

Smart Village as an Instrument to Curb the Rural to Urban Migration in India

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1 ABSTRACT

Migration is an indicator to understand the degree of alteration in socio-economic, political sphere at national as well as international levels. It is also a symptom of disparity in economic and social aspects between the origin of migrant and destination of migrant. Disparities in regional development are main reason for migration in Indian. During year 1951 in India the share of urban population to the total population was only 17 percent. According to 2011 census of India the total population of the country is 1.2 billion with annual growth rate of 1.8 percent. The total urban population is 377 million, which is 31.6 percent of the total population of the country. Due to rapid industrial growth and agglomeration of economic activities, cities are pulling people from rural hinterland. The population is largely concentrated in a few large cities and metropolitan cities of the country, it accounts for 35.4 percent of the total urban population. The urbanization in India is mainly due rural to urban migration of population. During last 50 years the share of rural population of the country has decreased from 82.0 to 68.9 per cent.

According to National Sample Survey 64th Round approximately a third of Indians (i.e. some 325 million people, out of a population of 1.14 billion in 2008) are migrants. Employment seems to be the prime force for migration; in rural areas, 55 per cent of the households have migrated for employment related reasons. Analysis of the statistical data says that after migration a higher percentage of the persons were found to be engaged in economic activities: for males the percentage of workers have increased from 51 per cent before migration to 63 per cent after migration in rural areas while in case of females, it has increased from 20 per cent to 33 per cent in rural areas. Getting employment is always a major area of concern. In most cases it is found that migrants are not getting job in urban areas according to their capacity, they are either engaged in lower capacity job or become self-employed. For rural males, self-employment has appeared as main choice to employment after migration. The share of self-employment in total migrants have increased from 16 per cent before migration to 27 per cent after migration, while the shares of regular employees and casual labours remained almost stable, in both before and after migration.

The causes of migration are usually explained with two broad categories, namely, push and pull factors. For rural India, poverty is still considered to be the main push factor for illiterates and moderately educated migrants. The lack of employment opportunities in the rural areas and better employment opportunity and infrastructure facilities in the urban areas attract people to migrate to urban areas. In the rural areas, sluggish agricultural growth and lack of development of the rural non-farm sector raises the incidence of rural poverty, unemployment and underemployment. People from rural areas move towards town or cities with a expectation of better livelihood opportunities. The story of migration has its own tales of sorrow as several children turn into rag pickers and families have to live in inhuman conditions in urban areas. Many don't get employment throughout the year and commute between urban and rural areas. However, for the landless and marginal farmers who are in constant debt, migration is the only choice for livelihood.

Government of Indian has taken various initiatives towards rural development. Some of the rural development programmers undertaken by the Government of India are Community Development Programme, Twenty Point Programme, Drought Prone Areas programme, Desert Development programme, National Fund for Rural Development, Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology, Har Khet ko Pani, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, etc. All these programme/ Schemes aim to improve the rural economy. After implementation of Smart City Programme the Government of India has launched SMART Village –a community driven initiative for re-structuring of rural India. It is also known as Rurban Mission. The National Rurban Mission aims at development of a cluster of villages which conserve and nurture the essence of the rural community life with focus on equity and inclusiveness without compromising with the facilities perceived to be essentially urban in nature, thus creating a cluster of 'Rurban villages'. The Mission intends to simulate local economic development, enhance basic services and create well planned Rurban clusters. About 300 Rurban clusters will be developed over the next five years, which have latent potential for growth, in all States and Union

Territories, which would trigger overall development in the region (.Ministry of Rural Development, 2016). In this article an attempt has been made to understand state wise spatio-temporal characteristics to rural to urban migration and to evaluate the smart city as a tool to curb the rate of rural to urban migration in future.

Keywords: employment, urban, rural, migration, smart village

2 INTRODUCTION

Demographic Dictionary of United Nation defines migration as “an event in which people move from one geographical area to another geographical area. When people leaving their place of residence go to live permanently in another area, then this is called migration”. Migration may be permanent or temporary depending upon the intention of returning to the place of origin in future. It is the third factor that changes the demographic characteristics. As compared to birth rate and death rate, the impact of migration on the demographic characteristics is evident in various ways. This is an indicator to understand the degree of alteration in socio-economic, political sphere at national as well as international levels. It is also a symptom of disparity in economic and social aspects between the origin of migrant and destination of migrant.

In the history of human civilization migration is one of the most dynamic activities. At the early age people used to move from one forest area to another forest area in search of food. Gradually people adopted lifestyle attached with domestic animal and fertile soil. This has transformed their wanderer’s lives towards developing settlement. Though, at this stage also mobility of mankind did not stop completely. In fact people continued to move from one region to another looking for fertile land for agricultural activities. In the later stage the characteristics of mobility has changed frequently. Gradually the mobility becomes governed by agricultural, trade, investigation purposes, etc. . People used to move from less advantageous areas to better places.

Likewise other nations of the world the characteristics of migration in India vary spatially as well as temporally. During colonial period a huge number of indentured labourers were transported to Mauritius, Caribbean Island, Fiji and South Africa by British Government from the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, etc. The labourers from Goa, Daman and Diu were sent to Angola, Mozambique, etc by French, Dutch and Portugal. During this same period the labourers also were migrated from various parts of India to tea estates of Assam and West Bengal.

In India during the post independence period the rate of urbanization has got accelerated. After independence the Government of India had adopted mixed economy and had taken various initiatives for industrial development. This has given rise in development of private sectors. Various towns have emerged as industrial town while some have developed as administrative, trade and commerce based towns. Opportunities of livelihood are gradually accumulated in the urban areas. As per 1901 census the share of urban population to total population of the country was 11.4 per cent and it has increased up to 31.6 per cent in 2011. As per the United Nation survey report on the World Population (2007) about 40.30 percent of the total population of the country will reside in urban areas. It can be easily said that the due to disparity in level of development migration of population from rural to urban areas is the major contributor to rapid urbanization in India.

Various research studies undertaken by different scholars observed that poverty, unemployment, sluggish agricultural growth, lack of infrastructure development, lack of educational facility searching for job, better quality of life and family influence have been the major push factors for rural to urban migration, while job opportunity, better employment, prior migrants , availability of better education facility, etc, have been considered as the factors responsible for attracting people towards the urban areas. Migration in any form leaves its impression by creating imbalance in social, demographic, economic, infrastructure etc. Migration is the outcome of disparities in regional development.

According to some economists and developmental experts - migration is an integral prerequisite and desirable phenomenon for development. But in most of the cases in India the migration is distressed in nature. The distressed migration creates mushrooming of slums, pressure on infrastructure facility . In India some states experience higher investment and resources for development and attracted more in-migrants while the backward states of the country are experiencing out-migration. Mumbai metropolitan is receiving the maximum number of migrants every year.

3 MIGRATION SCENARIO IN INDIA

During year 1951 in India the share of urban population to the total population was only 17 per cent. According to 2011 census of India, the total population of the country is 1.2 billion with annual growth rate of 1.8 percent. The total urban population is 377 million, which is 31.6 per cent of the total population of the country. Due to rapid industrial growth and agglomeration of economic activities cities become the hubs of employment opportunities and pulled people from rural hinterlands. The population is largely concentrated in a few large cities and metropolitan cities of the country, it accounts for 35.4 percent of the total urban population. The rapid urbanization in India is mainly due rural to urban migration of population. During last 50 years the share of rural population of the country has decreased from 82.0 per cent to 68.9 per cent.

According to National Sample Survey 64th Round almost a third of Indian population are migrants. The migration rate in urban areas is much higher than in case of rural areas. Employment seems to be the prime motivating force for migration. As per the data of National Sample Survey around 55 per cent of the rural households have migrated due to employment related reasons. Migration has been notably modifying the traditional socio-economic structure of rural India. Through rural to urban migration the livelihood activities of rural people are no more confined to agricultural and farming activities. Migration has introduced diversification in economic activities in rural India.

Till today in India migration in hunt of livelihood is a harsh reality. The depressing occupational opportunity in geographically remote, less advantageous locations such as hilly, desert, drought-prone, rain-fed, flood-affected areas use to encourage migration as a survival strategy for a large number of poor people towards urban areas with better possibility of livelihood. The estimated number of internal migrants obtaining their livelihood out of seasonal migration is about 100 million. This migrants are mostly engaged in the informal sectors and work devoid of social security and legal protection. They are primarily preferred due to low wage. As per the Census of India inter-state migration has increased from 12.02 per cent in 1981 to 13.31 per cent in 2001. As per National Sample Survey, rural-urban migration data show that the inter-State migrants increased from 19.6 per cent in 1999–2000 to 25.2 per cent in 2007–08. The level of development and employment opportunity are not uniform across the country. Some of the states are lacking in economic development, have low per capita income and lack of employment opportunity. While some of the states are showing upward curve in economic development. For example Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, Jharkhand Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Odisha, West Bengal with straggler economies and surplus labor are the primary suppliers of labor to Maharashtra, Gujarat, Haryana, Punjab and Tamil Nadu known for their flourishing economies, attract large numbers of migrant workers. Maharashtra, for example, demonstrates a high correlation (0.77) between net in-migration rate and per capita NSDP. The construction sector accommodate 40 million migrant-workers, followed by 20 million as domestic workers, 11 million in textile industries, 10 million in brick-kilns, and many more in transportation, mines, quarries and agriculture. The Constitution of India guarantee freedom of movement and freedom to settle within the territory of India as a fundamental right of all citizens (Article 19). But due to difference in linguistic and cultural sphere, migrants face several barriers in accessing civic amenities, housing and employment, as well as restrictions on their political and cultural rights. There is no suitable measures to provide the migrant-workers residential, work security and they are compelled to live and work in crowded slums and unauthorized public lands/ locations with insufficient civic amenities and access to basic services, these lead to repetitive displacement of the migrants. Even child labors are also found in brick-kilns, stone quarries, carpet-weaving, etc industries. Gradually urban policy has become more exclusionary. The increasing cost of migration for poor and anti migrant rhetoric are becoming more strident in many States and urban metropolises. This discourages the migrants in the decision making process in the city and increase their vulnerability to natural and social hazards. The poor, illiterate, unskilled rural migrants used to settle in slums and hazardous locations prone to manmade disaster and natural calamities. Thus, they are more vulnerable to discrimination and exploitation. Slums are a sign of deficiencies in cities, and slums dwellers are denied of their right to shelter, potable water, sanitation and health care.

During year 2009-2010 the estimated number of casual workers in agriculture is 91.4 and casual worker in non-agricultural sector is 58.6 million. Some research studies says that about 90- 95 per cent of casual workers are migrants. The implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act has reduced rural to urban seasonal migration particularly in case of women migrants. Even during the Eleventh Five Year Plan of Government of India in the context of rural urban migration two approaches were

adopted to improve the quality of life in urban areas; they are [i] upgradation in the quality of infrastructure in existing cities to provide improved municipal services to large numbers of people and [ii] development of new suburban townships as satellites/ counter-magnets to reduce/ redistribute the influx of population.

4 FACTORS INFLUENCING MIGRATION IN INDIA

There are numerous factors influence migration of population. The factors can be broadly grouped into three categories i.e economic, social and environmental. The factors within the economic group are: disparity in regional development, employment opportunity, increase in per capita income, income maximization, inequitable distribution of benefits of economic development.. The factors related to social aspects are law and order situation, social conflicts and social tension, gap in civilization/ culture, inequalities in the available social opportunities and other amenities of life between groups of people and or sectors, social mobility, social status aspirations, friend and family influences , desire for attaining lifestyle, residential satisfaction. The factors related to environmental factors influencing migration are occurrence of flood, drought, sea level rise, earth quack, etc.

The reasons for migration are usually summarized as push and pull factors. While push factors are mostly convincing reasons which help the migrants to make up their mind for migration. The pull factors offer opportunity and attract migrants towards the place of destination. . According to Greenwood economic factors such as transportation costs, income and job opportunities significantly affect individual's decision to migrate to city in less developed country like India. The push factors include the population pressure, declining yields, institution of marriage, disintegration of joint family system, lack of livelihood opportunities, etc; the pull factors also include better educational, health care facilities, modern means of transport and communications, more employment opportunities and a growing craze for urban life. The prime factors for rural to urban migration are described as below:

- **Population Pressure:** With the growth of population pressure on natural resources, agricultural land is increasing day by day. To meet the need of housing, infrastructure, etc the natural resources are depleted. More population means additional demand on limited resources available with the rural families. This leads to decrease in per capita income, per capita availability of land, fragmentation of land, low productivity from agricultural sector. According to estimation about 80 per cent of the farmers are now marginal farmers.
- **Employment opportunity:** Due to the increase population pressure, the demand for economic return from the agricultural sector increases while agricultural production is not increasing in the same pace. Moreover with the increase of population and fragmentation of big agricultural land into small landholding, agricultural activities become gradually converted to subsistence farming only. Most of the rural people leave their houses and move to cities in search of employment in various types of industries. In urban areas different types of industries have the capacity to absorb these migrants as work force.
- **Lack of livelihood opportunities:** Lack of livelihood opportunities in rural areas along with inadequate and low quality of basic needs like good schools, health care facilities, financial institutions, inaccessibility and suitable markets have also compelled the rural people to migrate to urban centers.
- **Climate refugee:** The incidents of climate change is affecting the rural ecosystem in various ways. It is causing flood, drought, sea level rise , etc. These events trigger rural to urban migration.
- **Improvement in communication and transport facilities:** Improvement in communication and transport facilities have reduced the physiographic barriers and brought the people together. The areas with accessible good roads, communication and transport facilities encourages migration of the rural communities. During the agricultural off season villagers migrate to urban areas for earning and then return back with the start of sowing season. Such type of seasonal and circular (also known as cyclical, oscillatory) migration has long been part of the livelihood portfolio of poor people across India.

5 RURAL TO URBAN MIGRATION AND URBAN SCENARIO IN INDIA

Sometimes the concepts of urbanization and growth of urban population are used as synonyms. This may lead to improper policy decisions. Rural to urban migration is the major driver for urbanization. Rapid growth in urban population is a big challenge to the city administrator to serve housing, infrastructure, environmental quality, etc to the city dwellers. Rural to urban migration has both positive and negative impacts on urban areas. Due migration of people from rural to urban areas the mushrooming of slums in are around the urban areas/ urban centre takes place. According to the study carried out by economic and social commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP, 1991) “migration from rural to urban areas continues at a rapid pace in many countries of the region, and it was often beyond the capacity of towns, cities and metropolitan areas to cope with the increasing numbers”. Increasing inflow of distressed population from rural to urban area results into overcrowding of cities and development of slums. Economically weaker migrants from rural areas come to the urban areas and settle in the slums. It is observed that unskilled marginal farmers or landless labours migrates to the urban areas become unskilled labourers and settle in the slums. The great slums of India are mainly formed because of migration of large numbers of individuals or families to the urban centers in search of their dreams, usually in hunt of better economic prospects/ livelihood.

The higher productivity of urban areas is contingent upon the availability of quality infrastructure services. Urban economic activities are dependent on infrastructure, such as power, telecom, roads, water supply, and mass transportation, coupled with civic infrastructure, such as sanitation and solid waste management. The challenges of urbanization in India are unprecedented in scale and significance. The fast growing metropolitan cities in India has contributed negatively in the development process through different issues. Lopsided pattern of urbanization and inadequate investments has led to serious deficiencies in urban infrastructure and services like housing, transport, water supply, sanitation and social infrastructure especially in small and medium size cities.

As per census 2011, 68 million Indians lived in slums, comprising one-quarter of the population of India’s 19 cities with more than 1 million residents. In Mumbai almost 50 percent population lives in slums and Kolkata has 32 percent of slum dwellers. As per Census 2011, drinking water within the premises is available to 71.2 per cent of the urban population, 20.7 per cent of the population has access to drinking water near the premises vide Census 2011. None of the cities have 24x7 water supplies. The challenge of sanitation in Indian cities is acute. A sanitation rating of 423 class-I cities carried out during 2009-10 by Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India revealed that only 39 cities qualified on 3 basic water quality parameters of turbidity, residual chlorine and Thermo Tolerant Coliform bacteria. According to Census 2011, 32.7 per cent of the urban population has access to a piped sewer system and 12.6 per cent of the urban population still defecates in the open. Under Swatch Bharat Mission the Government of India is providing fund for construction of toilets across the country. Installed sewage treatment capacity is only 30 percent as per Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) Report 2009. According to the CPCB Report 2005, about 1,15,000 MT of municipal waste is generated daily. Collection performance varies from city to city. Staff deployed to manage solid waste management (SWM) is also fairly low as per requirements. In most of the cities, waste is transported and dumped to land fill sites. Scientific treatment and disposal of solid waste is practically non-existent. Public transport accounts for only 22 percent of urban transport in India. Out of 423 class I cities, only 65 have a formal city bus service as of 2012 and that too owing to the intervention of the Central Government intervention through the programme of funding of buses for city transport. The increasing number of slum pockets reveal the imbalance effectively. It is clear that most of the cities in country are suffocated with exiting population. In addition to this migrants from rural areas adds addition stress to the urban facilities.

6 IMPACTS OF RURAL TO URBAN MIGRATION IN INDIA

Rural to urban migration has both merits and demerits. The impacts of rural to urban migration are summarized as below:

- **Urbanization:** Migration helps in urbanization. The rate of urbanization to some extent governed by migration. Preston considers rural urban migration as an indicator of regional and sectoral distortions in the pattern of development. According to UN studies about 60 per cent of the urban growth in

developing countries is due to the rate of natural increase of urban areas and the remaining 40 per cent is due to migration. Migration is the prime contributor to urbanization.

- Rural depopulation: Rural to urban migration results in rural depopulation. The most productive rural work force leaves villages in search of better opportunities in urban areas and the rural areas are left behind with the olds and the unable.
- Social status: Migration helps in improvement of social status, income of rural as well as urban settlements, reduces fragmentation of land holdings and facilitates division of labour and specialization. Migration also nurtures cultural integration.
- Remittances: Rural migrants' income sent home in rural areas in the form of monetary assistance. It helps in increasing food security, nurtures diversity of livelihoods and reduces vulnerability associated with shocks. The NSSO 64th report also states that nearly 10 per cent of the households in the rural areas had used remittances for 'debt repayment'.
- Slum development: Unskilled, semi-skilled, illiterate migrants from rural areas find their space to settle in the slums. This leads to mushrooming of slums in urban areas.
- Cheap labour: The unskilled and illiterate migrants are the source of cheap labour for various industries.

7 VARIOUS RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES UNTAKEN BY GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Government of India has taken various initiatives towards rural development. Some of the rural development programmes undertaken by the Government of India are Community Development Programme, Twenty Point Programme, Drought Prone Areas programme, Desert Development programme, National Fund for Rural Development, Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology, Har Khet ko Pani, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, etc. All these programmes/ Schemes aim to improve the rural economy.

7.1 Smart Village/ Rurban Mission

According to 2011 census of India the rural population of the country is 833 million which is almost 68 per cent of the total population of the nation. Further, the rural population has shown a growth of 12 per cent during 2001-2011 and the number of villages in the country has increased by 2279 units during this period. Most of the rural areas in the country are not stand-alone settlements rather they have developed as a part of a cluster of settlements, which are relatively proximate to each other. These clusters have potentiality of growth, acts as economic drivers and obtain locational and competitive advantages. Government of India has taken initiatives to develop these clusters. These clusters once developed can then be classified as 'Rurban'. It is also known as Smart Village. Hence considering this, the Government of India, has proposed the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM), aimed at developing rural areas by providing economic, social and physical infrastructure facilities. The cluster level economic and infrastructure development is the focus of the mission. Mission aims to develop 300 Rurban clusters in the next five years. These clusters would be reinforced with the required amenities and the requisite resources would be mobilized through convergence of various schemes undertaken by Government of India, over and above a Critical Gap Funding (CGF) would be provided under this Mission, for focused development of these clusters.

7.2 Rurban Mission – An overview

Government of India has launched Rurban Mission during February, 2016. The aim of National Rurban Mission is to develop a cluster of villages that preserves and nurtures the essence of the rural community life with prime focus on equity and inclusiveness without compromising with the facilities perceived to be basically urban in nature, thus creating a cluster of 'Rurban villages'. The Mission proposes to simulate local economic development, improves basic services and crafts well planned Rurban clusters. About 300 Rurban Clusters will be developed across the country within a period of next five years and this will elicit overall regional development. Under this Mission, every Rurban cluster will be developed as a project including components like training linked to economic activities, developing skills and local entrepreneurship and will provide necessary infrastructure amenities. These projects will be implemented over a fixed timeframe of

three years by integrating and converging the implementation of project components. This will be followed by an operations and maintenance period of ten years.

7.3 Integrated Cluster Action Plan (ICAP)

An Integrated Cluster Action Plan (ICAP) for each Rurban cluster will be prepared to guide the development of the cluster. It shall be a key document covering baseline studies outlining the requirements of the cluster and the key interventions needed to address these needs and to leverage its potential. The ICAP prepared for the cluster will speak:

- (1) A strategy for the cluster integrating the vision for each Gram Sabha, identified in the cluster.
- (2) The desired outcomes for the cluster under the Rurban Mission
- (3) The resources to be converged under various Central Sector, Centrally Sponsored and State Sector schemes.
- (4) The Critical Gap Funding (CGF) required for the cluster.
- (5) Most importantly, the ICAP would delineate the cluster areas to form well planned layouts following the planning norms (as laid down in the State Town and Country Planning Acts/similar Central or State statutes as may be applicable), which would be duly notified by the State/UTs. These plans would be finally integrated with the District Plans/Master Plans as the case may be.

The ICAP for a cluster will have two components . they are as follows:

(A) Socio Economic and Infrastructure Planning Component:

The Socio Economic and Infrastructure Planning component of the ICAP will primarily identify the socio-economic and infrastructure needs of the cluster, converge various government schemes and implement the project level interventions in the cluster as per the process indicated in this framework.

(B) Spatial Planning Component:

The Spatial Planning Component of the ICAP will be initiated after the selection and delineation of the Rurban Cluster and the process shall follow the planning norms as laid down in the State Town and Country Planning Acts/similar Central or State statutes as may be applicable for the State. The Spatial Planning component of the ICAP will result in a structure plan/land use plan for the Rurban cluster along with an enforcement mechanism for the same. The components of ICAP are presented in Figure 1.

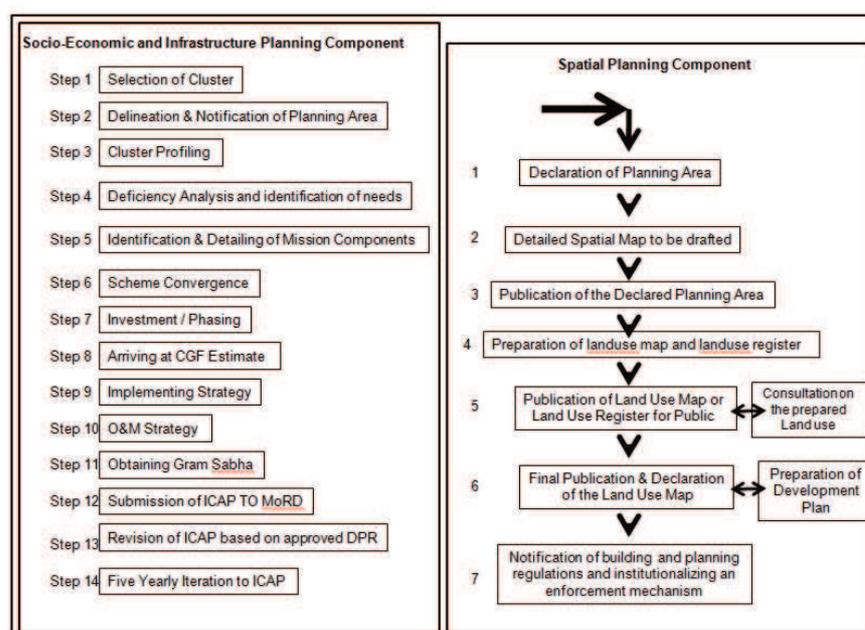


Figure 1: Components of Integrated Cluster Action plan. Source: Ministry of Rural Development

7.4 Steps of the Action plan for Rurban cluster

Stages for preparation of action plan for Rurban Cluster is grouped into 14 identified and well defined steps. They are Selection of cluster, Delineation and notification of Planning areas , Cluster profiling, Deficiency analysis and Identification of need, Identification and Detailing of Mission Components Stakeholder Consultation, Scheme Convergence , Investing and Phasing, Arriving at Critical Gap Funding Estimate, Implementation Strategy, Operation and Management Strategy, Obtaining Gram Sabha resolution, Submission of ICAP to Ministry of Rural development, Revision of ICAP based on approved DPR costing, Five yearly iteration to ICAP.

7.5 Salient feature of Rurban cluster

- (1) In the mission the identified unit for development is village cluster. Developing village clusters socially as well as economically will reduce the regional disparity in various level of development.
- (2) In the mission the spatial data , resource map will be prepared on GIS platform in 1:8000 scale.
- (3) The Mission ensures the preservation and nurture of the rural community.
- (4) The components of the cluster profile include demography, socio-economy, culture and administrative profiles of the clusters. This will facilitate to understand the basic characteristics of the cluster.
- (5) According to the needs of individual cluster the Mission improves basic services and crafts well planned Rurban clusters
- (6) Detailed project report will be prepared for individual Rurban cluster including components like training for economic activities, developing skills and local entrepreneurship and infrastructure amenities. Therefore, the need of each village cluster will be taken care.
- (7) In the mission fourteen components namely; Skill development training linked to economic activities, Agro Processing, Agri Services, Storage and Warehousing, Fully equipped mobile health unit, Upgrading school/higher education facilities, Sanitation, Provision of piped water supply, Solid and liquid waste management, Village streets and drains, Street lights, Inter-village road connectivity, Public transport, LPG gas connections, Digital Literacy, Citizen Service Centers- for electronic delivery of citizen centric services/e-gram connectivity are listed for identification of the relevant components required for development of the cluster.
- (8) For each cluster the comprehensive assessment will be made on economic profile of the cluster to understand drivers of economic growth of the cluster, assess the basic strengths and weakness of the cluster and identify the opportunities for economic growth of the cluster. This exercise will not be restricted at the cluster level and will include economic assessments at the block and district levels.
- (9) The cluster level strength and deficiency analysis and identification of needs are integrated with the ongoing schemes of the Government of India. The resources for cluster development to be converged under various ongoing central and state level schemes.
- (10) For implementation of the mission, bottom to top integration approach is adopted. In the entire process of cluster development gram panchayat and gram sabha play important role
- (11) ICAP is a dynamic document it will revised in every five years

7.6 Smart village/ Rurban cluster as an instrument to curb rural to urban migration

In this mission village clusters are considered as unit of development. The economic, social and infrastructural health of each cluster is evaluated. Cluster level deficiency analysis has been carried out for the components like (i) Skill development training linked to economic activities (ii) Agro Processing, Agri Services, Storage and Warehousing (iii) Fully equipped mobile health unit (iv) Upgrading school/higher education facilities (v) Sanitation (vi) Provision of piped water suppl (vii) Solid and liquid waste management (viii) Village streets and drains (ix) Street lights (x) Inter-village road connectivity. (xi) Public transport (xii) LPG gas connections (xiii) Digital Literacy (xiv) Citizen Service Centres- for electronic delivery of citizen centric services/e-gram connectivity. These components are directly related to socio-economic and infrastructure development. With the help of this Mission Ministry of Rural Development will be able to prepare plan for each Village cluster across the country. This will ultimately improve agricultural production, marketing facility of agricultural product, health, education, infrastructure development, etc. The

gap in level of development between rural and urban areas will reduce and help in balanced development of the region. With course of time village will no more act as push factor for migration. Villages will be developed with all urban facilities and will gradually discourage the people for rural to urban migration.

8 CONCLUSION

In India about 6,40,000 villages accommodate about 68 per cent of total population of the country. According to 2011 census 54.6 per cent of total workers in India are now part of the agriculture sector it shows a sharp decline 3.6 per cent as compared to 2001. 263 million people are engaged in the agriculture sector and over half of them are now agricultural labourers. As compared to 2001 during 2011 the total number of farm labourers have increased by 3.5 per cent. There is continuous migration from rural to urban areas. The hunt for better livelihood is the motivation behind rural to urban migration. Since 2001 migration from rural to urban areas is up from 27.8 per cent to 31.1 per cent. It is reported that 57 per cent of urban migrant households are migrated from rural areas. Further approximately 55 per cent of household in rural areas had migrated for employment. These migrants are mostly the source of cheap labor and most of them used to work in the informal sector devoid of social security and legal protection.

Regular inflow of migrants from the rural hinterlands creates cumulative pressure on the exiting urban infrastructure. They usually settle in the slum areas. Gradually shrink the quality of life in urban areas. Rural to urban migration is mostly distressed migration. In order to reduce the flow of migrants to urban areas there is a need to secure livelihood at the village for of small land holders, land-less agricultural laborers. Another area which needs special attention is to strengthen employment opportunities in the rural areas to protract agriculture and agriculture based industries. Broadly speaking on-farm rural employment is the remedy to combat rural poverty, precisely rural to urban migration.

The prime objective of Rurban mission is to create 300 rural growth clusters across the country. The mission will bridge the gap between rural urban divide- economic, technological and those related to facilities and services. It will spread development in the region and also attract investment in the rural

With the introduction of modern facilities the villages clusters will be transformed into clusters with urban facilities having essence of Indian village. The cluster will witness development with respect to economic standards, education facilities, electricity, health care facilities and employment opportunities. The mission will bring economic and social development. It will give security to agricultural workers; provide marketing facility to the agricultural product. Educational, skill development related programmes will improve the skill of villagers. All these together will reduce the level of distress among the villages and this will gradually curb the flow of rural to urban migration in the country.

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