



Urbanization and Migration in Arunachal Pradesh: An Introspective Study

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I. INTRODUCTION

The growth of urban towns in Arunachal Pradesh appears not to be the outcome of complex interactions of internal socio-economic and demographic forces of the tribal societies which is generally found elsewhere. Rather, it seems to be the direct outcome of political and administrative development of the State. If we go through the history of urbanization of the State, we find that in the 1961 Census, none of the places satisfied the criteria of being declared as census town and hence the entire State was declared as rural. However, some of the districts and sub-divisional headquarters of the State were found to be possessing distinct urban characteristics in 1971. In consideration of their pronounced urban characteristics and the occupational pattern, the places were declared as Census towns. Since 1971 Census, the number of Census towns are increasing at faster rate till 2011 Census because of natural growth of the urban population and large scale migration of population from the rural areas of the state itself and outside of the states to its urban areas on a large scale in the past liberalization period due to employment opportunities.

An important study on population is the study of migration arising out of various social, economic or political reasons. In India, the study of movement of population in different parts of the country helps in understanding the dynamics of the society better. In the time, when many states are undergoing faster economic development in India, particularly in manufacturing, information technology or service sectors, data on migration profile of population has become more important. Migration, through its impact on the size and structure of the population, may influence the growth of the economy and the levels of urbanization and thereby the levels of living both in the place of origin and place of destination. The various economic aspects of migration such as its effect on labour force and occupational distribution, employment and unemployment, wage levels etc. are briefly outlined below. To understand the dynamics of urban growth there is fundamental and pertinent question about migration which holds a place of prominence in a geographical analysis of population change in an area.

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Migration is most fundamental to the understanding of continuously changing space content and space relationship of an area. The trends in migration have also been considered as a sensitive index of changing pattern of economic opportunities as well as urbanization in an area.

The north Eastern region in general and Arunachal Pradesh in particular, have been affected by migration to a remarkable extent. Naturally the impact of migration has been heavier on urban areas as these are more accessible and attractive to migrants. This is because male migration is seen to be most effective around Itanagar due to an increasing speed of developmental work. The majority of the people migrated from Shillong after the shifting of capital. Thus, it is observed that the people of Arunachal Pradesh have started moving out of their villages to urban work sites. This supports the inference that as the urbanization in Arunachal Pradesh is the outcome of administrative expansion, it may be necessary to bring manpower from outside for implementation of developmental programmes in Arunachal Pradesh. However, it is expected to be reduced when the people of the State acquire the desired skill, knowledge and ability (Mitra, 1997, pp.109-111).

Objective of the Study: The objective of the study is to find out the effects of migration on urbanization in Arunachal Pradesh.

II. METHOD AND MATERIALS

This study is descriptive type in nature based on secondary sources of data of urbanization in Arunachal Pradesh of India. The data from secondary sources are collected from government offices, books, articles, websites and web-based journals published in different times.

Analysis: The different materials collected from the different sources have been scrutinized, verified and set up systematically under appropriate heading and data are arranged in systematic statistical tables to hold requisite presentation and conclusion.

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

(a) Growth of Census Towns and Populations in Different Census Years

We compile Census year wise Census Towns, Total Population, Total Urban Population and Percentage of Urban Population from the starting census year in a table for the State. It is shown in Table-1.

All these towns are administrative centers. In most cases before the establishment of administrative centers; these places were full of forest. As observed in the Table-11, the urban population of the State in the year 1961 Census was nil. The Census was started in the State since 1961, i.e., first Census was taken in 1961, when there was no urban town in the State. As per 1971 census, 3.70% people live in four urban centres and 6.56% in six urban centres as per 1981 census. Again, according to 1991 census 12.80% people live in ten urban areas while as per 2001 census 20.75% people live in seventeen

urban areas and 22.94% people are living in twenty seven areas as per 2011 census. Since 1971, the urban population has steadily increased and it has shown a considerable rise. However it is also to be taken in view that while the pace of urbanization is growing at faster rate, this considerable rise in urban population and their livelihood strategies are at different levels of economic development spread over the State three different belts (Upper, Middle and Lower) of the State, which are territorially different and varies in terms of economic opportunities that the terrain provides. Additionally, the pace of urbanization in the region has never attracted any external investment and attention of the urban local bodies to provide for the basic amenities that generally follows in other parts of the country.

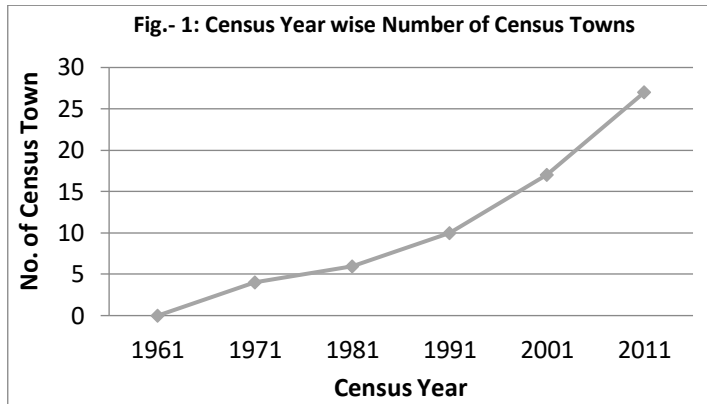
Table- 11: Trend of Urbanization in Arunachal Pradesh since 1961

Year	Total No. of Towns	Total Population	Total Urban Population	Percentage of Urban Population
1961	0	336558	0	0
1971	4	467511	17288	3.70
1981	6	631839	41428	6.56
1991	10	864558	110628	12.80
2001	17	1097968	227881	20.75
2011	27	1383727	317369	22.94

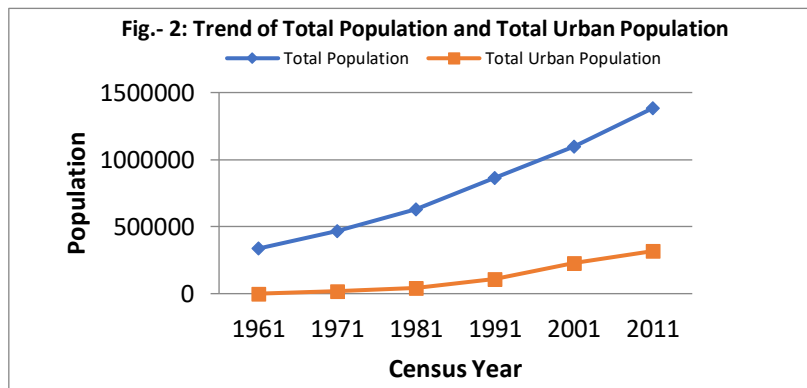
Source: Compiled from above Table No. 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 [1. Statistical Handbook of Arunachal Pradesh 1971-72, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Arunachal Pradesh, Administration, Shillong. 2. Source: Statistical Atlas, Arunachal Pradesh 1984, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Shillong. 3. Statistical Abstract of Arunachal Pradesh 1998, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar. 4. Statistical Abstract of Arunachal Pradesh, 2008 and 2017, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar.]

Graphical Presentation

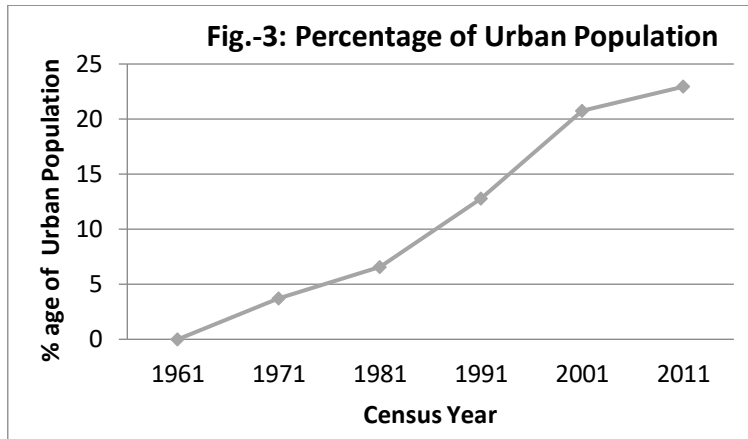
On the basis of the data of Table-1, we can draw a number of figures for census year wise trend of number of census towns, a relationship between total population and total urban population through time plot curves, trend of percentages of urban population and trend of percentages of decennial growth. Now we draw the curves.



In Fig.-1, Census Year wise number of Census Towns is shown. The time plot curve is up ward rising, which starts from zero in 1961 and reaches its highest in 2011.



In Fig.-2, there are time plot curves of total population and total urban population showing the relationship between them. Both the curves are up ward rising from 1961 (first census year), but the curve of total population is more rising very smoothly than that of total urban population.



In Table-3, the time plot of percentage of urban population is shown. The curve is upward rising throughout its path though it is not at a fixed proportion.

(b) Williamson (1988) has noted that rates of migration in developing countries as a group have been quite comparable to that in developed countries at a similar level of development in the 19th century. Over time the share of immigration in urban areas has begun to decline in developing countries as it did in the developed countries. Even in Africa, there are no signs of declining rates of rural- urban migration. A major trend in rural to urban migration in recent years has been the increasing participation of women. In comparison with other developing regions, Latin America and the Philippines have always had the most feminized net urban in migration. In Latin America, for every three rural urban male migrants there were four female migrants. However, recent data indicate that this pattern is now appearing elsewhere too. This is especially the case in the cities of South-East Asia. Even in India, where women usually do not migrate independently, there has been an increase in the share of women in the rural-to-urban migration flow. All of these would appear to suggest a historical transition from a preponderance of men to a preponderance of women in net rural-urban migration (Bhattacharya, 2002).

There is a consensus among researchers concerning the determinants of migration. Migrants tend to move from areas of lower economic opportunity to those of higher economic opportunity. Migrants tend to find jobs quickly after moving. Yap (1977) and others have shown conclusively that migrants improve their income over their rural options immediately upon finding an urban job. Urbanization and a great deal of rural-urban migration are inevitable consequences of economic development (Bhattacharya, 2002).

Arunachal Pradesh urban centers are economically dynamic places not only because of the agglomeration effects, but also because there are places where ideas spread and people learn about new goods or new ways of doing things. Majority of the urban centers in the State are functionally administrative centre and military function in nature as the State has played an important role on the point of strategic location bounded by international border. International experience also demonstrates the futility attempts to regulate the size of towns through direct controls on growth or movement of people.

Ravenstein's Laws of Migration: The first attempt to spell out the 'laws of migration' was made by E.G. Ravenstein as early as in 1885. Using the birth place data, Ravenstein identified a set of generalizations, which he called as 'laws of migration' concerning inter-county migration in Britain in the nineteenth century. Most of these generalizations hold good even today. The generalizations are as follows:

- (a) There is an inverse relation between distance and volume of migration. Majority of migrants moves to short distance only. Migrants going long distance generally go by preference to the large centres of commerce and industry.
- (b) Migration proceeds step by step. The inhabitants of countryside flock into the nearby rapidly growing town. The gap created by this out-migration in the countryside is filled up by in-migration from still remoter countryside. The inhabitants of the town then move to the nearby urban centre up in the hierarchy.
- (c) Every migration current produces a counter-current.
- (d) The native of the rural areas are more mobile than their counterpart in the urban areas, and the major direction of migration is from agricultural areas to the centres of industry and commerce.

Migration in Arunachal Pradesh

Migration from Rural to Urban areas expands due to the following three factors: natural growth of population, reclassification of rural areas as urban in course of time and rural to urban migration. Around 2/5th of the total urban growth in the Developing countries is accounted by the rural to urban migration (Gugler, 1988). More than a half of the urban labour force works in the informal sector of low-skilled, low productivity, often self-employed jobs in petty sales and services. Any social policy that affects rural and urban incomes will be persuaded by migration; this will affect the economies of the state or the income distribution and even the population growth. The Harris and Todaro model says that creating job opportunities in the urban areas can actually lead to an increase in unemployment by attracting more migrants than the new jobs (Harris & Todaro, 1970).

The patterns of urbanization of Arunachal Pradesh in particular have been accelerated by migration to a remarkable extent. Naturally, the impacts of migration have been heavier on urban areas as these are more accessible and attractive to migrants. Our main concern is to find out the internal migrants in the urban centres of the districts of Arunachal Pradesh. The internal migration is a very important component in the

population structure of Arunachal Pradesh. The share of mobile population to total population is the highest among the states of North-Eastern India. According to 1971 Census, the percentage of internal migrant population was 31.83% of the total population of the State and it has increased to 35.58% of the total population of the State in 1981 Census. We can consider some reasons behind this.

- (i) The policy of NEFA administration was formulated to develop the territory with the politico-administrative 'main stream' without disturbing the tribal ethos and sentiments and bringing all types of workers from outside of the State.
- (ii) Large number of military personnel in the border districts of the State after Indo-China war in 1962 is deputed.
- (iii) The fast development of the State and the implementation of various development projects are considered after emerging as a union territory in 1972.
- (iv) Accommodation is given to the people from other states serving in this State (Mitra, 1997).

Internal Migration

Internal migration plays significant role in moulding the social, economic and other structurally characteristics of a population of a country or region. Migration occurs when various factors operate together and the importance of factors responsible for migration varies from place to place according to local particular development milieu (Bhagat, 2001). Redistribution of population through movement is defined as Migration. Migration is reticent for those changes of residence that involve a complete change of the community affiliations of the individual. Thus, migration is a form of geographic or spatial modality involving a change of usual residence between clearly defined geographic units. Migration is divided into two categories: (i) internal migration and (ii) international migration.

A migrant who crosses a migration defining boundary in the process of changing residence and enters a given community from some other part of the same nation is an internal migrant and is termed as 'in-migrant'. But on the other hand, the term 'immigrant' refers to an international migrant who comes from a sovereign country to live permanently in a country that is not their own. On the other hand 'emigrant' refers also to an international migrant who leaves his own country to live in another.

The term 'gross-in-migration' denotes the sum of the arrivals and departures of migrants and it is a measure of total volume of population turnover that a community is experiencing including both internal and international migration. Any particular area may simultaneously be receiving migrants from some areas and countries and losing migrants to other area and countries. The net balance between arrivals and departures is termed as 'net migrants'. Net migrants may be positive or negative depending upon the number of arrivals and departures. It is the difference between arrival of migrants and departure of migrants.

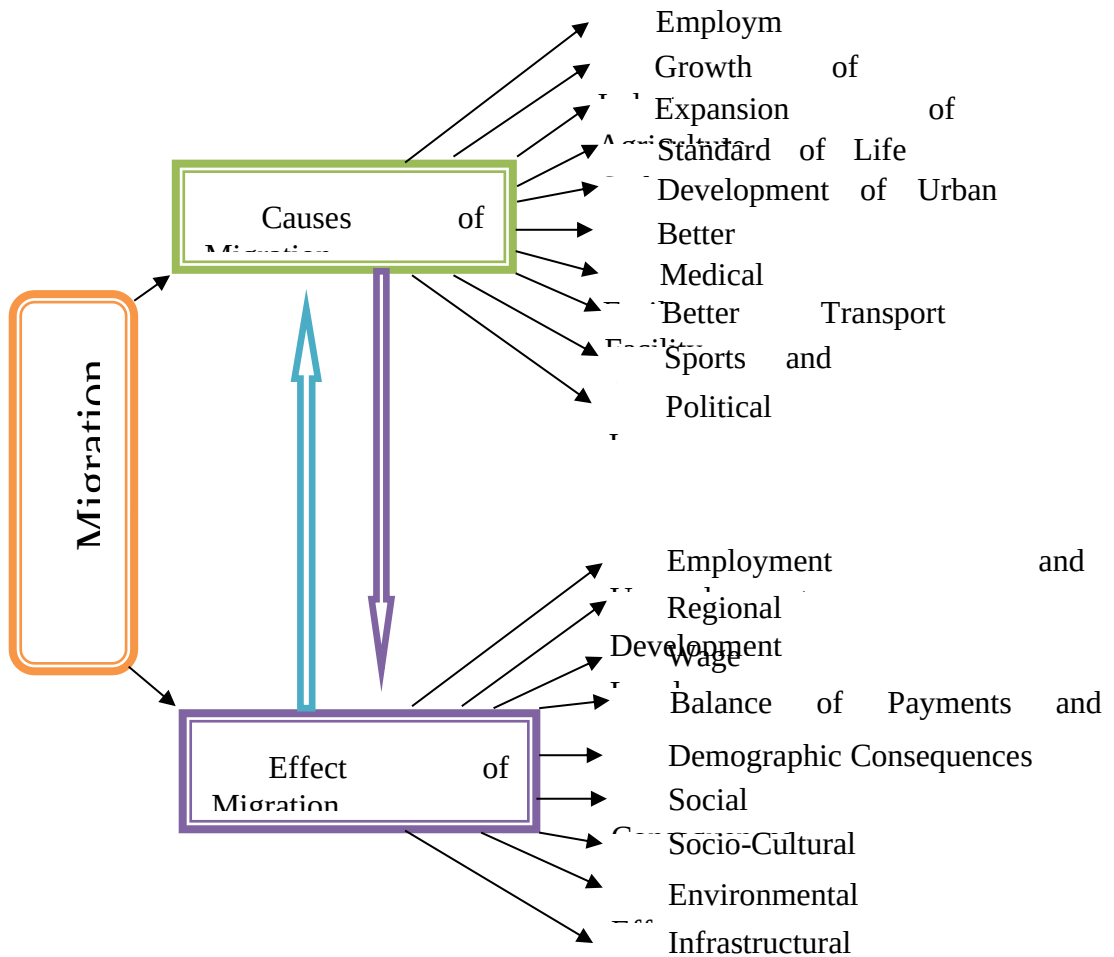
That is, Net Migrants = Arrival of Migrants – Departure of Migrants.

The area from which a migrant departs is termed as the 'area of origin' and the area to which he arrives are termed as 'area of destination'. When a large number of migrants depart from a common area of origin and arrive at a common area of destination during a particular period of time, it is known as a 'migration stream'. A particular period of time is taken to observe migration and it is known as 'migration interval'. Time interval of one year, two years, etc. is used in migration analysis. The development indicators which are likely to exert influence on the total migration in Arunachal Pradesh can be grouped into three categories as given below:

- (i) Economic Indicators,
- (ii) Socio-Demographic Indicators,
- (iii) Indicators of Infrastructural Development, and
- (iv) Changing Nature of Religious Composition of Population

Migration is now recognized as an important factor in determining plans for social and economic development, especially in an under developed state like Arunachal Pradesh. The economists and demographers are interested in the relation of migration to regional economic growth, business cycle, the supply of skilled and unskilled labour, the growth of industry, outflow and inflow of money income, wage difference between the place of origin and the place of destination of migrants, etc. Similarly, the socialist is interested in the social and cultural amalgamation of the migrants as well as the general population in the place of destination. People certainly migrate because there is not enough work locally in rural areas, but such migration should not be understood as forced or distress migration. Many poor and unskilled people perceive migration as an opportunity for their livelihood strategy.

There are various problems affecting massive distressed migrated people from rural areas to urban areas which cause unbalanced urbanization in urban areas especially in Itanagar and Naharlagun in the State. Major problems among them are poverty, unemployment, underdevelopment, poor infrastructure, poor health services, lack of quality education services, rapid declining of land size holdings, farm distress, adverse climate change, underdeveloped rural off-farm activities, and huge development gap between rural and urban areas, etc. However, there are so many causes and effects of migration in India especially in this State shown in the Diagram below.



(c) Causes of Migration and Effects of Migration

Causes of Migration and Effect of Migration, both are interwoven. A Migrant leaves the area of origin under causes of migration in first stage. He reaches to place of destination and creates the effect of migration in the second stage. In the third stage, the effect of migration allows more of migrants or less of migrant or ceases the flow of migrants depending on the situation created by them. People move for different reasons. These differences affect the overall migration process. The migration experience refers to the fact that different causes for migration will produce different outcomes observable from a sociological perspective. For example, a person who moves within a nation will not have the same migration experience as a political

refugee. In most cases, refugees need special services from the receiver population such as emergency shelter, food, and legal aid. The psychological trauma of fleeing their homeland and leaving family members behind can also complicate refugees' adjustment to their new environment. Considering that a migrant can be refugee, or job-seeker, or have some other reason for moving, no single theory can provide a comprehensive explanation for the migration process. We discuss here some of causes of migration and effect of migration below.

Causes of Migrations

There are some factors which force the people to move from their birth place to another place. These factors are (i) Search of Employment, (ii) Growth of Industries, (iii) Expansion of Agriculture, (iv) Standard of Life Style, (v) Development of Urban Area, (vi) Better Education Facilities, (vii) Medical Facilities (viii) Better Transport Facilities (ix) Sports and Games, (x) Political issues, etc. In addition to these factors, a net gain of migrants from the place of destination is an important factor.

There may be more than one or several reasons for increasing urban population in a country or a state. Natural growth rate of urban population is, of course, one reason but re-classification of previously rural population centers as urban and net migration from rural to urban areas are the other major reasons. Apart from the continuous migration of people from rural to urban areas, a major reason for this shift is the rapid growth in the hundreds of towns reclassified as cities in recent years.

Effects of Migration

Migration may influence the growth of the economy and the level of living both in the place of origin and the place of destination. The different effects of migration are discussed below:

Employment and Unemployment: In present situation employment is a burning topic in many countries and also in India. Migration has important economic consequences on employment and unemployment for both the emigrant and immigrant while emigration tends to reduce unemployment and immigrating tends to expand unemployment. Many governments have imposed limitations on immigration and the employment of immigrants while some other governments have tried to alleviate unemployment by promoting emigration. Emigration and immigration not only affect the employment situation but also affect economic consequences.

Regional Development: Migration plays an important role on regional development by changing the labour force in an economy. The freedom of migration ensures the maximum efficiency and productivity of the factors of production, leading to maximum output and optimum use of resource endowments so as to bring a region in proper development. So it leads to regional economic growth and reduces the regional disparity. Under free economic system, all factors of production such as labour, capital, organization and techniques are generally free to move in response to higher rewards.

This freedom of movement ensures the maximum efficiency and productivity of the factors of production, leading to maximum output and optimum use of resource endowments, so that a region may get proper deployment (Mitra, 1997).

Wage Levels: When immigrant workers are employed for native works which may be performed by the native workers, the wage level is naturally changed. Immigrant workers find employment according to their occupational categories. The relative rates of wages received by native workers in these occupational categories may decline, as the immigrant workers in many times are willing to work at lower wage rate. However, the wage levels are affected by the immigrant workers.

Balance of Payments and Multiplier: Migration affects the balance of payments through the funds which the migrants carry with them or the remittances which they send to their home market. The outflow of money from the work place of a country and its impact on the economy of the receiving country affect the balance of both countries and thereby the multiplier.

Demographic Consequences: Migration influences the demographic structure both at place of origin and place of destination in two ways: (a) through sex-age structure as very often migrant streams have high proportions of males in the young working age group and (b) through differences in labour force participation rates between migrants and non-migrants in the same age group. Again rural-urban migration usual reduces the proportion of people in the reproductive ages and thus tends to reduce the birth rates in rural areas (emigrating areas) and increases it in urban areas (immigrating areas). Moreover, the separation of rural male immigrants from their wives in the villages for long duration tends to reduce the birth rate (Mitra, 1997).

Social Consequences: When many persons from one social and cultural setting move to another locality with a different setting, social maladjustments are bound to occur. For example, it has been observed that rural-urban migration contributes to the congestion of slums, juvenile delinquency, prostitution, crime, suicide, nervous diseases and health hazards in industrial areas. Urban life usually brings about certain social change in the migrants. Village culture may gradually give way to urban culture. The very nature of urban social life thrusts upon the immigrant of this transformation or transition. However, this does not imply that he completely leaves the old habits and dissolves himself perfectly into the multi- dimensional urban culture. This mobility of population has also an effect on the existing social structure. New patterns of thought and attitude of mind develop from experience gained in other places and as a result, social mobility is likely to increase. Therefore, in a heterogeneous or regionally diverse society, internal migration can be an effective instrument of cultural diffusion and social integration. However, it depends on a number of factors like the volume of migration, the attitude of migrants, etc. (Mitra, 1997).

Socio-Cultural Effect: A large number of migrants may hamper the cultural heritage, archaeological and historic sites of an area. Cultural patterns, namely music, dance,

drama, dress, arts and crafts, customs, ceremonies, life styles, traditional economic activities of emigrating areas affect on the cultural patterns of the immigrating areas. A mixed culture is evolved.

Environmental Effect: A large number of migrants affect the physical environment (natural and man-made). They reduce the environmental quality of immigrating areas through population pressure on air, water, noise, congestion, sewage and solid waste disposal, etc. if the environment is not properly managed.

Infrastructural Effect: There will be pressure on the basic infrastructures like transport, roads, parks, etc.

IV. CONCLUSION

The large-scale migration of population from the rural areas of the State itself and outside of the States to its urban areas has been occurring very significantly since the day of Chinese aggression in 1962. But after nineties, the young people have become literate and have been employed in every sector of the State. Presently, the percentage of unemployment is more than all India average. There is small number of private sectors absorbing very less number of job seekers. The only government sector is the main hope to be employed but it has been over saturated. Therefore, now-a-day, migration outside of the State is very less, only there is rural-urban migration within the State.

People inherently migrate in search of better livelihood and other socio-economic factors. There are various streams of migration, among which, rural to urban migration has been the major route due to changing economic and political scenario. As a result, rate of urbanization has been increasing and cities are over populated and cause a stream of socio-economic issues. Due to push and pull factors, people are attracted towards urban areas which indicates widening development gap between rural and urban areas. Also, rapid growth of population and modern technology, rural areas are being converted to urban areas and people are moving with high mobility. As a result, both negative and positive consequences are emerging which create new challenges for policy makers for urbanization. Therefore, migration stands at the root of urbanization.

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