

Patterns of Migration in Ludhiana City : 1971-1991

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Abstract

In this paper the trends of migration in Ludhiana City from 1971-1991 have been analysed. About 20% of its population has enormously increased due to migration which is almost 2% of Punjab's population.

Various economic, social and natural reasons account for the movement of people from one place to another. Large scale migration, accompanying structural changes, is one of the fundamental feature of modern economic development. Ludhiana City has experienced a large scale of economic and social development during this period which further affected the volume of migration and trends in the streams of migration. Such types of movements have a profound effect on the origin and destination areas of the migrants.

Furthermore, it is interesting to note that recently Ludhiana City has experienced a decline in percentage of rural-urban migrants and increase in the proportion of urban-urban migrants. However, the main source of data, census under estimates population mobility as it provides low estimation about the about the circulation and commuting of people.

Introduction

People always migrate from one place to another for employment in Indian context. As industrialization and urbanisation take place, a greater variety of spatial difference becomes apparent and increases the intensity of number of migrants.

Migration takes place due to several reasons, especially for males employment opportunities and economic development of areas are the major reasons of migration and for females, social reasons such as marriage and associational migration are much more important factors than economic reasons.

Increase in the proportion of migrants in Ludhiana merits special attention because

of the fast growth of urban population in the city. In 1901 total population of the city was 48,649 and in 1991 after 90 years it reached 10,42,740. It is more than 20 fold increase in the number of persons. Total area under the urban jurisdiction had also increased. Consequently, the fast increase in the urban population has been creating slum settlement, putting pressure on civic amenities such as education, health, water supply and rising urban crimes.

Data and Methodology

This study is based on the cross sectional analysis of data, which has been collected from Migration Tables of 1971 and 1991.

Table 1

Ludhiana City : Percentage of Migrants to Total Population

Year	Punjab	Ludhiana City
1971	1.70	16.18
1991	2.33	19.18

Source: Census of Punjab, 1971-1991

Rural-Urban and Urban-Urban migration rates are analysed by the last place of residence and patterns of intra-inter district and interstate migration and reasons behind the migration streams have been studied in greater detail on the basis of the simple percentage statistical method.

Trends of Migration in Ludhiana City from 1971-1991

Ludhiana is an important industrial city of Punjab and flow of migrants to the hosiery industry started from the beginning of the seventies and to the other industries in the city even earlier (Krishan, 1998). Being an industrial centre.

Ludhiana city received 4,74,240 total migrants in 1991. There was a net increase of 2,43,280 migrants as compared to 1971. On the other hand, the post1971 period witnessed a dramatic increase in proportion of migrants. Later migrant population of Ludhiana city constituted 2.33% of the total population of Punjab and 19.18% of the total population of Ludhiana district in 1991, whereas their proportion was 1.70% and 16.18% respectively in 1971 (Table No. 1). Ludhiana is a big industrial centre of Punjab also known as 'Manchester of Punjab', and it is situated along the Grand Trunk road, both factors allured a large number of migrants from other districts of the state and country.

In absolute number this increase in male migrants was more than one lakh, and almost 3% increase (2.97%) was recorded during two decades in Ludhiana city. Number of male migrants increased almost 75 thousands in absolute terms whereas females' number was more than one lakh twenty five thousands (1,25,000). This proportion of male migrants was 9.7% of

Table 2

Number and Percentage of Migrants in Ludhiana City

Migrants	1971		1991		1971-1991 Increase in Migrants
	Migrants	%age	Migrants	%age	
Total migrants	230,960		474,240		243,280
Male migrants	128,585	55.67	226,680	44.79	98,095
Female migrants	102,375	44.32	247,560	52.26	145,185
Rural Migrants	87,200	37.75	172,443	36.35	85,243
Urban Migrants	89,930	38.93	253,967	53.55	164,037

Source: Census of Punjab, 1971-1991.

Table 3

Ludhiana City Reasons of Migration, 1991

Reason	Proportion of Migrants to total Migrants	Males	Females
Employment	25.49	47.98	4.89
Business	1.70	2.91	0.60
Education	1.27	2.66	0.94
Family moved	19.60	19.68	19.32
Marriage	32.34	3.78	58.49
Natural Calamities	0.29	0.34	0.25
Other reasons	19.29	23.66	15.39

Source: Census of Punjab, 1991

the total male population and 19.31% of female migrants to total female population of Ludhiana district.

The recent research shows that 243,280 migrants have entered Ludhiana city after 1971. This addition doubled the number of total migrants of Ludhiana city only during the two decades. Among these migrants 44,790 were males and 52.20% were females. Of the total migrants 36.35% came from rural areas and 53.55% from urban areas. Two important factors have emerged from this data. Firstly, the proportion of male migrants had declined from 55.67% in 1971 to 44.79% in 1991 whereas proportion of female migrants experienced an increase from 44.32% to 52.20%. In these two decades it showed the reverse order as assumed by the scholars. Secondly, proportion of rural migrants decreased from 37.35% in 1971 to 36.35% in 1991 but proportion of urban migrants increased from 38.93% to 53.55% (Table No.2).

It indicates in the first case almost 10% decrease in male migrants and about 8% increase in female migrants. The proportion

of females increased, firstly, due to the family migration and marriage migration and secondly, it was because of the social and economic development of the city which encouraged male migrants to support their families at their destination. In fact, female migration was not induced to the economic reasons such as employment and business but it was largely dependent on the social reasons such as associational and marriage migration.

Reasons of Migrations

The major reasons of voluntary migration are economic. According to this study almost 30% of the total migrants had moved in search of better economic opportunities (Table No.3) because there are 4219 factories in the city which provided jobs to 1,54,744 persons (Statistical abstract, 2000).

Furthermore of the 4,74,240 persons who came to Ludhiana city as per 1991 census 25.49% moved for employment, 32.34% basis of marriage and 19.29% due to other reasons. But among males 47.98%

entered the city only for employment and among females this proportion was only 4.89%. About 78% of females changed their residence due to marriage and family moved reasons (Table No. 3). Therefore, it is true that male migration was associated with economic reasons whereas female migration was due to social reasons.

Patterns of Migration Streams

Every city receives two flows of migration-one from rural areas and second from urban areas and these flows are known as rural-urban and urbanurban migration streams.

In 1971 rural-urban migrants were 37.75% and 38.93% were urbanurban. After twenty years in 1991 there was a decline in rural-urban migration and 14.62% increase was recorded in urban-urban migration stream. Thus, changed migrational trends in two streams of the Ludhiana city show the social and economic development of the region. According to Zenlinsky's Mobility Hypothesis, streams of migration are directly related with the socio-economic development of the region. He observed that in the 1st stage of socio-economic development rural-rural, migration stream was prevalent,

during the second stage rural-urban migration was dominating, in the third stage urban-urban migration was observed and in fourth urban-rural stream of migration was more common.

Regarding rural-urban migration it has been observed that it is an important and dominating stream in the initial period of the urban development of any city because an urban centre needs unskilled and semiskilled workers for construction works and for other physical works (non-technical works) so urban-urban migrants are lesser in number. But after the establishment of industries, offices and administrative units patterns of migration streams are changed. It changed from rural-urban to urban-urban migration stream, because a mature or developed urban centre required skilled and professional workers for office work and for handling or repairing of machinery etc.

On the basis of sex in 1971 proportion of males was more than the females in rural-urban stream whereas the proportion of males was lower than females in urban-urban migration. Same type of pattern was observed in 1991 on the basis of sex (Table No. 5).

Table 4

Ludhiana City Proportion of Migrants in different Streams 1971-1991.

Stream	% age of migrants to total migrants	
	1971	1991
Urban-Urban	38.93	53.55
Rural-Urban	37.75	36.35

Source: Census of Punjab, Migration Tables, 1971, 1991.

Table 5

Proportion to males and females in Migration Stream

Stream	Males		Females	
	1991	1971	1991	1971
Rural-Urban	40.89	40.42	32.20	34.40
Urban-Urban	47.61	36.06	58.98	42.53

Source: Census of Punjab, 1971, 1991

But there was a decline in the proportion of female migrants in rural-urban stream. A significant rise of migrants was recorded in urban to urban migration of both sexes i.e. almost 11.55% increase in the proportion of male migrants whereas among females this increase was 16.45%.

In 1991 urban-urban migration was a dominating stream in Ludhiana city which indicated the social and economic advancement of the city and related to the IIIrd stage of Zelinsky's mobility Transition model (Zelinsky, 1971).

Distance and Migration

Distance plays an important role in the flow of migrants. Short distance (Intra-Inter-district) immigration is always common among migrants in relation to inter-state. In 1971 their proportion was 65.61% and in 1991 it was 61.70% of the total migrants. But in proportion of interstate migration also increased in 1991 from 34.38% in 1971 to 38.29%. Long distance migration was increased in 1991 as compared to 1971.

Although we have observed that there was an increase of the interstate migrants

among the total migrants, both streams have shown different types of proportions in this regard (Table No. 7).

Rural-urban migration stream lost about 8% migrants in short distance migration i.e. intra-district from 1971 to 1991, but gained 11.35% of migrants from other states (Table No. 7). Obviously, long distance migration was encouraged but short distance was discouraged among rural-urban migrants during this period(1971-1991).

On the other hand, urban to urban migration stepped up in short distance migration mainly in intra-district. It increased 6.54% to 20.14% but proportion of interstate migrants was decreased from 42.11% to 38.19% among urbanurban migrants.

Long distance migration was encouraged by rural-urban migrants but discouraged by urban to urban migrants whereas proportion of short distance migrants increased among urban migrants and decreased in rural-urban migrants. Short distance migration was becoming increasing urban in origin and long distance was becoming increasing rural in origin with the economic development of the town.

Table 6

Distance and Migration Proportion of Migrants to Total Migrants

State	Years	
	1971	1991
Intra-district	19.18	21.71
Inter-district	46.43	39.99
Inter-state	34.38	38.29

Source: Census of India, 1971, 1991.

Table 7

Distance and Streams of Migration

	Rural-Urban		Urban-Urban	
	1971	1991	1971	1991
Intra-District	32.21	24.28	6.54	20.14
Inter-District	41.37	37.96	51.34	41.67
Inter-State	26.41	37.76	42.11	38.19

Source: Census of India, 1971 and 1991.

Table 8

Proportion of Males and Females in Different Streams

	Rural-Urban				Urban-Urban			
	1991		1971		1991		1971	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Intra-district	20.00	25.26	28.62	37.52	20.06	20.20	5.70	7.43
Inter-district	32.69	44.09	37.56	46.99	31.93	48.86	48.83	33.99
Inter-state	47.32	26.65	33.82	15.48	48.00	30.93	45.44	38.56

Source: Census of India, 1971 and 1991

Females were outnumbered in short distance migration and proportion of males was much higher in long distance migration in both streams and in both the decades.

The number of interstate migrants increased more than a lakh in Ludhiana city from 1971 to 1991 (their number was 60905 in 1971 and 165240 in 1991) because industrial development of Ludhiana has created an additional demand for labour force, which has been met by the migrant labour hailing from backward states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Haryana & Jammu & Kashmir (Diagram 1). Ludhiana city received migrants from all the states and union territories except Meghalaya and Lakshdweep and absolute number of migrants from other states ranged between 15 (Manipur) and 51260 (Uttar Pradesh).

In 1971, Ludhiana pity received maximum number of migrants from Uttar Pradesh (44.74%) that was followed by Haryana 27.74%, Himachal Pradesh 8.55%, Rajasthan 4.88% and Jammu & Kashmir 1.93%. Patterns of inter-state inmigration in 1991 were almost similar to 1971. Uttar

Pradesh ranked first with 47.50%, Bihar experienced 13.93% pushing Haryana (12.95%) to third rank and rest of the states retained the same rank but the number and %age of migrants 'increased in each and every state.

These migrants have provided Ludhiana city with much needed workers in industries and administrative units. It has been observed that in seventies migrants were engaged in unskilled and semi-skilled activities but rapid industrialisation led to an increase in the white-collar and technical jobs.

Once these migrants entered the city, they stayed in the city for longer period, which brought strain on the infrastructural facilities of the city e.g. transport, water, fuel, power etc.

Some migrant workers who were employed in industries had to be provided minimum living condition by their employers including proper sanitation but some were forced to live in filthy conditions lacking basic sanitary facilities. So, migration also has some negative aspects,

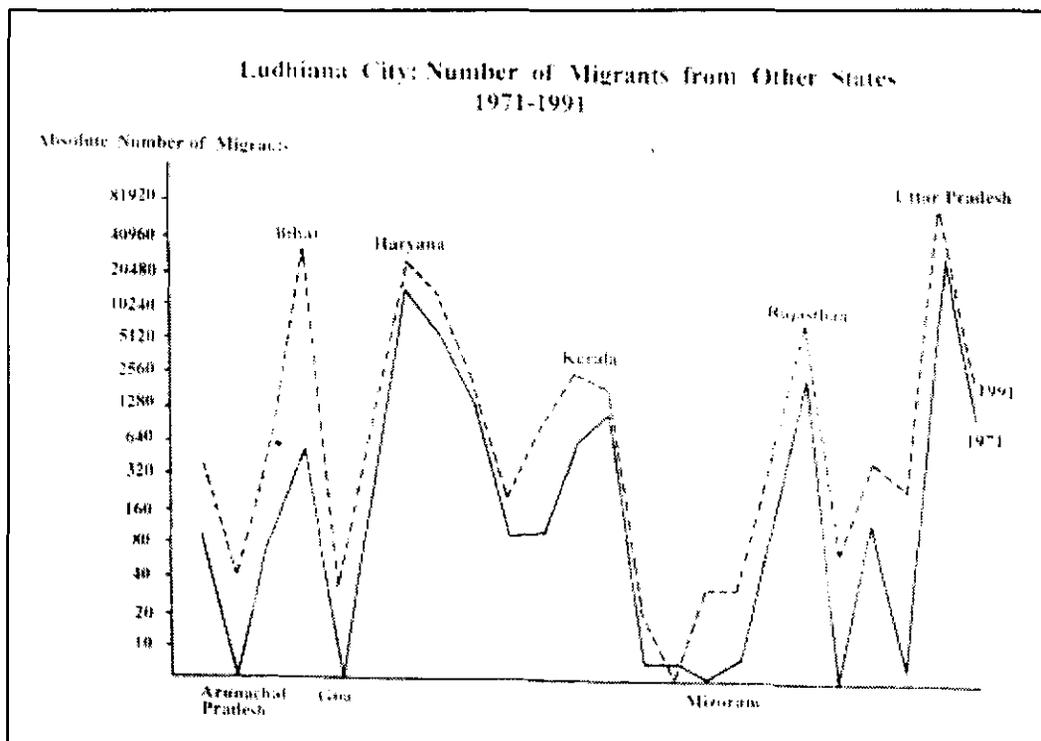


Fig. 1 Ludhiana City : Number of Migrants from Other States 1971-1991

such as growth of slums with bad and unhygienic living conditions and a number of social crimes including prostitution, committing murders and other crimes etc. As a result, women are affected badly, particularly unskilled women working in the informal sector. They often are paid less and are exploited by the contractors.

Therefore, it can be concluded that the percentage of male migrants increased with the increase in distance in both flows in 1991 and female migration was mainly short distance migration.

Conclusion

1. Ludhiana city recorded highest growth in total population in 1991 (about 39%).
2. Migrants of Ludhiana city constituted 2.33% of the total population of Punjab and 19.18% of total Ludhiana District's population.
3. Female migration was largely due to the social reasons whereas male migration was mainly due to economic reasons.
4. Percentage of urban-urban migrants increased with the economic and social development of the city and percentage of rural-urban migrants decreased because at that stage the city required professional and skilled workers in

industries and for other administrative work rather than unskilled labourer which increased the proportion of rural-urban migrants.

5. Females were outnumbered among short distance migrants. But the proportion of male migrants was high in long distance migration.
6. Proportion of urban-urban migrants increased in short distance migration but rural-urban migrants increased in long distance migration.
7. All states and Union Territories contributed to their share of migrants. Relatively high proportion of migrants was recorded from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh respectively in the city.

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