

Diaspora and Development

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Abstract

Diasporas can play an important role in the economic development of their countries of origin. Beyond their well-known role as senders of remittances diasporas can also promote trade & foreign direct investment create businesses and spur entrepreneurship and transfer new knowledge and skills. Although some policymakers see their nationals abroad as a loss, they are increasingly realizing that an engaged Diaspora can be an asset -or even a counter weight to the emigration of skilled and talented migrants.

The Indian Diaspora is a genetic term to describe the people who migrated from terrorists that are currently within the borders of the republic of India. It also refers to their descendants. The Diaspora is currently estimated to number over twenty million composed of NRI's and PIO's. The Diaspora covers practically every part of the world. It numbers more than a million a million each in eleven countries, while as many as twenty two countries have concentrations of at least a hundred thousand ethnic Indians. The Diaspora is very special to India. Resending in distant lands, its members have succeeded spectacularly in their chosen professions by dint of their single-minded dedication and hard work. What is more they have retained their emotional, cultural and spiritual links with the country of their origin. This strikes a reciprocal chord in the hearts of people of India.

Keywords: Diaspora, Development

IMPORTANCE OF DIASPORA TO INDIA

Indian Diaspora has also emerged as an important factor in India's foreign policy, economic development and knowledge transfer. With US \$ 56 billion of remittances overseas Indian play an important role in India's foreign exchange management. The success of Indians in the development world, particularly in knowledge industries and professions like medicine and academic have transformed India's image. Domestic reactions to the plight of Tamils in Sri Lanka highlight the implication of Diaspora factor in Punjab illustrate the impact of Diaspora in national security. Recent row over the custody of two Indian children in Norway is another examples of Diaspora factor in our external relations.

There are three categories of overseas Indians.

1 NRI's : Indian citizens staying abroad for indefinite period for whatever purpose

(Majority of Gulf).

2 PIOs :overseas Indian who have become citizen of the countries of their settlement.

3 SPIO : Stateless person of the Indian origin have no documents to substantiate their Indian origin(Majority in Myanmar and Sri Lanka)

In the age of economy slowdown, India is passing through a bad phase and its monetary condition is severely affected. Inflation rate is high and people are unable to manage their daily life in this context Indian government has great expectation from millions of non-resident India's to resolve the crises through making investments in India.

Their impressive Diaspora has played an important role in promoting India's interest abroad act as its unnamed ambassador. This is more so in the fields of culture education economic development and health and arts. Indian are leaders in areas like information technology and largely contribute in this. Above all these PIO's can help. India buy investing in Indian industry and infrastructure to encourage economic growth.

Even though NRI's contribution is not visible but they are helping their country through varied activities in India. Many reports reveal that NRI's are major source of direct foreign investment, market development (out sourcing) technology transfer, charity tourism, political contribution and more substantial flows of knowledge in India.

Telecom and IT services are the biggest services exports from India and in that period those amounted to \$49.6 billion so at \$48.5 billion remittance are almost as big as IT exports.

The role of science in the Diaspora needs to be further highlighted. The Diaspora's scientific achievements in virtually every field have not just enhanced India's image in the world. They have also led to a direct and mutually-reinforcing synergy between Indian science abroad and at home. This is most visible of course in India's IT sector and its symbiotic relationship with the silicon valley in California. Besides, the fear of a "brain drain" is misguided. A brain is sitting in an uncongenial environment can drain away faster than if it goes to a stimulating interference-free environment abroad.

MIGRATION FROM INDIA

The leading Indian states for outward labor migration, in 2014, included Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Punjab, and Rajasthan. Together, these states accounted for over 80% of the migration from India at 678, 644 outward migrants; Uttar Pradesh was the top contributor at 230,000 outward migrants. The migration trend has experienced derivative shift from prosperous states such as Kerala and Karnataka to poorer states like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar due to other excessive and sudden population growth in these states, leading to a high demand for jobs. Moreover, wage rates, particularly for low-skilled workers, in states like Kerala are fairly high compared with threatening Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. This situation encourages low-skilled and less educated workers in poorer states migrate in hopes of earning greater income.

There are many drivers for out ward migratio, however the key reasons include low wages in India, growing working-age population, and low employment generation rate. Low wages are the primary reason for migration from India as amongst the countries of focus in the study, India offers one of the lowest minimum wages in Purchasing Power Parity(PPP) terms. The average monthly minimum wage in Europe, Saudi Arabia ,Oman, and Australia is over USD1, 600 in PPP terms, which is over 850% of the Indian monthly minimum wage(USD175). However, a major challenge for the Indian economy is the generation of adequate employment for the fast growing working- age population .Employment growth during the recent decade(2005-12) has been much lower at 0.4% compared with that recorded during the previous decade, 1994-2005 ,at 1.8%. Moreover, the rate of unemployment among the youth (15-24years).

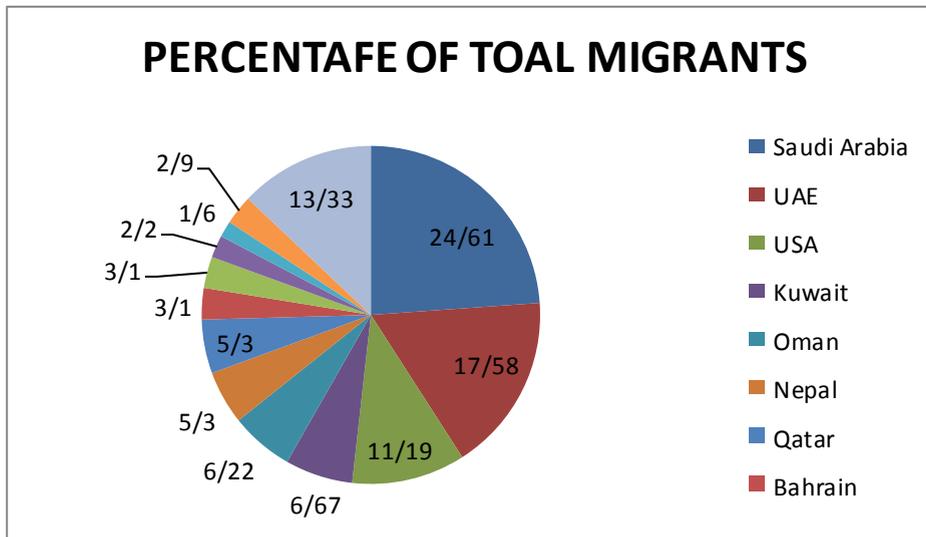
SUCCESS OF INDIA’S DIASPORA (IN KNOWLEDGE-BASED ECONOMICS)

The Indian Diaspora constitutes an important and a unique force in the world economy. Indian have been migrating for centuries. However the most massive immigration among Indians took place in the 19th and the 20th centuries. Table-1 provides a brief history of the Indian migration on the year 2015.

Table- 1. migration of Indian by country (% contribution year 2015)

SR. No.	Country	Non-Resident(Numbers of total immigrants)	PERCENTAFE OF TOAL MIGRANTS
1	Saudi Arabia	2800000	24.61
2	UAE	2000000	17.58
3	USA	1272846	11.19
4	Kuwait	358615	6.67
5	Oman	707850	6.22
6	Nepal	600000	5.3
7	Qatar	600000	5.3
8	Bahrain	350000	3.1
9	Singapore	350000	3.1
10	Australia	251000	2.2
11	Canada	184320	1.6
12	U.K.	325000	2.9
13	Others	1516920	13.33
14	total	11379746	100

Source : Report of High level Committee on Indian Diaspora AS on January 2015



India has a strong economy ranked seventh in terms of GDP. Furthermore, India per capita income is amongst the lowest in the world and 28% of the population lives below poverty line. In India, there is a large population with insufficient (52.5%) means for a stable standard of living, due to this variance unemployed and under employed workers (skilled and unskilled) choose to migrate in search of better wages and standard of living.

Migration from India is dominated by the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) with account for over 80% of overseas Indian migrants. Saudi Arabia was the most popular destination for Indian migrants in 2015 with a total percentage of 24.61%. Due to ease availability of jobs to unskilled labour along with higher wages compared to India was shown in table. Canada was the lowest popular destination for Indian migrants in 2015, 1.6% due to coldest and non availability of jobs. The second is most famous destination is UAE (17.56%) for Indian migrants in 2015. The above table provides a detailed snapshot of emigration of Indians by country.

The following figures provides a country wise distribution of the Indian Diaspora. In recent years, unskilled laborers along with some skilled ones-from india have been the main force in transforming the physical landscape of Saudi Arabia and some other middle eastern countries. These contract works have repatriated most of their earnings to india, thereby contributing significantly to the Indian economy.

In developed countries particularly in the united states and Canada Indians have been vary successful and most knowledge intensive professions including engineering, information, technology, medicine, finance, business administration and accounting.

CONCLUSION

The Diaspora is very special to India. Residing in instant lands its members have succeeded spectacularly in their chosen professions by dint of their single minded dedication and hard work. The Indian population in the Gulf is an important contributor to india's economy. To concluded the communication and transportation revolution and the global reach of media are creating a major change in the nature of relationship between the Diasporas and their country of origin. India must follow a robust and flexible policy in order to leverage the strengths up Diaspora and minimized the possibilities of any negative fallout. Diaspora can play an important role in india's quest to be a knowledge power and a developed country.

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