

Unit:V, Migration and brain drain, Harris-tadaro model.

### Migration

Human migration is the movement of people from one place to another with the intentions of settling, permanently or temporarily, at a new location.

Reasons for migration:

invasion, conquest, colonization and immigration of foreigners, food, employment and safety.

Push factors:

elements of the origin that are perceived negatively leading to a desire to leave.

Pull factors:

Friction of Moving: costs in time, finance and emotions in leaving one location and moving to another.

Net Migration: the sum change in migrant numbers between those coming into an area (immigrants) and those leaving (out-migrants).

Migration types:

1. Migration Based on Distance Intra-building: Movement within a building
2. Migration Based on Duration Daily: Commuting to and from work each day often resulting in 'rush hours'
3. Migration Based on Motive Forced (Environment):

Key migrations

- Rural-Urban migration in developing economies resulting in rapid urbanization.
- Suburbanization and Counter-urbanization from the cities to semi urban and villages
- Refugee migrations from areas of conflict • Economic migrations between areas of highly contrasting economic situations
- Tourism migrations as more people have disposable income to spend on travel and leisure.

Causes of Migration:

These reasons can be classified as economic, social, political or environmental: • economic migration - moving to find work or follow a particular career path

- social migration - moving somewhere for a better quality of life or to be closer to family or friends
- political migration - moving to escape political persecution or war
- environmental causes of migration include natural disasters such as flooding

Push factors are the reasons for migration

• lack of services • lack of safety • high crime • crop failure • drought • flooding • poverty • war

Pull factors are the reasons

• higher employment • more wealth • better services • good climate • safer, less crime • political stability • more fertile land • lower risk from natural hazards •

Consequences of Migration

Positive effects: diffusion of science, technology, culture, civilisation, development.

Negative effects: over crowding, unhealthy housings, scarcity of resources, spreading of diseases, theft, human trafficking.

### Brain drain

Brain drain can be described as the process in which a country loses its most educated and talented workers to other countries through migration. This trend is considered a problem, because the most highly skilled and competent individuals leave the country, and contribute their expertise to the economy of other countries. The country they leave can suffer economic hardships because those who remain don't have the 'know-how' to make a difference.

Brain drain can also be defined as the loss of the academic and technological labor force through the moving of human capital to more favorable geographic, economic, or professional environments. More often than not, the movement occurs from developing countries to developed countries or areas.

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### Causes of Brain Drain

The main causes include seeking employment or higher paying jobs, political instability, and to seek a better quality of life.

Causes of brain drain can be categorized into push factors and pull factors.

Push factors are negative characteristics of the home country.

unemployment and political instability, absence of research facilities, employment discrimination, economic under development, lack of freedom, and poor working conditions.

Pull factors are the positive characteristics. Higher paying jobs, superior economic outlook, the prestige of foreign training, stable political environment, a modern educational system and rich cultures.

## Negative Effects of Brain Drain on the Home Country

1. Loss of tax revenue
2. Loss of potential future entrepreneurs
3. Shortage of important, skilled workers
4. Loss of confidence in the economy
5. Loss of innovative ideas
6. Loss of the investment in education
7. Loss of critical health and education services

## The Harris-Todaro model

This model of rural-urban migration is studied in the context of unemployment in developing countries. In the model, the purpose is to explain the serious urban unemployment problem in developing countries.

The applicability of this model depends on the development stage and economic success in the developing country.

The distinctive concept in the model is that the rate of migration flow is determined by the difference between expected urban wages and rural wages. The model is applicable to less successful developing countries or to countries at the earlier stages of development.

The policy implications are different from those of the LRF model. One implication in the model is that job creation in the urban sector worsens the situation because more rural migration would thus be induced. In this context, China's policy of rural development and rural industrialisation to deal with urban unemployment provides an example.

The only limitation of this model is that it assumes the potential migrants as risk neutral, as in they are indifferent between a certain expected rural income and an uncertain expected urban income of the same magnitude.

The reflection of this assumption of economic realities is questionable. The poor migrants will averse risk. they need greater expected urban income to migrate.

However, the Harris-Todaro model can be adjusted to reflect the risk aversion through alteration of the expected urban income calculation. When the model assumes risk aversion, the results are very similar.