

## **Topic: Recent trend and Pattern of Indian Emigration to Gulf Countries: A Diaspora Perspective**

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**Abstract:** According to the latest estimation of Government of India approximately 6 million Indians are working in the GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) states. They are mainly engaged in unskilled, semi-skilled profession. Remittances sent by the migrants are playing very crucial role in the local economies of many Indian states like Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat. India stands first rank in terms of highest absolute remittances (\$ 63.5 billion) in world. Its contributed near around 4 per cent of the Indian GDP in 2011-2012<sup>2</sup>. Almost 60 per cent of remittances received by India are coming from Middle East or Gulf Countries. The main objective of this paper is to discuss the recent trend and pattern of migration from India to the GCC countries and its impact on the local as well as nation development at the place of emigrants household.

### **Introduction:**

Emigration from India to the GCC (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates) states is not a new phenomenon, it has a historical background and it increased remarkably since 1970s due to the 'oil boom'. According to the latest estimation produced by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) of the Government of India, currently migrant communities in these six GCC countries are 6 million approximately. These huge bulks of migrant population are playing very significant role not only to the host countries (GCCs) but also have major developmental contribution to the place of origin. The GCC countries encircling the Persian Gulf are endowed with oil and natural gas which has made these countries one of the emerging economic powers in the modern era. Oil boom of the 1970s has attracted semi skilled and unskilled labours from various Indian states especially from the south Indian states. Most of them emigrate in these countries for short period of time and the main reason of emigration is none other than economic betterment. Migrants economic success encourages other Indian youths for migration and in this way, emigration from India to the Gulf countries has increased over time. Remittances sent by these emigrants to their families not only help them to escape from abject poverty but also

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<sup>2</sup> World Bank 2012

fuel economic growth in the parent states. Though life of these migrants in these countries are not completely hassle free but their contribution in the Indian economy has compelled the researchers, policy makers and academicians to give special emphasis on this issue. Migration, especially international or cross border migration always brings a two way impact on both the place of origin as well in the place of destination. Moreover, it often stimulates political as well as diplomatic issues. Therefore, in depth analysis of the trend and pattern of Indian migration to GCC countries, their contribution in Indian economy and issues related with them have been produced in this paper.

### **Section: A**

**Objectives:** The paper mainly deals with two objectives:

- 1) To see the recent trend and pattern of Indian emigration (out migration) to the GCC countries.
- 2) To see the role of migrants workers in the context of development at micro and national level.

**Data Sources and Methodologies:** This paper is mainly based on secondary and primary data collected from various national and international documents such as MOIA (Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs), ILO (Indian Labour Organisation), IOM (International Organisation of Migration), and United Nations reports on the workers' rights and so on. All these data have been analysed statistically.

### **Section: B**

**Indian Diaspora in GCC states:** GCC (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates) countries are one of the best known migrant corridors in the world. These six countries are not only attracting migrant workers from India but also attract workers from other south and South-East Asian countries. Indian diaspora is found significantly among all these migrant communities living in the Gulf countries. Indian population almost spread all over the world and make significant diaspora in the world after China. According to the latest estimate by MOIA, Indian emigrants (both PIO and NRI) constituted about 30 million in 130 countries<sup>3</sup>. Out of 30 million almost 6 million Indian migrants workers are engaged in various kinds of jobs in these six GCC countries<sup>4</sup>. They are mainly getting employment in three kinds of jobs: 1) white collar jobs (doctors, nurses,

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<sup>3</sup> MOIA 2012

<sup>4</sup> Pravasi Bharatiya July 2012

engineers, architects, accountants, and managers); 2) semi-skilled workers or blue collar jobs (craftsman, drivers, artisans and other technical workers); 3) unskilled labourers in construction sites, farmlands, livestock ranches, shops, stores and households maids, domestic works. The first category of workers or skilled labours almost comprises about 30 per cent of the total Indian immigrants in the gulf countries. Second and third categories comprise almost 70 per cent<sup>5</sup> of the total Indian immigrants. Within the GCC countries, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) and United Arab Emirates (UAE) are the most popular destinations of Indian immigrants and together they contributed more than 60 per cent of the total deployment of Indian migrant workers.

**Table: 1 Indian Diaspora in GCC Countries**

S.No	Name of GCC Country	Indian Diaspora ( Million)
1	Saudi Arabia	2 million
2	UAE	1.7 million
3	Kuwait	0.64 million
4	Oman	0.7 million
5	Bahrain	0.35 million
6	Qatar	0.50 million
Total		5.94 million

Source: MOIA2012

**Trend of Indian Emigration to GCC countries:** As discussed earlier that Indian emigration to gulf countries is not a new phenomenon. It was started 5000 years back. Census of India and any other Government agencies do not have systematic records of Indian out migration into these countries or other countries. Mostly result based on the sampled and worked done by the different author in respective countries. Information collection was mainly started in 1983 when the government of Indian take initiative for keeping records of Indian emigrants living in other countries. It comes under the preview of Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA). This was attempting to safeguard the interests of Indian nationals working abroad and also to protect them in case of any adverse or unfortunate event occurring in their country of work. Emigration Act, 1983 requires all workers seeking contractual employment abroad to seek emigration clearance from any of the eight offices of the Protectors of Emigrants

<sup>5</sup> Khadariya Binod (2010), *Paradigm Shifts in India's migration policy towards the Gulf*, Middle East Institute Viewpoints.

(POEs). The act also mandates that no agency or establishment can undertake recruitment of Indians for employment abroad without obtaining registration from the Protector General of Emigrants (PGE), under MOIA. The Protector General of Emigrants (PGE) headquarter is situated in New Delhi. It has eight offices of Protector of Emigrants functioning under the overall control of PGE. According to MOIA, the process of grant of emigration clearance has been decentralized for the convenience of the applicants. Eight offices of the Protectors of Emigrants have been established at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad, Chandigarh, Cochin and Thiruvananthapuram. Emigration Act 1983 keeping records of workers in only those who require Emigration check before leaving India. It has divided emigrants' workers those who required Emigration Check and those under the Emigration Check Not Required (ECNR). First categories mainly Govt include the semi-skilled and unskilled workers while the late categories comprises the skilled workers, professional, businessman. These categories have been marked on the basis of occupation. In March 17 categories of workers are exempted from emigration clearance (ECNR) mainly skilled workers. As the partial recorded data government only provide statistics of emigration clearance persons. In the absence of well-regulated rules and procedure for recruitment of workers, the statistics on emigration clearance and employment abroad and the outflow for the period till 1983, quite unreliable.

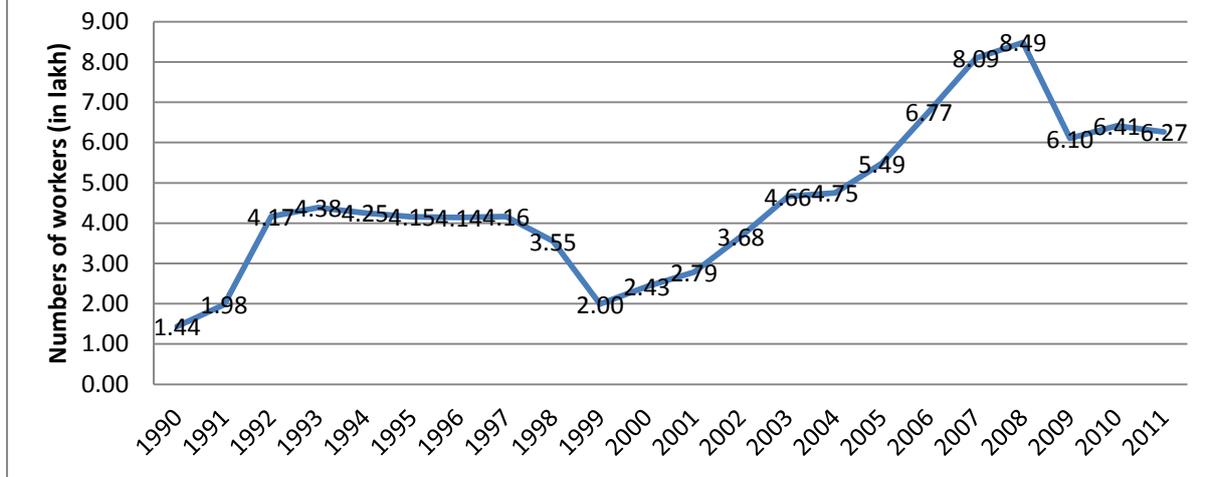
The massive migration from India to the gulf countries started after the oil boom in 1973, with increasing oil revenues and stimulated large scale economies activities in the GCC countries. According Winckler (1997)<sup>6</sup>, they used oil revenues money in different purposes like development of infrastructure including energy stations as well as administrative and governance apparatus, development of infrastructure including energy stations as well as administrative and agriculture sectors, improvement of social services, including health care and education. The enormous flow of oil revenues during the oil boom decade (1973-82) converted the desert economies into one of the fastest growing regions of the World. After the end of oil boom decade (1973-1982), a country situation emerged; oil fallen to one of the lowest levels ever, leading to severe shortfall in oil revenues; hence , overall economies performance plummeted too from the high level of the earlier decade (Al-Kibsi 2007). On the basis of Emigration Check require (ECR) statistics data (1990-2011) any citizen who obtained ECR for leaving work any country of the world. Between one decade (1990-2011)

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<sup>6</sup> Winckler, Onn (1997) , The immigration Policy of the Gulf Cooperation Council(GCC) States, Middle Eastern Studies,33 (3): 480-98

data I observe 5 phases of Indian emigrants to GCC countries. **First Phase** (1990-1993); in these three years inclined trend of labourer had been noticed of Indian emigrants in GCC countries. For this reasons were demanding foreigners' workers for various infrastructural project low immigration control policy, during gulf war in late 1990 most of Indian emigrants come back to their home due to political crisis. **Second Phase** or partial constant trend (1993-1997); between this almost consistent trends had been observed of Indian emigratns to gulf countries. It is important this is the period when was the oil boom in gulf countries. Oil generated revenues has been used to create social services (health hospital, education institution, services sector, banking etc). Between this period average 384000 workers annually obtained work permit as contract in especially in Gulf Countries. **Third Phase** or declined trend (1997-1999); between this phase the some of the host countries specially Saudi Arabia and Kuwait adopted control and restrictive immigration policy for control non-national or non-Arab population through localisation (Kuwaitization, Saudization, Emertization, Qatarization). Between this period average 323000 workers annually obtained work permit as contract in especially in Gulf Countries. Moreover, some of the major project finished or saturation of labour market. They recruited the local labour for control outflow of remittances from their countries. **Fourth Phase** or again inclined trend (2000-2008): between these phases Middle-East counties like UAE have taken the positions for demand semi-skilled and unskilled workers in their project and the prices of oil increased which generate revenue for further infrastructure project. Government of India for promote of international migration have been setup various migration post for various states in India. Between this period average 471000 workers annually obtained work permit as contract in especially in Gulf Countries. **Fifth Phase** or declined trend (2009 to 2011); after 2008 outflow of Indian emigrants to GCC have been seen decline trend to GCC countries but it is absolute form are still high compare to previous decade . Between this periods an average 626000 workers annually obtained work permit as contract in mainly Gulf Countries. Workers get emigrants clearance towards the South-East Asia like Malaysia has been seen increased slightly. This all phases flow determine by the demand of particular types of workers in GCC countries from Asian labour market.

**Figure 2: Numbers of Workers Granted Emigration Clearance, India 1990-2011**



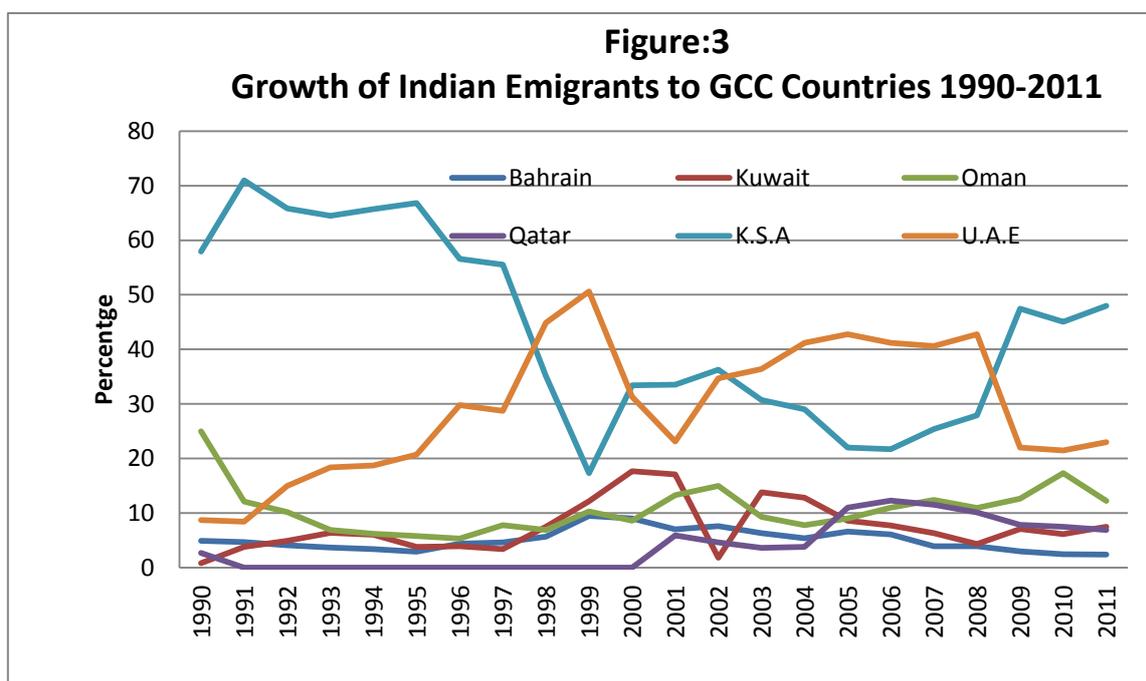
Source: MOIA2012

**Country-wise Trend and Stock of Indian Migrant Receiving Countries in GCCs:**

On the basis of Indian emigration labourer statistics in GCC countries those acquired emigration clearance. Table 2 shows Indian emigrant workers destination varies over the period of time. On the basis of available data between 1990-2011 we can easily observe following five phases of broad trend and pattern of migration from India.

1. **First Phase (1990-1995):** In this phase except Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman shows almost consistent trend, in case of KSA, and UAE show increasing trend or these were most popular destination countries for Indian emigrants among the GCC. Out of the total emigrant population in particular year was mostly 85 per cent were working in these two countries.
2. **Second Phase (1995-2000):** The second phase is characterised by slight change in the choice of destination. Though KSA and the UAE remained most popular destinations for the Indian migrants but other states like Oman, Kuwait and Bahrain were gaining popularity. Percentage of migration from India to KSA and UAE had declined while other Gulf countries have recorded an increasing trend. Data for Qatar was not available for this phase.
3. **Third Phase (2000-2007):** The third phase or the latest phase shows that the UAE has maintained its position as one of the most popular destinations for the Indian immigrants to the GCC countries. The UAE receives highest number of immigrants from India, followed by KSA, Qatar, Oman and Kuwait. Bahrain shows almost consistent trend for the immigrants. Year 2007 onwards Oman shows the continuous

positive trend till 2011(Figure: 3). Other GCC countries record consistent trend in receiving immigrants from India. Most of these immigrants are unskilled (41 per cent) and very few are semi-skilled and skilled labours (2 and 4 per cent respectively). Professionals engaged in various white collar jobs such as engineers, technicians, paramedical staffs and office staffs accounted for only 4 per cent<sup>7</sup> of the total Indian workforce. In the past decade, there has also been significant shift in the category of Indian workers migrating to Gulf region. Now, an increasingly-large number of skilled or white-collar workers are moving to that region<sup>8</sup>.



*Source: Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, government of India*

**Table 2 Year wise growth of Indian emigrants to GCC countries 1990-2007**

<sup>7</sup> Zachariah, Prakash, Ranjan 2002, Gulf migration study programme, working paper no 2.

<sup>8</sup> Pravasi Bharatiya | July 2012

Year	Bahrain	Kuwait	Oman	Qatar	K.S.A	U.A.E	Total Indian Migration TO GCC Countries
1990	4.9	0.8	25	2.7	57.9	8.7	137265
1991	4.7	3.8	12.1	NA	71	8.4	184381
1992	4.1	4.9	10.2	NA	65.8	15	402813
1993	3.7	6.4	6.9	NA	64.5	18.4	418364
1994	3.4	6	6.2	NA	65.7	18.7	404909
1995	2.9	3.8	5.8	NA	66.8	20.7	384468
1996	4.4	3.9	5.3	NA	56.6	29.8	378052
1997	4.6	3.4	7.8	NA	55.5	28.7	386473
1998	5.7	7.5	6.9	NA	35.1	44.9	300192
1999	9.5	12.2	10.3	NA	17.3	50.6	156584
2000	9	17.7	8.6	NA	33.4	31.3	175967
2001	7	17.1	13.3	5.9	33.5	23.1	232668
2002	7.6	1.8	15	4.6	36.3	34.7	273958
2003	6.3	13.8	9.3	3.6	30.7	36.4	395514
2004	5.4	12.8	7.8	3.8	29	41.2	425432
2005	6.6	8.6	9	11	22	42.8	454628
2006	6.1	7.7	11	12.3	21.7	41.2	618286
2007	3.9	6.3	12.4	11.5	25.4	40.6	770510
2008	3.9	4.3	11.0	10.1	27.9	42.7	818315
2009	3.0	7.1	12.7	7.8	47.5	22.0	592299
2010	2.5	6.2	17.3	7.5	45.1	21.4	610409
2011	2.4	7.5	12.2	6.9	48.0	23.0	603159

A) Source: Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, government of India

B) Note: to see the trend of emigrants, country/year wise percentage has been computed from raw data

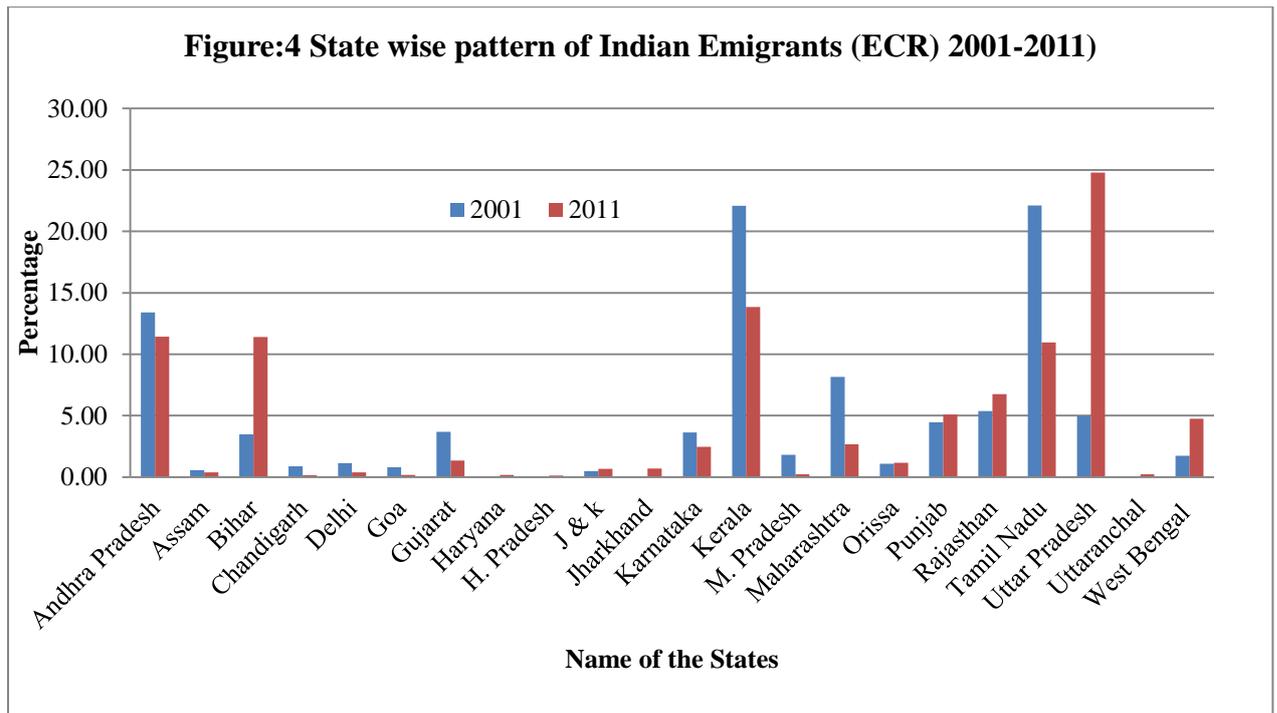
### Section: C

**State wise Variation in Emigration:** India has diversity in so many ways such religion, caste, ethnicity, language. Certain regions are more developed and most of the regions have partially or less developed in terms of industry, infrastructure. Most of the place in the Indian map have seen the different pattern or level of development whether it is rural or urban or village to cities. Movement of people one place to another place is also determined by socio-economic, demographic, political, cultural, and geographical (earthquake, flood, cyclone) factors. With the limitation of data coverage on so many aspect of human life, MOIA collect data on the basis of numbers of persons who had emigrated India. On the welfare point of view, Ministry of Overseas India Affairs (MOIA) is the apex regulatory body which kept the records country wise emigrant persons in the case of unskilled/ semi-skilled workers. These workers require emigration clearance before getting employment in GCC states and other

countries. MOIA provides state wise break-up of the numbers of workers granted emigration clearance since 1993. Here we used the statistics to see the trend and pattern of Indian emigrants in 2001-2011. For this we computed state wise percentage on the basis of total numbers of Indian emigration. As earlier discussed in the trend of migrants' workers in figure no 2 showed that after year 2000 continuous onwards trend have been recorded in India emigrants workers till 2008. Afterwards year 2008 it has been noticed declining trend of getting emigration clearance. If we look the spatial pattern of out migrating persons in state wise Indian. We had noticed year 2001, Kerala stands ranks first positions of generate bulk of emigrants (22.09 per cent) followed by Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Bihar, Karnataka. These states altogether constituted about 85 per cent of total Indian emigrants (Figure no:4). These are the major Indian states which contributed large numbers of emigrants into gulf countries. If we look again into the data of trend and pattern of Indian emigrants persons who get clearance in year 2011 and compared with 2001, it shows major state wise shift of Indian emigrant workers. In 2011 statistics, Kerala holds the second rank in terms of absolute numbers of emigratns workers of total emigrants. In 2011 data shows that Uttar Pradesh has the largest numbers of emigrant with constituted around 25 per cent followed by Kerala (13.8 per cent), Andhra Pradesh , Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Punjab And West Bengal. Other states individually constituted less than 1 per cent of emigrant workforce. It is interesting finding between one decade data that earlier those states were shown predominant positive trend in 2001, have been noticed negative trend in year 2011 data. These focused states are Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra while the other northern Indian states Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab, West Bengal shows the considerable positive trend of generate emigrant workers. The reasons of shift might be to compilation of major project or controlled unskilled immigration of the respective countries given the preference their citizens, search other avenues in south East Asian countries, face of harassment of destination site. The pattern of Indian workers migrating to Gulf countries is the geographical spread. "Now there are more number of people from the north, north west and west of India coming to Gulf countries, compared to those from south India"<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Kurian Kuriakose, chairman of the Doha-based, Morison Menon Chartered Accountants, July 2012 | Pravasi Bharatiya



*Source: MOIA 2011-2012*

### **Section: D**

**Migration and Development:** Migration and development both are highly interdependent processes. People movement one geographical or administrative boundary to another boundary not only effect the place of destination its also affect the place of origin. Development affect can be seen at different level at individual, family, village, community and national. These developments may be in form of economic, social, demographic, cultural, infrastructural, and political. On the basis of substantial support of data here we discussed about the Indian migrants workers in Gulf countries in the context of development at different point of view. How is remittance contributing for the benefit in their family? How often are they invested in such a way to promote sustainable economic development? Is remitted money has important role in the national economy?

**Macro Level Economic impact:** Migrants played quite significant role in their origin country. This impact can be easily seen in local and national economy. Indian immigrants in gulf countries remitted money to back home. As already discussed most of the Indian migrants in the gulf are semi-skilled or unskilled almost 70 per cent only 30 per cent are skilled persons<sup>10</sup>. Most of Indian migrants in gulf are male selective and younger age group. They remitted money to back home in the form of cash and kind. Money remitted by them is

<sup>10</sup> Khadariya Binod (2010), *Paradigm Shifts in India's migration policy towards the Gulf*, Middle East Institute Viewpoints.

also varies with characteristics of the origin family, across the regions, state and with type of migration. Mostly emigrants to Gulf from India belong to villages rather than urban areas. Certain questions click in my mind: why do they remit money? What is the use of it? How do they remit money? What is the importance of remittances in their life? If we look at the statistics of the flow of remittances in countries wise, India holds the first position, followed by China, Mexico, Philippines, and France. According to the latest estimate by the World Bank 2012, India received the highest remittance from abroad about (\$ 64 billion), which almost contributes 4 per cent of India's National GDP<sup>11</sup>. In 2005, it was (\$ 15 billion) and contributes about 3 per cent of the gross national product (Steve 2005)<sup>12</sup>. High-income countries are the main source of remittances. The United States is by far the largest and Saudi Arabia ranks as the second largest, followed by Switzerland and Russia of remittances sending countries. Here we are only considering the formal remitted amount by the migrants to their home land. There is also another parallel source of amount transfer by the migrants known as informal source or *hawalla*<sup>13</sup> transfer money to back home. Indian immigrants in the Saudi Arabia, UAE and Middle-East countries also used transferring money through *hawalla* in their origin place. We can easily observe the positive impact of remittances in the case of Kerala economy. Compared to Indian economy whose share in remittances from all countries is about 3 per cent of the GDP, the share Kerala is 22 per cent of NSDP (Net State Domestic Product) (Irudaya 2003, Zachariah 2004). The effect of remittances on Kerala's per capita annual income in 2003 was an increase of Rs 5,678 (Zachariah and Irudya 2004). The Kerala's per capita income reached 49 per cent above the national average in 1999-2000 (Kannan and Hari 2002)<sup>14</sup>. In 1991, when India was facing the serious balance of payments crisis, migrants' remittances played a significant role to maintain foreign reserves of India with the help of running the Indian economy. In this year foreign exchange reserves had fallen to a level barely adequate to meet essential imports for just a few weeks. The Indian migrants in the developed countries withdrew their dollar deposits from Indian banks abruptly<sup>15</sup>. These problems oriented immediate action for India to avoid defaulting on its

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<sup>11</sup> *Migration Factbook 2011*

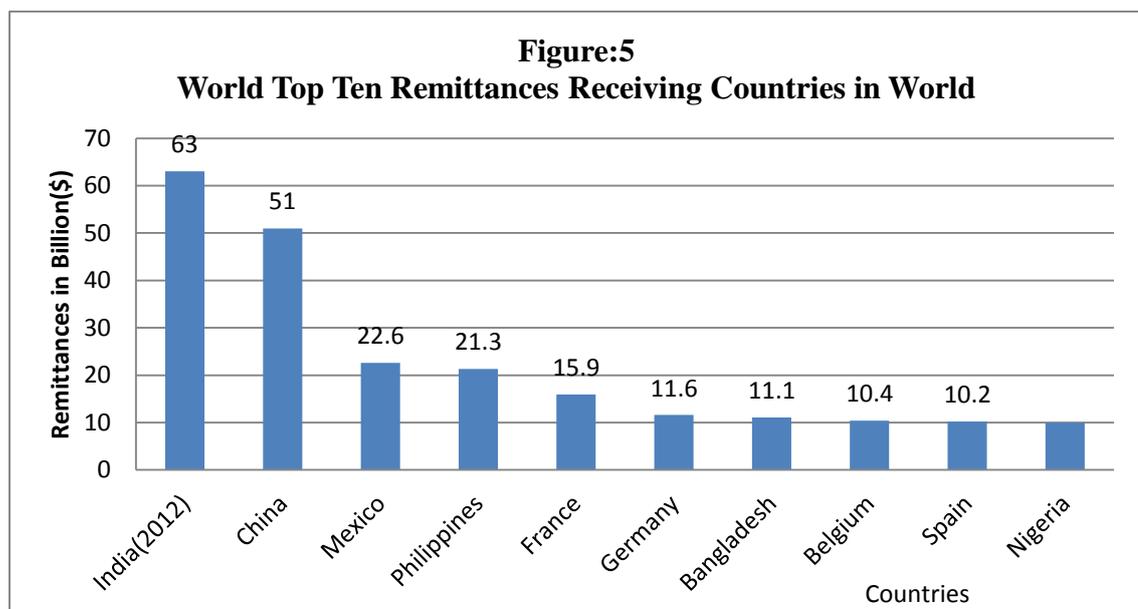
<sup>12</sup> Steve R 2005, *Dubai's Kerala Connection*, Yale Global Online, [www.yaleglobal.yale.edu](http://www.yaleglobal.yale.edu)

<sup>13</sup> *Hawala or Hundi* is an informal value transfer system based on the performance and honor of a huge network of money brokers, which are primarily located in the Middle East, North Africa, the Horn of Africa, and the Indian subcontinent.

<sup>14</sup> Kannan Kp, Hari KS 2002, *Kerala's Gulf Connections: Emigration Remittances and their Macroeconomic Impact 1972-2000*. Working paper nO 328, CDS

<sup>15</sup> Kahdaryia Binod 2011 *Bridging the Binaries of skilled and Unskilled Migration from India*, Dynamics of Indian Migration; Historical and Current perspectives, Edited By S, Irudaya Rajan, Marie Percot, Routledge, New Delhi

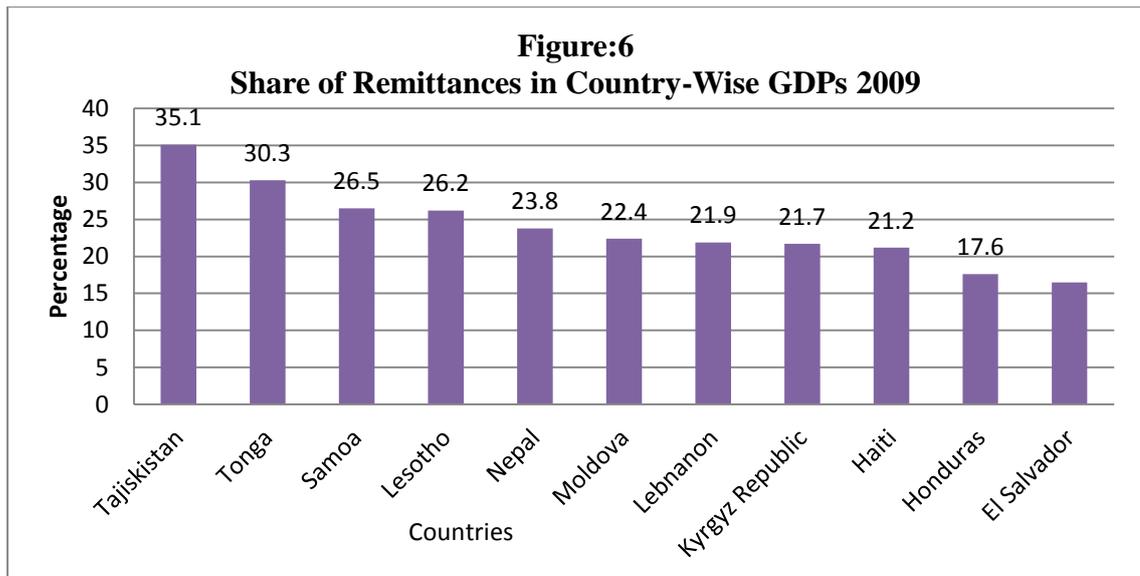
international obligations or face a collapse of its economy for want of official imports (Kelegana and Parikh 2003)<sup>16</sup>. It was slowly but steadily growing remittances from the Indian unskilled workers in the Gulf region which saved the situation for India. According to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) estimates, the Gulf region accounted for an average 27 percent of the total remittance inflows to India between 2006-07 to 2009-10. In the year of global economic crisis in 2008-09, Gulf countries accounted for nearly 31 percent of the total remittance inflows to India. In 2011-12, India's trade deficit increased to nearly \$170 billion<sup>17</sup>. However, remittances from overseas have been an important source of foreign currency in India and can help in addressing the balance of payment issue. Government revenue increase with the outflow of emigrants to abroad in various form fees of Visas, departure taxes, international telephone calls and so on. All of these facilities had been used by the migrant workers directly or indirectly.



**Source:** Remittances data, Development Prospects Group, World Bank, 2011

<sup>16</sup> *Kahdariya Binod 2011 Bridging the Binaries of skilled and Unskilled Migration from India, Dynamics of Indian Migration; Historical and Current perspectives, Edited By S, Irudaya Rajan, Marie Percot , Routledge, New Delhi pg 273-274*

<sup>17</sup> Pravasi Bharatiya | July 2012



**Source:** Remittances data, Development Prospects Group, World Bank, 2011

**Micro Level Impact:** Remittances are playing a very significant role at the micro level for instance village or households and families level. It has a quite significant importance particularly in the poorer household in Indian society<sup>18</sup>. It plays a crucial role for reducing abject poverty in certain areas. In case of Indian diaspora in the Gulf, most of the migrant persons are unskilled and semi-skilled. They have no choice or any alternative jobs in the place of origin. They are marginalised in different ways; abject poverty, no frequent job, housing, education, saving, debt etc. Job opportunity plays a very significant role in their life. Once they get the jobs, various positive changes have been seen in their life after migration. These all the changes easily can be seen in different modes of ways like housing, children education, saving, purchasing power, paying debt, transportation, town planning, decision making, etc. When the low skilled or unskilled people migrate, these workers tend to send more remittances than professional and low or unskilled workers tend to come from poorer families so any economic benefit from their departure. According to the Kerala migration Study conducted by Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, an index of the value of the house of an emigrant shows 7.05 compared to 4.3 of a non-migrant. Same time 87 percent of migrant houses were found electrified compared to 66 percent of the non-migrants (Zachariah et al, 2002)<sup>19</sup>. The impact of development also can be seen in other aspects like commercial sector,

<sup>18</sup> According to census definition household a group of persons who commonly live together and would take their meals from a common kitchen unless the exigencies of work prevented any of them from doing so'

<sup>19</sup> Azeez A and Begum M ( 2009) *Gulf Migration, Remittances and Economic Impact*, *Journal of Social Sciences* , 20(1); 55-60(2009)

educational institutions, vocational training institute, created hostel, commercial complex, and jewellery outlets. The impact of remittances can be quite considerable at families and village level but at the regional or national level (the macro level) their impact is less clear.

**Transfer of Labour Force:** Indian has 1.22 billion populations in the world<sup>20</sup>. India has the 2<sup>nd</sup> rank in the world in terms of population size after China. Indian population are also facing unemployment and under employment. India is one of the developing countries in the world which have the largest (60 percent) working age group (15-54) population due to high birth rate. The growth of job opportunity and population growth rate has a huge gap. Most of the population in India engaged in disguised employment. On the other side GCC countries has shortage of working population for work in their industries and huge demand of foreigner in their various fields. This demographic difference provides opportunity for Indian to work in Middle- East countries. India has the largest number of expatriates in gulf countries among immigrants population. These six countries open the window of opportunity for Indian workers especially in unskilled and semi-skilled. So that, we can easily say that there is no brain-drain in the context of Indian migration to gulf countries. It is estimated that every year six lakh Indian are getting employment in the gulf region. This considerable numbers play very significant role in the labour market. The Kerala Migration study of 1998 notes that the unemployment rates in Kerala state has reduced by about 3 percent as a consequence of Migration (Zachariah et al. 2002)<sup>21</sup>. It is in the case of gulf migration of Indian population most of the workers are incipient diaspora<sup>22</sup>, the host societies do not allow to them to assimilate or bring their families in the case of unskilled labourer. In the case of gulf migration most of the workers are not engaged in permanent job in the host societies.

**Other Aspects:** The return of migrants—whether permanent and temporary bring benefit in many ways. In economic terms, returns workers brings useful knowledge and contacts from overseas, and can provide an important means for transferring skills. Migration also plays of important role of creating chain migration of their relative/native village/city within country and with the help of social networking. Whenever, they come back after

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<sup>20</sup> *Census of India 2011*

<sup>21</sup> Zachariah, KP Kanna, S Irudaya Rajan(Eds); *Kerala Gulf Connection; CDS Studies of International labour migration from Kerala State in India*, Thiruvananthapuram; centre for development Studies pp 13-45

<sup>22</sup> P C Jain, "An Incipient Diaspora: Indians in the Gulf Region", in PC Jain (ed.), *Indian Diaspora in West Asia*, Delhi: Manohar, 2007, p.181 and Annual Reports, Various years, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

compilation of project with earned money or remittance or not want to go again earlier destination countries. They used their saving in many ways for open new business/enterprises or create opportunities for. They are playing very significant role in the local labour market. There are other dimensions to see the development through the migrant workers, Such as bilateral trade are growing strongly, UAE the largest trade partner of India. Expansion in business ties largely supported by the Indian diaspora in GCC and growing bilateral trade negotiations significant of Indian workers in white collar job. India has emerged as the second-largest trading partner of the GCC countries, only slightly behind Japan. Shift of occupation mobility of workers also have seen in the context of Indian migration to GCC states.

**Conclusion:** Migration and development is not a new process it was exist in ancient times and still continue. Migration and development can be seen positive and negative aspect of both the place of origin and destination. In the case of Indian migrants in GCC countries positive effect have been noticed at the origin places (India). These changes have been noticed through different primary studied done by academicians with compare of non-migrants workers in India. About 70 percent of Indian workers in gulf are from the peripheral regions of India, majority of them are the part of absolute poverty before migration. Multiple changes have been noticed in migrants life such as earning money increase at household level/ family level, sending their children to school, re-paid loan reduce unemployment rate, purchasing housing, increasing saving, increase commercial sector etc. Globalisation and information of communication technology are playing important role for further enhancing migration from India into different parts of world. But we cannot ignore the problem faced by the migrants before and after migration at the place of origin and destination countries. A reported case shows living and working environment of Indian migrants workers is harsh in GCC countries. Moreover violation of human right against Indian also notices in case of domestic workers. For strengthening Indian migration in positive way Government of Indian and GCC countries should take immediate actions for the welfare of these workers.

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