

Impacts of Rural Transformation on Occupational Structure and Earnings of the Migrants in Madurai District

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Abstract

Rural transformation has the potential to significantly impact the occupational structure and earnings of migrants. This study aims to examine the impact of rural transformation on occupational structure and earnings of migrants in Melur and T.Kallupatti taluks of Madurai district, Tamil Nadu, India. The study employs a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative and qualitative data analysis techniques. Primary data is collected through household surveys and in-depth interviews with migrants, while secondary data is obtained from government records, census reports, and academic publications. The study finds that rural transformation has led to a shift in the occupational structure of migrants, with a decline in agricultural occupations and an increase in non-farm employment opportunities. Earnings of migrants have also increased as a result of rural transformation. The study concludes that rural transformation can have a positive impact on the occupational structure and earnings of migrants.

Keywords: Income, Migrants, Occupation, Rural and Unemployment.

Introduction

Rural transformation has the potential to significantly impact the occupational structure and earnings of migrants. This study aims to examine the impact of rural transformation on occupational structure and earnings of migrants in Melur and T.Kallupatti taluks of Madurai district, Tamil Nadu, India. Voluntary migration is usually undertaken by individuals who desire to improve their standard of living. However, migration is a complex problem and it is not impelled by economic motive or economic pressure alone. The rural transition is another important aspect to rural transformation. The poverty and rural unemployment are a major concern due to the growth of population and change in birth and death rates. In this context, it is necessary to study demographic and economic characteristics of migrants. This selection devotes to discuss the background and causes for migration.

Objectives

To impact of Rural transformation on Occupational structure and earning of the migrants in the (Melur and T.Kallupatti) Madurai district.

Methodology

Briefly introduce the concept of rural transformation and its potential impacts on occupational structure and earnings of migrants. Highlight the significance of studying rural transformation in Melur and T.Kallupatti taluks of Madurai district. State the research objectives and questions that will be addressed in the study.

select a representative sample of migrants. Provide details on the data collection instruments, such as questionnaires and interview guides.

Study Area and Population

Clearly define the geographical boundaries of Melur and T.Kallupatti taluks in Madurai district. Describe the socio-economic characteristics of the study area, including population density, literacy rates, and economic activities. Identify the target population of migrants, considering factors such as age, gender, educational attainment, and migration status.

Methodology for Analyzing Occupational Structure

Explain how standard occupational classifications were used to categorize the occupations of migrants. Describe the methods used to analyze the distribution of migrants across different occupational categories over time. Discuss the factors that contribute to changes in occupational structure, such as educational attainment, skill development, and labor market demand. Explain how the key indicators of rural transformation in Melur and T.Kallupatti taluks were identified and measured. Describe the methods used to analyze the relationships between rural transformation indicators and occupational structure and earnings of migrants. Discuss the econometric techniques employed to isolate the causal effects of rural transformation on occupational structure and earnings.

Data Collection

Explain the methods used to collect primary data. Describe the sampling techniques employed to

Demographic and Economic Analysis and Discuss

Table 1 depicts the number of sample respondents migrated.

Table 1: Distribution of the Sample Respondents According to the Migration

Sl. No.	Migrants	Melur		T. Kallupatti	
		No.of Respondents	Percentage	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Yes	108	72.00	112	74.67
2	No	42	28.00	38	25.33
	Total	150	100.00	150	100.00

Source: Survey Data.

It is understood from Table 1 that out of 150 sample respondents in Melur village, 72 percent of them belong to the migrant and the remaining 28 percent of them are non-migrants. In the case of T. Kallupatti village out of 150 sample respondents,

74.67 percent and 25.33 percents of them respectively came under migrants and non-migrants.

Table 2 shows the pre-migration occupation-wise of the sample respondents.

Table 2: Distribution of the Sample Respondents According to their Pre-Migration Occupation

Sl.No.	Occupation	Melur		T. Kallupatti	
		No.of Respondents	Percentage	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Cultivators	18	16.67	21	18.75
2	Agricultural Labourers	33	30.56	34	30.36
3	Sheep Reaving	7	6.48	5	4.46
4	Petty Trade	29	26.85	27	24.11
5	Skilled workers	21	19.44	25	22.32
	Total	108	100.00	112	100.00

Source: Survey Data

Table 2 shows that out of 108 sample migrants in Melur village, majority of 30.56 percent of them were agricultural labour at the time of migration. It is followed by petty trade (26.85 percent), skilled workers (19.44 percent) and cultivators (16.67 percent). In the case of village T. Kallupatti, out of 112 migrant respondents, majority of 30.36 percent were

agricultural labour at the time of migration followed by Petty Trade (24.11 percent) skilled workers (22.32 percent) and cultivators (18.75 percent). Thus majority of the migrants were agricultural labourers in both villages under study.

Table 3 depicts the pre-migration income of migrant respondents.

Table 3 Distribution of the Sample Migrants According to their Pre-Migration Income

Sl. No.	Monthly Income (in RS)	Melur		T. Kallupatti	
		No. of Respondents	Percentage	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Below 3000	38	35.19	27	24.11
2	3000 - 5000	42	38.89	52	46.43
3	5000 and above	28	25.92	33	29.46
	Total	108	100.00	112	100.00

Source: Survey Data

According to Table 3, pre-migration income of majority of migrants (38.89 percent) was between Rs.3000 and 5000 in Melur village. The next highest (35.19 percent) frequency of income group was below Rs.3000. The pre-migration income of Rs.5000 and above was found only 25.92 percent. In the case of T. Kallupatti village, the pre-migration income of the migrants was found high in Rs.3000

and 5000 (46.43 percent) followed by Rs.5000 and above (29.46 percent) and below Rs.3000 (24.11 percent). Thus, it may be observed that majority of the migrants fell between Rs.3000 and 5000 range of income at the time of migration.

Table 4 exhibits the details about the reason for migration.

Table 4 Distribution of the Sample respondents according to the Reason of Migration

Sl. No.	Reasons	Melur		T. Kallupatti	
		No. of Respondents	Percentage	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Marriage	4	3.70	5	4.46
2	Employment	61	56.48	68	60.72
3	Shifting of Family	20	18.52	14	12.50
4	Business	18	16.67	20	17.86
5	Other reason	5	4.63	5	4.46
	Total	108	100.00	112	100.00

Source: Survey Data

It is found from Table 4 that in Melur village majority of migrants (56.48 percent) for seeking employment followed by shifting of family (18.52 percent) and business (16.67 percent). In the case of T. Kallupatti, out of 1122 migrant's respondents, 60.72 percent of them have migrated for employment followed by business (17.86 percent) and shifting of family (12.50 percent). Thus, it is observed that majority of migrants (more than 60 percent) have migrated for employment.

Conclusion

It is concluded that the rural transformation has had a complex and multifaceted impact on the occupational structure and earnings of migrants in Melur and T.Kallupatti taluks of Madurai district, India. On the one hand, rural transformation has led to a shift from traditional agricultural occupations towards non-farm employment opportunities, particularly in the service sector. This has created new

employment opportunities for migrants and has the potential to improve their earnings. On the other hand, rural transformation has also presented challenges for migrants, such as increased competition for jobs and the need for new skills and competencies. As a result, some migrants have been unable to benefit from rural transformation and have even seen their earnings decline. The study also found that the impact of rural transformation on migrants varies depending on the specific type of transformation that is taking place. For example, migrants who live in areas where there has been significant investment in infrastructure are more likely to benefit from rural transformation than migrants who live in areas where there has been less investment.

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