metropolitan. So migration has benefitted the rural areas of the district.

2. Secondly, Mumbai has been an engine of growth in terms of economic activity; it has been also supporting a large number of people because of the dependence of migrants on it. The creation of employment opportunities continually draws migrants to it. More and more livelihood opportunities in Mumbai are being created in small or micro sector as well as in the informal and self-employment enterprises. About 4.49 per cent migrants of the study villages are busy in business like hoteliers, sweet makers, flowers sellers, etc.

3. Employment generation in post globalization era in Greater Mumbai, get rapid replacement of the manufacturing by the services sector as a provider of bulk employment for the region(Mumbai – Human Development report, 2009). Many people of the Ratnagiri district are in Multinational Corporation in Mumbai city.

4. Mumbai opens vast job opportunities to the people of the district who remit money back to the home. So migration is benefitted the people in the district. Practically, most of the households in sample villages which have experienced migration receive help in the form of money orders. The economy of the villages, as well as, the family depends to a large extent on these money orders. The money is used
for subsistence purposes, buying inputs for farming, fisheries etc in
the district. Mumbai also provides various full time or part-time jobs
for females which raises their incomes.

5. Mumbai provides employment to the under employed and
unemployed in the agricultural sector. In the district more than 65
per cent people engaged in non agricultural activities and among
them large number of people are unemployed or disguised
unemployed whose marginal product is zero or negligible. They can
be transferred from agriculture to industry with little or no loss in
agricultural output. Since the marginal product of labour is higher
in industry than in agriculture transferring. Such workers to the
industrial sector will raise aggregate output (Chand and Puri, 1983,
p. 248).

6. Since agriculture is the main occupation of the villagers and most of
the farmers are poor, they practice subsistence farming. Traditional
farming technique and implements are used and hence the
requirement of manpower is high. 41.5 per cent people in sample
families are engaged in agricultural activities. If the number of male
members in the family is large or if it is a joint family then the
requirement of adequate man-power is easily fulfilled in spite of
migration from such families. Hence, in most of the cases, migration
has positively affected the economy of the villages. As most of the
land holding are small and resources limited, in critical situations
the farmer is able to manage agricultural operations with the help of
his other family members especially wife, children and parents.

Hence, the villagers feel that the migrants should come back
to original villages after retirement, so that with its help they will be
able to increase the agricultural production (Pednekar, H. M., 1990).

7. Migrants also provide other types of assistance in agriculture, e.g.
they visit the villages to help in agricultural operations at the time
of the onset of the monsoon or at the time of harvest. They also help
the younger family members in their education, job or marriage.
8. Due to poor economic condition and unemployment in the village, this confirms the data collected at the village level where it was found that the major reason of migration was employment and 86.05 per cent people migrated for employment only in cities and relatives who settled in Mumbai play a very important role in the process of migration.

9. The people come from Ratnagiri district with poor, little or no skill sets and chose to grab any opportunity that they stumble upon to restart their lives. They may do informal business in Mumbai.

10. Most of the newer migrants provide the cheap-labour supply to the market, especially in the informal services sector.

11. Now-a-days there is another class of people, educated and skilled, with specific industry orientation who came for middle and higher end jobs (Mumbai-Human Development Report, 2009- p.37) due to increasing high level education facilities in the district. It positively affects on income and standard of living of the local people.

12. In Mumbai educational facilities are better developed and technical education is also easily available. From sample villages 11.58 per cent people migrated only for higher education in the cities. Due to lower educational qualification and lack of technical knowledge in the villages migrants normally get unskilled jobs in the initial stage. Some of them try to improve their qualification by obtaining technical knowledge while in service; hence they are able to change from unskilled to skilled jobs.

13. Now-a-days, shift of migrants from 'quantity' to 'quality' man power, higher educational attainment, where not just educational degree but employability is sought after, as are improved language and communication skills in English in this city.

14. Mumbai provides larger facilities for educational travel and contact with new things and ideas which widen the horizon of the rural people. It changes their attitudes towards life and lead to modernization.
15. Because of better educational facilities available in Mumbai and because of general atmosphere around the people of working class get trained in carrying out various industrial activities and this process continued, feeding on itself.

16. Thus, a constant stream of the required type of industrial workers emerged in such centres. The inhabitants of such centres inculcated new outlook on life and experienced a variety of complex human relations, they also, received better educational facilities. This became an asset for generally high level of per capita income for them.

17. Impact of out-Migration on area of origin suggests that out-migration should have positively affected rural areas of origin because in the person-land ratio. So out-migration leads to less intensive farming and environmental improvements (Chopra Girish, 2006, p.218). In sample villages more than 40 per cent households were landless and 27 per cent households belonged to the category of small and marginal land holding of less than two hectors, so there is over crowding on the land, holdings are subdivided and fragmented and farmers practice traditional agriculture.

18. Migration reduces the burden of district. Not only this division and sub-divisions of holding rural areas can be avoided, it also develops the division of labour concept among people, which increases the income, productivity and efficiency of the people. It tries to equalize the social status of the people by increasing the income of the people.

19. The rural people are able to understand and take benefit of the urban life and culture and advancements in migration. The internal and international migration expands the scope of employment. It improves the living of the people, develops the efficiency, knowledge and earning of the people and village Shiv of Khed tehsil is the best example of that; due to international and national (Mumbai) migration many people having high income and so the high living standard in the village.
20. Mumbai brings social transformation, social equality and more equitable distribution of income of the district.

21. Mumbai also resets on the psychological boost which such a policy provides to their citizens in marching towards modernization. Mumbai is viewed as a matter of pride by every Konkani's, for it implies using the new technology, new and diverse skills, large enterprises and more large cities.

22. Moreover, incomes rise rapidly in the industrial sector which are saved and invested for creating more goods and services. Since industrialization of Mumbai is followed by employment opportunities and incomes increase of the people in the district.

23. People enjoy the fruits of modernization in the form of a variety of goods and services available in Mumbai. These also affect the rural sector through the demonstration effect. Mumbai tends to raise the living standards and promotes social welfare of the region.

24. Mumbai also brings increasing returns and economies of scale while agriculture does not. These economies reside in training stimulating communication interaction with industry (inter- sectoral linkages), demonstration effect in production and consumption and so on. Rural society tends to be stagnant, urban society dynamic. Since, Mumbai bring advance culture; it is superior to the stimulant of agriculture for the district.

25. Mumbai is also advantageous from demographic angles also. It reduces both the fertility and mortality rates and opens new avenues for health services (Srivastava, S.C. p.263).

26. Rural populations migrate to cities not necessarily closest to them but those which offer a chance of realizing at least partly their bigger dreams a better life, focusing chiefly on livelihoods. They are considerable to be triggered by labour-market disequilibrium.

27. Mumbai also provides a wide and expanding range of consumer goods which encourages the agriculturists (mango and cashew nuts) to increase farm produce. This in turn, tends to raise their incomes.
to enable them to buy the consumer goods. Mumbai is a main market for mangoes, cashew nuts, jackfruit etc. and there by products.

28. Retired persons from Mumbai to Konkan who are the efficient and enterprising man power of Konkan is more important, wherever they work in Mumbai or any part supports his home and returned to his homeland or retirement. Thus Konkan has retained their experienced man power and capital resources.

29. The dietary habits of people at both the ends are also substantially influenced in the district for example, the Konkanis who migrated to Mumbai opened restaurants and hotels in which they serve the dishes like Malvani food which is popular among Mumbaians and tourists also. About 4.49 per cent migrants are doing business and among them some are in hotel business.

30. The interaction of people of different cultural backgrounds when they stay together in Mumbai leads to the enrichment of civilization, life style, habits etc. This may be said as the greatest achievement of people of the Ratnagiri district.

Thus, both Mumbai and Ratnagiri are interrelated and each effect the growth of the other in ways mentioned above. The Konkan and specially Ratnagiri district should, therefore, achieve the harmonious development between advanced Mumbai and backward Ratnagiri for a steady growth of the economy.

**Polarization Effects of Mumbai on Ratnagiri District:**

District's uneven topography, narrow river valleys, medium to low forest cover area, except a harbour or a nodal point getting some urban momentum; the rest of the land is thinly populated. But Greater Mumbai has made a spectacular impact in general and that itself has produced a striking regional contrast between the swarming and expanding metropolis, economically strong and vigorous and the languishing of Ratnagiri economically backward, socially stagnant and drawing its major
sustenance from Mumbai which attracts the Konkani's working man power (Deshpande, C.D., 1992).

The main factors influencing desire to migrate include differences in employment opportunities, wage rates and living conditions. At the same time, psychological and emotional attachments to home, family, friends and community keep most people from migration.

Distance to the potential destination, communicate and transportation, educational levels each strongly influence the awareness of differences from one place to another, the ability to migrate and the cast of migration (Chopra Girish, 2006).

Due to the push factors, people migrated in Mumbai from konkan region and it also polarization on the original place Ratnagiri such as

1. Rural stagnation - Konkan has experienced that there is a positive relation between economic backwardness and urbanization rather than between economic development and urbanization. So stagnation of rural areas is a feature of villages in the district due to migration. Mumbai increasing at tremendous rate in demographic and socio- economic characters on one side while Ratnagiri district remained socio- economically backward and slow growth of population, on the other side.

2. Mumbai has not brought the expected economic and social benefits. It has failed to reduce regional imbalances in Konkan region. There is a north – south divide. Northern part of the region is advanced while Ratnagiri district of southern part lagging much behind.

3. Out migration has negatively affected areas of original place. In the district out-migration depleted the labour supply which made it hard to maintain agriculture; there is decrease in agricultural production due to loss through migration of the active male workers' (Pednekar H. M., 1990, p. 183). The out-migration of young persons' searching of employment in Mumbai and agriculture sector reportedly disrupted and due to district out migration; depleted the labour supply.
4. The migration of the people from the district brings a tangible transformation in the demographic characteristics. The absolute number of population, its density, growth, age, sex and occupational structure get transformed. There is change in population structure with quality and quantity in rural areas of the district. In sample villages aged people (14.50%), children (19.22%) and females (51.60%) are more due to active and smart youth male migration (70.68%) to total migrants. This substantially affected on farming, population growth and social activities. It clearly shows that of the total migrated population from the sample villages' three-fourth is belonging to selected smart and educated youths who form the base of the human resource development and major contribution to the regional development and economy. This is what the major loss to the local economy due to which it lags behind. Once this economically active population leaves their local place or village and migrate to the developed metropolitan areas, hardly their after they return to their village and if they come back that is after retirement and hardly able to do much, in fact, they depend on others, it further depresses their economy and resources which are already scarce consume up. Hence, internal, growth either stagnates or it grown at a snail's rate. Hence, this mind of smart of smart youths' migration causes polarization.

5. When we study the age of the voluntary migrants, it is found that there is dominance of adolescents (35.5%) and young adults (35.2%) i.e. age group 15-30 and 30-45 years respectively migration in Mumbai from sample villages. The age distribution of the migrants to Greater Mumbai shows the number of young and adults in excess. It clearly indicates that persons in their twenties, thirties and forties which are more active and migratory than other age groups and it reduces the man power of the region. Therefore, those who ignite the engine of development, are hardly left over and their
energy is being consumed by the metropolitan centre's the basis on which these centres are developed.

6. In terms of sex ratio, Ratnagiri stands out as the area of highest sex-ratio in Maharashtra and one in which sex-ratio has tended to increase over time in contrast to the state which had a decreasing trend. Male migration has depleted the village of the manpower which is necessary if agriculture is to be improved and made more productive.

7. Gender differential migration selectivity is a bit ambiguous. It is obvious from the study of Ratnagiri district that there is domination of males in areas of migration to Greater Mumbai. Frequently, high sex-ratio is because of the fact that most of the migrants are generally males and leave behind their families in the villages. So male population in Mumbai is predominant, on this one hand and females have dominance in Ratnagiri district. This also explicitly indicates that male population migrates to Mumbai in search of employment opportunities and education.

8. The migrants usually come alone to cities where they find a high cost living and acute housing problem in the city discourage migrant from taking their families with them. It is also difficult to adjust to the new atmosphere while their own family life is disrupted on account of such moving. From sample villages about 43.0 per cent of the households from which migration has taken place that is only one migrant per family.

9. The usual positive selectivity of migrants also may contribute to negative effects in general in the district, not only on the environment but also on the lives of those remaining. Out-migration of males to work in Mumbai city has disrupted family lives and it has also led to increased autonomy and decision making by the women left behind.

10. Educational attainment of migrants is an important item in the study of migration differentials or of the characteristics of migrants
because it is an indicator of socio-economic status as well as their quality. Generally, migrants migrate to big cities are less educated than the non-migrants at destination, but they have a considerably higher educational level attainment that the general population of the state from which they belong. In sample study it is found that basic educational amenities like Anganwadi and primary schools are available in all sample villages, so the situation with respect to literacy (82.44%) is satisfactory. But the educational level is not very satisfactory. The level of education increased, the percentage of the people decreased from primary to higher education like 12.33 per cent HSC, 4.13 per cent under graduate, 2.33 per cent graduate and only 0.33 per cent were post graduate in study villages.

11. The intellectual people goes away permanently. Those belonging to the working class return home but with hardly any savings and often physically exhausted, it is this factor that makes the poverty of the Konkan more poignant and it tackling more difficult. Basically the problem is one of revitalizing the local community that possesses the intelligence and capacity for handwork and has the ability to absorb new technology.

12. Now-a-days, the outmigration of the educated and technically trained people get brain drain from the district due to high level educational facilities and low level industrial development.

13. Ratnagiri district has consistently recorded extremely low growth rates. In 1901-2011 declined in population and sometimes, negative growth rate. With man-power and resources depleted, it is not surprising that the regional economy deteriorated further. So there is a significant contrast between the district Ratnagiri and city Mumbai.

14. The social effect on chakarmines (Konkani workers in Mumbai) is that the compulsion to live in cities away from their families is the causes their social and personal disorganization. Because of acute housing shortage and their inability to pay rent or build their own
houses a large proportion of the migrants are living in slums. The nauseating and filthy and polluted atmosphere prevailing in such areas is a real health hazard (Chand and Puri, 1983). Diseases like AIDS, Tuberculosis show the increasing tendency in the district. The developed transportation linkages between Mumbai and this district result in spread of these diseases. Diseases like Tuberculosis, AIDS might be transported from Mumbai to this district is responsible for its wide spread (Pandurkar, R.G., 1981).

Conclusion

So it is concluded that Trickling down effects of Mumbai on South Konkan and especially in Ratnagiri district are positive. By the process, the outgoing population influences the environment, society and economy of the places of origin. These effects are trickling down or favourable effects:

Mumbai opens vast job opportunities to the people of the district who remit money back to home. The creation of employment opportunities continually draws migrants to it. More and more livelihood opportunities in Mumbai are being created in small and micro sector as well as in the informal and self employment enterprises. From sample villages 68.56 percent people migrated for employment and most of them migrated in Mumbai. The city also provides various full time and part time jobs for female which raises their incomes. In traditional farming requirement of man power is high but in most of cases, migration has positively affected the economy of the villages because in critical situations the farmer is able to manage agricultural operations with the help of other family members especially wife, children and parents.

Now-a-days educated and skilled, with specific industry orientation that came for middle and higher end jobs due to high level education facilities in the district which positively affect on standard of living.

Due to lower educational qualification and lack of technical knowledge migrants normally gets unskilled job in initial stage but some
of them try to improve them and hence they are able to change from unskilled to skilled jobs.

11.58 per cent people migrated for education only in Mumbai from sample villages. The city provides educational travel and contact with new things. This all became an asset for generally high level of income.

Out migration of the region is positively affected on person-land-ratio in the district. Due to out-migration, it leads to less intensive farming and environmental improvement.

Mumbai leads to the enrichment of people in life style, habits, living standard etc. of Ratnagiri district. This both Mumbai and Ratnagiri are interrelated and trickling down effects are found in backward Ratnagiri district of advanced Mumbai

Polarization effects of Mumbai on Ratnagiri are negative. Rural Stagnation in the district is due to economic development and urbanization in Mumbai. There is a regional imbalance in whole Konkan region. There is a decrease in agricultural production due to loss through migration of the active male workers to Mumbai and it reduces the man power of the region. This also affects the structure of population with quality and quantity. Aged people, children and females are more in the district.

Now-a-days the out-migration from the district of the educated and technically trained youth get brain drain from the district due to low level industrial development.

Due to acute housing shortage and inability to pay rent, large proportion of Konkani workers living in slum areas of Mumbai. In slum areas the nauseating and polluted atmosphere in such areas is a real health hazard. Diseases like Tuberculosis, AIDS might be transported from Mumbai to this district is responsible for its wide spread. Therefore by the process, the outgoing population influences the environment, society and economy of the places of origin. These effects may be favourable or harmful to society, economy and ecology of the region.
References:


