

Migration Just for Degrees: An Analytical & Critical Perspective

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Abstract -Student migration refers to the movement by learners who pursue higher education abroad for a year or longer. Internationalization drastically grew during the globalization era and turned into driven by the markets activity. The overall number of Indian students studying abroad has hiked four times in the past fourteen years, making India the 2nd biggest student exporter in the entire world after China. Over the years, more Indian students have decided to study outside the country. Despite a sharp decline in enrollment during the lockdowns and pandemic in 2020, a sizable number of learners are once more preparing to study abroad. Such large-scale migration of students is now an important source of capital & intellectual talent for India while greatly enhancing the economic systems of developed nations. Many subject professionals and pupils who want to study internationally believe that attending an international university involves much more than merely obtaining a diploma from a different country.

There has been an increase in the migration of Indian students to developed countries this article examines the various factors and reasons for the same This article aims to scrutinize whether students are going outside only for educational purposes or whether there is something else that attracts or instigates them to move out from here and it also focuses what's going wrong in the domestic country which cannot hold its citizens to reside here. The articles throw some light on the efforts done by the government to figure out the issues and resolve them through various ways and what should be more to resolve the same.

Keywords- Migration, Overseas, Income inequality, Equity, Good governance, Dynamic.

1-INTRODUCTION

The Right to education is every person's right, irrespective of caste, religion, or community. It has been mentioned in our Indian constitution to provide education to all. Also under Article 21, we study that life does not confine to breathing but it has another dimension as well. Different types of schools, colleges, and universities are established to provide the right to

education. Human resources and physical resources are arranged for the proper operation of these institutions.

The government is making all possible efforts to change society through education, to make people civilized and more refined. A large amount of the Indian budget is used to collect these resources of education, to run the education system smoothly and to make it efficient. But when our Indian students do not use these resources and go abroad for education, then along with these resources, our Indian currency is also not used properly. We can do whatever we want, pursue any career options, and choose a better living, but does it give us the right to exploit the resources we have by not using it and migrating outside the nation to avail these? Education is an area of utmost importance for government reforms we still are facing a major challenge in this regard.

Recently Union Minister of State Subhash Sarkar informed the nation while addressing the parliament that students choosing to study abroad have shown a significant rise of 68% in 2022 in comparison to 2021. Furthermore according to INTO University Partnership out of 10, 8 students settle in the host country after completing their education and this trend is also confirmed by the reports of the OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development). A significant number of Indian youngsters have been studying overseas in recent years; by 2022, that number will have surpassed 7.5 lakh. Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, the number of students migrating had surpassed 5 lakh in 2018 and rose to 5.86 lakh in 2019, but the pandemic caused the number to drop by half in 2020. In spite of this fall brought on by travel bans and lockdowns, more than 2.5 lakh students moved overseas to pursue their education. Following this pattern, student mobility increased again, reaching 4.4 lakh in 2021. According to the most recent data, the number of Indian students

studying overseas rose by almost 70% in comparison to 2021.

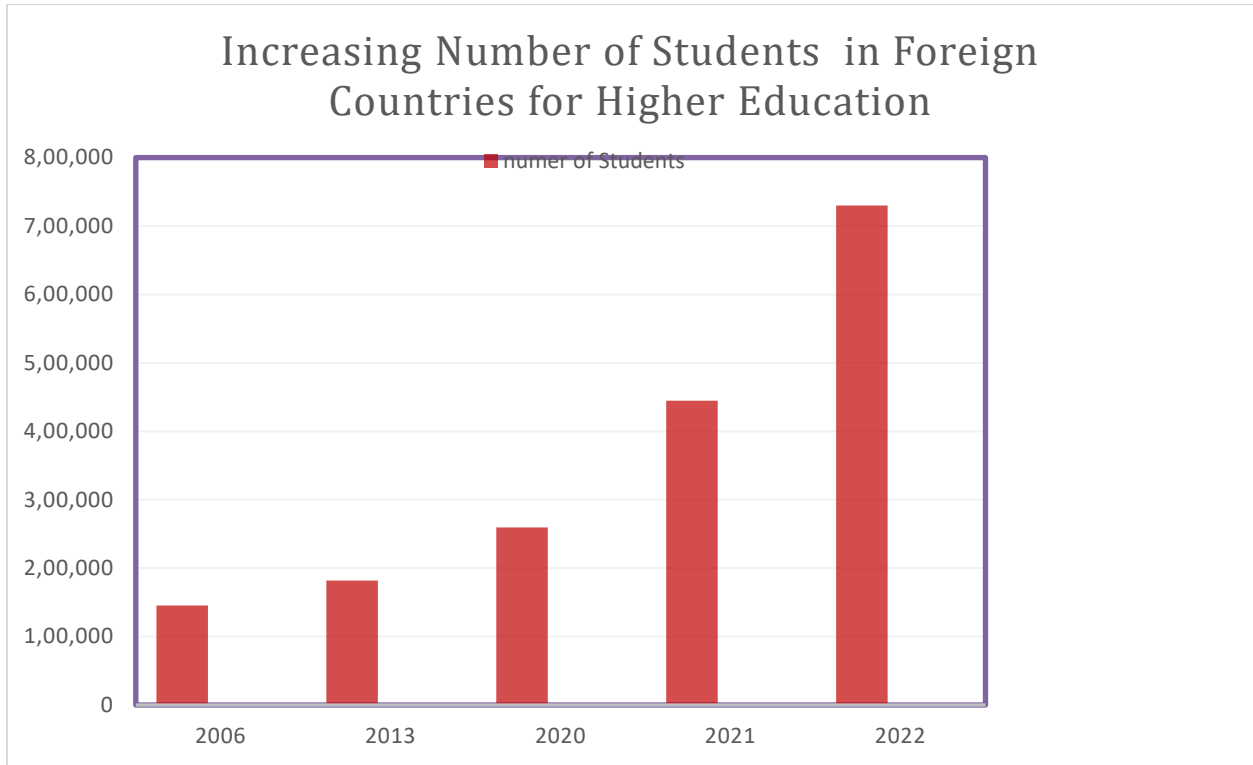


Figure 1-Yearwise Increasing no of student’s migration

The above Stats show us that are our students just going for their educational needs or something else.

If we go through the history of the last few years, we find that the migration of our Indian students to foreign countries has been increasing continuously.

This migration is not only limited to getting an education, but it is also related to settling there after getting an education. What is the reason behind all these facts, why this is happening, and whether the efforts made by the government very limited, it needs to be discussed in detail.

2-PULL FACTORS

Pull factors are those that bring migrants to a place. Now we will see this pattern which came into force, especially after 1991. As we all know in 1991 India woke up to the new son of liberalization existing on

the horizon. It paved the way for our economy and also made people aware that there is something out there that needs to be explored, and driven by this desire Indians started migrating. The beauty and grandeur of the developed countries have amplified this drive of our students to the extreme. If seen, not only beauty but their developed and dynamic education system also attracted the students towards themselves.

According to a study, the UAE attracted the most students as of July 2021. Canada ranked second and the USA came in third.

Out of the developed countries, the USA is the personal favorite of Indians. The number of students in the USA rose up 21% from 11.8% in the last decade. According to a study, the UAE attracted the most students as of July 2021. Canada ranked second and the USA came in third.

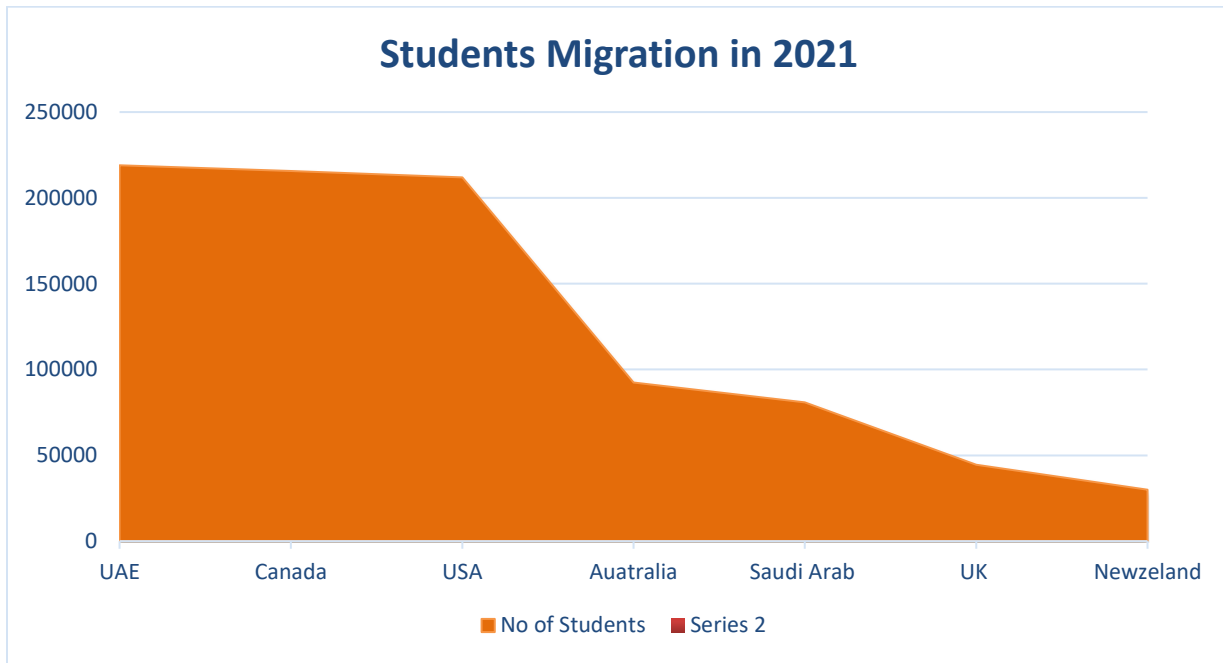


Figure 2- Data of 2021

It's not even just the quality education that attracts Indians but the standard of living as well which is superior to India or its situation. Students started believing that their life had meaning only in first-world countries. If this was not true, then the number of Indian students would not have decreased so much in Africa and other backward countries of the world. Furthermore, students do not have many career options in India. Our country has mainly STEM-Science Technology Engineering Mathematics, but what about those students who want to take the road less taken means some diverse or different streams? Other developed countries have these streams or options different from ours.

A university education abroad is an option in today's globalized world. Companies also are looking for individuals who have international backgrounds, cross-cultural competency, and language skills. In addition to having access to high-quality education, students travel abroad for a variety of reasons, including the desire for improved living conditions and the conviction that studying overseas is a ticket to success. For Indians, one of the causes is the terrible standards at their home universities—poor facilities, lack of qualified educators, dissatisfied curriculum, and disconnect from industries. Despite having lofty goals, India's higher educational institutions system lags far behind in a well-known position, only three Indian universities were among the top 200, and ten were among the top 700. Compare this to New

Zealand, a tiny nation with only eight top-ranked universities!

These are not just the only reasons that we have behind this pattern but there is also another dimension of the problem.

Now let us see the challenges that students face in our country which prompt them to think that life is only in first-world countries.

3-PUSH FACTORS

Push factors are those that force an individual to make a move to another location and leave their location of for various reasons.

According to the 12th five-year plan (2012-17), there is a huge gap in our country between the number of students who have completed they are 12th class and the availability of colleges. There is an excess demand for educational institutes but, the distribution across the country is not even. It means that some States have higher educational institutes in comparison to other states According to the latest data from the Ministry of Education, Rajasthan has the highest number of universities in India.

States such as Ladakh, Mizoram, etc. do not have many universities and due to these reasons, these states are not able to cater to the needs of their young graduates which increases internal migration in India. Internal migration is not a major problem in India as compared to international migration but as it puts

excessive pressure in the host city, the quality of education is compromised.

According to macro trend sensors, the population of Delhi is 13, 69,000 in 1950 while in 2023 it grew to 32,941,000. This put excessive pressure not only on the educational resources of the universities of Delhi but also on their human resources and natural resources.

As per the 2011 census, about 25 million people have migrated to Karnataka and other Southern States. Even after completing the graduation and post-graduation, our students are still not able to find jobs according to their caliber, as a result they have to satisfy their ego in other jobs that are not of their standards.

Furthermore, too much politics is also one of the important reason, why students are attracted towards liberal countries. It's not that India is politically unstable but a statement of Amitabh Kant, an Indian bureaucrat, helps us to see reality without most clarity. He said that reforms are tough in our country because of too much democracy, you need political will to carry out reforms in our country. As a normal graduate who wanted to start his own business had to go through multiple windows systems to get the permit for his project.

If as a businessman in India, people do not have strong political connections their business will most likely to supported. As India is the largest economy in the world, the fruits of this economic advantage are not enjoyed by all the strata of the Indian Population.

According to Oxfam International, 10% of the Indian population holds 77% of the national wealth. There are many Indians who can fulfill even their daily needs, such as expensive education and medical facilities they need and as a result 63 million people will pushed into poverty.

It is a matter to think that despite this economic situation, why the middle class with its limited resources sends its children to first-world countries to get economic benefits, over their Indian counterpart. Another reason is that government seats are limited as compared to the demand. Furthermore, the fee structure of the private colleges is not for everyone while the similar they can get from other countries at reasonable prices.

According to the Times of India, last year 13 lakh students appeared for NEET for admission to 60000 seats, which gives a fair idea of the intensity of competitions involved. According to govt. data this year 20, 38,596 appeared for 41388 govt. seats. Now,

what about those students who are not selected? Either they can move to private colleges to pursue their dream or they can simply migrate to other countries as the private colleges are not in every man's pocket.

4-GOVERNMENT EFFORTS & INITIATIVE

We cannot fulfill our responsibility just by stating the problem, but we need to take some concrete steps, as this is the real problem we are talking about. Our government is not only analyzing the situation and assisting, but also offers solutions to the problems. Though a bit late, now the government is making sure that people do not think that government supports facilitating the migration of students it has to be stopped for only your own good, if you are attracted to foreign universities, we will have them here.

UGC permitted various foreign universities to set up their branches in India. To maintain their independence these universities can have their admission norms and our government will not interfere in it.

If these universities can provide some quality education in India as they are doing in their own country then this initiative of government can help to check migration to some extent.

Or is it just that they are attracted to the dollar? Various countries are thinking of de-dollarizing the global market and India is turning this vision of theirs into an opportunity. As compared to the dollar, the Indian rupee is still not match in global trade but its percentage of share surely grow. 18 countries agreed to pay for trade in the rupee which is to strengthen the Indian rupee.

India is the largest populated country in the world and to provide quality education along with the principles of equity and equality is a challenging task.

As we all know about PPP (public-private partnership) model operates in various sectors giving opportunities to private parties to contribute to national development. This PPP model is not confined to railways, airports, roads, etc. but in the past few years, this partnership in education has been a huge success. It does not only provide technological development but also improves quality due the privatization or commercialization of education. It's not like that Government privatize education completely but only Partial. This PPP model in education is proposed by 11th five year plan along with many things. 11th five year plan proposed the

setting up of about 6000 model schools, out of which 2500 are to be under PPP model.

HRD Minister pointed out various steps that are taken by the government to come up with effective solution to the problem. Some notable initiative are as follows

1-PM Scholarship scheme- About 500 top students will be offered scholarship of about 75000 rupee.

2-Variou exchange programs are also started by the ministry to appoint good teachers from prominent world class Universities. Investment is also made to boost research and development in the domestic country.

Government identify migration as a challenge and provide every possible thing that young graduate use. It is improving quality in education by making it more dynamic and practical.

India is the emerging country of entrepreneurs. Now we don't have to look towards western countries for the opportunities as it is in the domestic country itself. As the average age of most of the Indian is 25, this shows the potential of our population. We need more universities and quality educational institutes. We have the right time now, which won't happen after 100, 200 years, as average age will going to be increase. Our country has a huge number of resources which is really an asset which is also needed by the western countries.

5-SUGGESTIONS

To offset their outflows, the majority of countries from which students migrate also welcome international students. For instance, in 2016 China had half as many international students on its own campuses as it did in its overseas universities, with over 800,000 students enrolled. In Malaysia, international and inbound students are the same. Singapore transmits out over two times as many students from colleges as it does domestically. In India, the flow of scholars is primarily one-way, with over four times the amount of scholars studying overseas as entering the country.

The true test before the government is to stop the migration. In fact, we cannot stop the migration of our youth completely, but we can reduce its pace. We can limit the number by-improving education, achieving political stability, following the principles of good governance, improving the standards of living, respect individual here then why to move somewhere else.

Differences, provide necessary funds for research and development, promote emerging business etc., so that people convince that they are getting a good future

6-CONCLUSION

We are not certain about others countries, but we are certain about the challenges and opportunities in our homeland.

What other countries of the world look like, it is not necessary to be like that in reality. According to a statement by a renowned Indian journalist, Palki Sharma Upadhyay, "You are today more likely to be killed in US gun fights from Afghanistan". This shows the severity of the problem. Asians are facing facial discrimination in USA and it's not something that we are not aware of. We had the golden age of the world in the form of Nalanda and Takshashila universities and we'll repeat it and history will repeat itself in the upcoming decades in a better and unique way for our students, for our future, for our nation.

Even though it's desirable for students to pursue studies abroad and enter the global workforce, we also need to build our nation's universities to the highest possible norms. We shouldn't prevent humans from migrating, as somebody once stated. We must provide them with an improved home life. Migration is a process, not an issue.

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