

Emigration from Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu

A mapping of surveys on international labour migration from India

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Introduction

India has always been a treasure land for scholars working on migration for its century's old legacy of moving beyond boundaries in search of fortunes. Migration is a phenomenon as old as human civilisations itself and has undergone tremendous changes from time to time. India is the best source to understand these intricacies involved with human mobility for the variety of trends it exhibits from North to South. Migration and development are synonymous in this nation where remittances form the building blocks to prosperity. With the global economic transformations, internal economic reforms and the socio political ambiance across the globe migration patterns tend to change sometimes for good and sometimes with hard setbacks. Still, given all this India is among the top human resource exporters in the world.

Migration as an engine of development has been accepted by economists across the world and a clear understanding of its details are very essential in order to reap the best benefits of it. The paper examines the most recent statistics and findings on the Indian trends of migration by analysing mutable sources in terms of emigration stock and remittances and also includes a special focus on Kerala, the historic migrants' hub of India which can clearly explain the patterns and trends of migration owing to the global circumstances.

Data Sources

Analysing the overall migration trends and its developmental into nations require a careful study of data from across regions, times and sources. The paper has been prepared on the basis of data collected from many sources. Every data set has its own relevance, characteristic features and hence need to be properly understood for one to read with what they imply.

1. ***Government of India's data on labour migration:*** The Government of India through its office of Protector General of Emigrants (PGE) of the Ministry of

Overseas Indian Affairs compiles data on emigrant clearances (those who have not completed ten years of schooling but would like to work at Emigration Clearance Required (ECR) to about 18 countries in the world) and publish it annually along with state-level as well as the countries of destination. This data just provides the indications of labour flows to about eighteen countries in the world (more details, see Krishna Kumar and Irudaya Rajan, 2014).

2. ***The National Sample Survey Organization rounds:*** The National Sample Survey Organisation/Office (NSSO) established in 1950 is an organisation under the Department of Statistics which is the largest organisation involved in conducting massive socio-economic surveys across the country. The study here has made use of data available from its 49th and 64th rounds of studies. NSS 49th round (January to June, 1993) was devoted mainly to the survey on housing conditions with special emphasis on slum dwellers. In this round, they included a section on migration and collected some characteristics of households with migrants. An all-India survey on the situation of employment and unemployment and migration particulars in India was carried out during NSS 64th round (July, 2007 to June, 2008). In this survey, a nation-wide enquiry was conducted in a moderately large sample of households to provide estimates on various characteristics pertaining to employment and unemployment and migration particulars in India and some characteristics associated with them at the national and state levels. Both NSSO rounds have been used extensively for the paper to assess the state-level scenario of migration.
3. ***Indian Human Development Survey:*** The India Human Development Survey (IHDS) is a nationally representative, multi-topic survey of 41,554 households in 1503 villages and 971 urban neighbourhoods across India. The first round of interviews was completed in 2004-05. IHDS has been jointly organized by researchers from the University of Maryland and the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), New Delhi. Funding for this survey is provided by the National Institutes of Health with additional funding from the Ford Foundation.

4. *The Kerala Migration Survey*: The Centre for Development Studies (CDS), Thiruvananthapuram, has taken up the major task of conducting a state-wide survey on migration in Kerala since 1998 and has come up with five reports so far and the sixth is currently in the making. This massive survey involving many researchers and field investigators is the first venture of this sort and has inspired many scholars across the world to take up such huge studies. This paper extensively used the fifth round of Kerala Migration Survey (KMS) 2011 conducted by the CDS with the financial support of Department of Non-Resident Keralite Affairs, Government of Kerala and Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India.

Emigration

The World Bank classifies India as one of the top emigrating countries where migration is a reality for a large section of population: stock of 11.4 million Indians from India in 2010 (World Bank, 2011). Additionally, India figures in three of the top five migration corridors in the South Asia region - India–United States, India–Saudi Arabia, India–United Arab Emirates¹. India also ranks first in the list of top remittance receiving countries with \$69.8 billion followed by China (\$66.3 billion), and Philippines with US \$ 24.3 in 2012 (World Bank, 2013). With a favourable demographic pattern, IOM (2010) predicts that India is likely to emerge as one of the largest migrant-sending countries by 2050, and the number of international migrants is expected to reach 405 million by this period (IOM, 2010).

According to the World Bank (2011), the United Arab Emirates (UAE) registered the highest migrant stock, followed by the USA and Saudi Arabia. About twelve countries globally registered their Indian migrant stock at about 2 lakhs. Most Gulf countries figure in this list, along with the UK, Canada and Australia (Table 1).

The CDS has placed the Indian migrant stock at 12 million in 2011 based on earlier work conducted at the time of the global financial crisis (Irudaya Rajan and Naryana, 2012). As of now, the Gulf region accounts for 6 million or 50 per cent of the Indian emigrants.

¹ The major destinations of migrants from India are: the United Arab Emirates, the United States of America, Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh, Nepal, the United Kingdom, Canada, Oman, Kuwait and Sri Lanka.

The importance of the India-GCC corridor cannot be over emphasized. Migration to the Gulf began in 1970s and gained momentum over the years. Indians in the Gulf constitute nearly 6 million with a majority of them in UAE, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, working in the construction, oil and natural gas, trading and financial sectors. Although a clear majority are low and semi-skilled labourers, the presence of professional emigrants cannot be ignored. The Indian expatriate population in West Asia increased from 0.2 million in 1975 to 3.3 million in 2001 (Lal, 2006) and is estimated at around 5 million in 2010 (Irudaya Rajan and Narayana, 2010) and 6 million in 2013. Moreover, the opportunities for skilled workers are poised to increase further as recruitment becomes open for nearly 300,000 jobs, with new refineries and power plants being set up in Saudi Arabia and Abu Dhabi in the course of the next five years. The boom in the investment sector and the associated migration of skilled workers refute the former notion that Indian emigration to West Asia comprises exclusively of unskilled and semi-skilled labour (Khadria, 2010; 2013).

Table 1: Estimated Indian Migrant Stock, 2010

Destination Countries	Number
Australia	209,908
Qatar	250,649
Sri Lanka	336,352
Kuwait	393,210
Oman	447,824
Canada	516,508
United Kingdom	657,792
Nepal	831,432
Bangladesh	1,052,775
Saudi Arabia	1,452,927
United States of America	1,654,272
United Arab Emirates	2,185,919
All Other Countries	1,371,256
Total	11,360,823

Source: World Bank, 2011,

Table 2 indicates the overall trends in emigration from India in terms of variety, destination and corridors, in the context of the three historical stages of Indian migration. The quantum of workers that emigrated from India as contractual employment workers over the last several years is presented in Table 3. The number is very small when

compared to the total emigrants reported earlier because many emigrants do not require emigration clearance from the Government of India. In India, 17 categories of persons have been exempted from emigration clearance and are placed under the ‘emigration clearance not required’ (ECNR) category, as per the Emigration Act 1983). Official figures only capture the flow of immigrant labour that fall within the ECR category (Irudaya Rajan, Varghese and Jayakumar, 2011). The initial flow of contractual labour from India started with a low profile with just 0.16 million in 1985, later reaching a peak of 0.44 million in 1993 and then slowly declining. It is currently witnessing an upward surge with 0.37 million in 2002, reaching a peak of 0.9 million in 2007 and currently hovering around 0.6 million since the global economic crisis and picking up again to the pre-global crisis level of 0.75 million.

Table 2: Trends in Overall Migration from India

Time- Period	Category of Emigrant	Destination for Indian Emigrants
Pre-Colonial	Religious/Trade	West Asia, South and South East Asia & Africa
Colonial	Indenture	West Indies, South Africa, Fiji, Mauritius and several other colonies
	<i>Kangani</i>	Malaya and Ceylon
	<i>Maistry</i>	Burma
	Free /Passage (merchants and other skilled labour)	To colonies outside British India
Post-India’s independence (1947)	Professional	Prominently to USA, Europe, Australia and Gulf
	Professional, Skilled, Semi- & Unskilled workers	Prominently to GCC countries and Malaysia
	Family reunion (dependents of emigrants)	To all destinations as permitted by both India and receiving countries
	Students	Australia, UK, USA, and Russia

Source: Irudaya Rajan and Bhaskar, 2010.

We can divide the migration outflows from India into five phases based on the emigration clearance data. The first phase covers the period between 1985 and 1991, which witnessed an annual volume of emigration ranging between 0.11 million to 0.20 million.

The second phase is the first half of 1990s (1992-97) when the annual flow of labour was more than 0.40 million. The third phase starts after 1998 when a heavy fall in emigration took place. The last phase sets in at the beginning of the 21st century when the annual flow has been on a steady increase, reaching close to 0.9 million in 2007 (Irudaya Rajan and Prabhat Kumar, 2010) and finally saturating at around 0.6 million during the last 2 years and moving to pre-global crisis level of 0.8 million in 2013.

Table 3: Trends in Workers Emigrated from India, 1985-2013

Year	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Emigration (in million)	0.16	0.11	0.13	0.17	0.13	0.14	0.20	0.42	0.44
1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
0.43	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.37	0.20	0.24	0.28	0.37	0.47
2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
0.47	0.55	0.68	0.81	0.84	0.61	0.64	0.63	0.75	0.82

Source: Compiled by the author from various *Annual Reports* of the Ministry of Labour and Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India.

The state-wise breakdown of the number of migrant workers is also available for the last 20 years (Table 4). There has been a continuous decline in the number of workers in almost all states under study until 1999, followed by a gradual increase. Kerala accounts for the largest number of migrant workers, followed by Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. Some of the other states with a sizeable number of labour emigrants are Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab and Rajasthan. One of the reasons for the low outflow of labour migration from Kerala as reflected in official figures is that persons holding secondary level of education are exempted from emigration clearance. However, in recent years, the state-wise scenario has undergone a transformation. Following the economic crisis, Uttar Pradesh ranks the highest in terms of the outflow of labour migrants from India (see Figure 1).

Southern states such as Kerala and Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal have the highest number of literates in the country. One of the reasons for the CDS to undertake large-scale migration surveys in Kerala is the fact that until recently, Kerala reported the highest flow of labour migration (Zachariah, Kannan and Irudaya Rajan, 2002;

Zachariah, Mathew and Irudaya Rajan, 2003, Zachariah and Irudaya Rajan, 2009; 2012; 2013).

Table 4: Workers Granted Emigration Clearance by Major States, 1993-2013

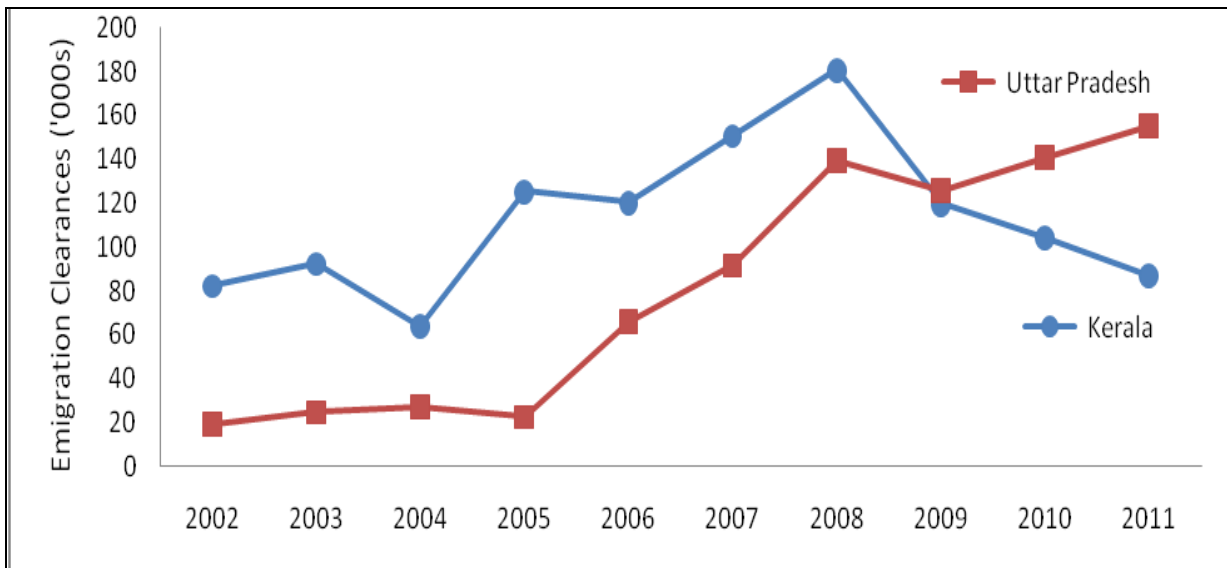
State	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Andhra Pradesh	35,578	34,508	30,284	29,995	38,278	30,599
Karnataka	34,380	32,266	33,496	33,761	40,396	11,535
Kerala	155,208	154,407	165,629	167,325	156,102	91,720
Maharashtra	35,248	32,178	26,312	25,214	25,146	24,657
Punjab	14,212	12,445	11,852	11,751	12,414	26,876
Rajasthan	25,243	27,418	28,374	18,221	28,242	19,824
Tamil Nadu	70,313	70,525	65,737	64,991	63,672	69,793
Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	68,156	61,638	53,650	62,956	52,174	80,160
Total	438,338	425,385	415,334	414,214	416,424	355,164

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
	18,983	29,999	37,331	38,417	65,971	72,580	48,498
	5,287	10,927	10,095	14,061	22,641	19,237	75,384
	60,445	69,630	61,548	81,950	92,044	63,512	125,075
	9871	13346	22713	25477	29,350	28,670	29,289
	15,167	10,025	12,422	19,638	24,963	25,302	24,088
	9,809	10,170	14,993	23,254	37,693	35,108	21,899
	47,402	63,878	61,649	79,165	89,464	108,964	117,050
			-	19,288	24,854	27,428	22,558
	32,588	35,207	57,913	85,701	104,330	94,159	85,012
	199,552	243,182	278,664	367,663	466,456	474,960	548,853

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
	97,680	105,044	97,530	69,233	72,220	71,589	92,803	103049
	24,362	27,014	22,413	18,565	17,295	15,394	17,960	17798
	120,083	150,475	180,703	119,384	104,101	86,783	98,178	85909
	15,356	21,496	24,786	19,128	18,123	16,698	19,259	19579
	39,311	53,942	54,469	27,291	30,974	31,866	37,472	48836
	50,236	70,896	64,601	44,744	47,803	42,239	50,295	41676
	155,631	150,842	128,791	78,841	84,510	68,732	78,185	83087
	66,131	91,613	139,254	125,783	140,826	155,301	191,341	218292
	108,122	138,131	136,054	107,303	125,504	137,963	161,546	198429
	676,912	809,453	848,601	610,272	641,356	626,565	747,401	816655

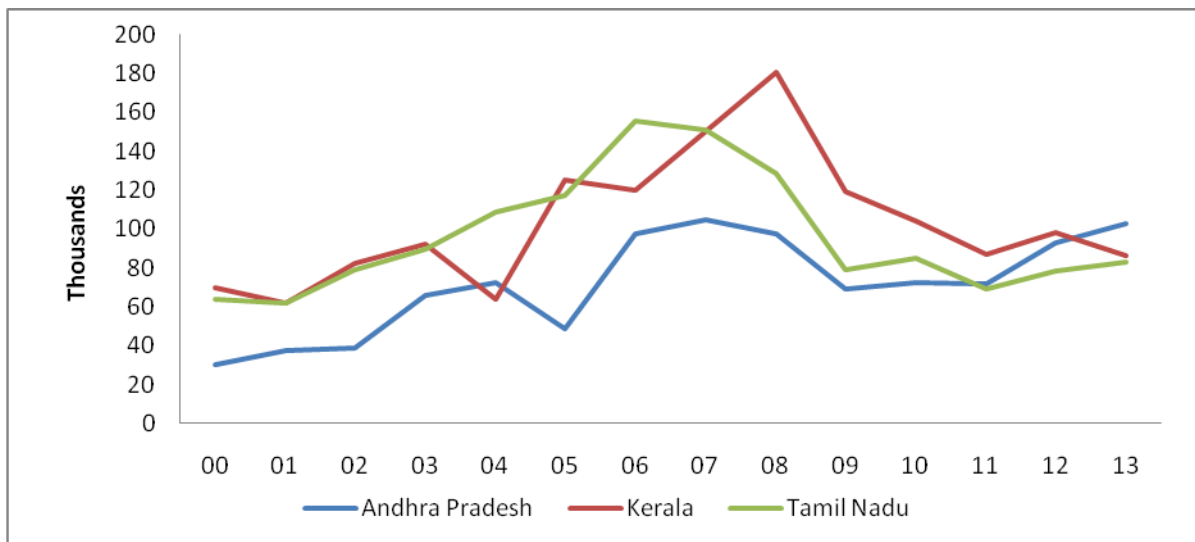
Source: Same as Table 3.

Figure 1: Emigration Clearances from the States of Kerala and Uttar Pradesh



Source: Compiled by the authors from various *Annual Reports* of the Ministry of Labour and Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India, on the number of emigration clearances granted annually.

Figure 2: Emigration Clearances from the States of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Tamil Nadu



Source: Compiled by the authors from various *Annual Reports* of the Ministry of Labour and Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India, on the number of emigration clearances granted annually.

Figure 2 indicates the volume of workers who have been granted emigration clearance for the states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh between 2000 and 2013. Emigration of workers from Andhra Pradesh in 2000 was 29,999 whereas the same for

Kerala and Tamil Nadu was 69,630 and 63,878 respectively. Interestingly, Tamil Nadu achieved its peak in 2006 with 155631 workers and Andhra Pradesh reached its peak in 2007 with 105044 workers and Kerala reached its peak in 2008 with 180703 workers. Though the volume of workers who have been granted emigration clearance has been on the decline in Kerala since 2008, Andhra Pradesh has picked up the momentum after 2011, from 71589 to 103049 workers in 2013 and surpassed both Kerala and Tamil Nadu and took the lead position among the South Indian states, and next to Uttar Pradesh among the whole of India. Tamil Nadu has shown a consistent increase since 2011 where as the total number of workers having emigrated from Kerala has declined again from 98178 workers in 2012 to 85909 in 2013. According to the 2013 emigration clearance data, in 2013, Kerala might experience a declining emigration phase where as for the states such as Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh that have surpassed Kerala in recent years are being projected in coming times with a still further growth in emigration. This is also true for Tamil Nadu.

The distribution of worker emigration based on emigration clearances is highly skewed in nature. There are only a handful of states that participate extensively in the emigration, though in varying degrees. The predominant states are Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh which together account for a lion share of emigration clearance.

View it differently, the relative share of the Southern and Western states has declined from 80.14 per cent to 42.04 per cent - a fall of over 47 per cent during 2000 to 2013. In the same period, the share of the Northern and Eastern states has increased from 19.86 per cent to 57.96 per cent - a leap of 192 per cent (Krishna Kumar and Irudaya Rajan, 2014). Even after allowing for the low base effect, the gains of the latter group of states are impressive (Figure 3). This also provides evidence for undertaking large scale surveys not only in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh but also in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.

Figure 3: Emigration Clearances by Region

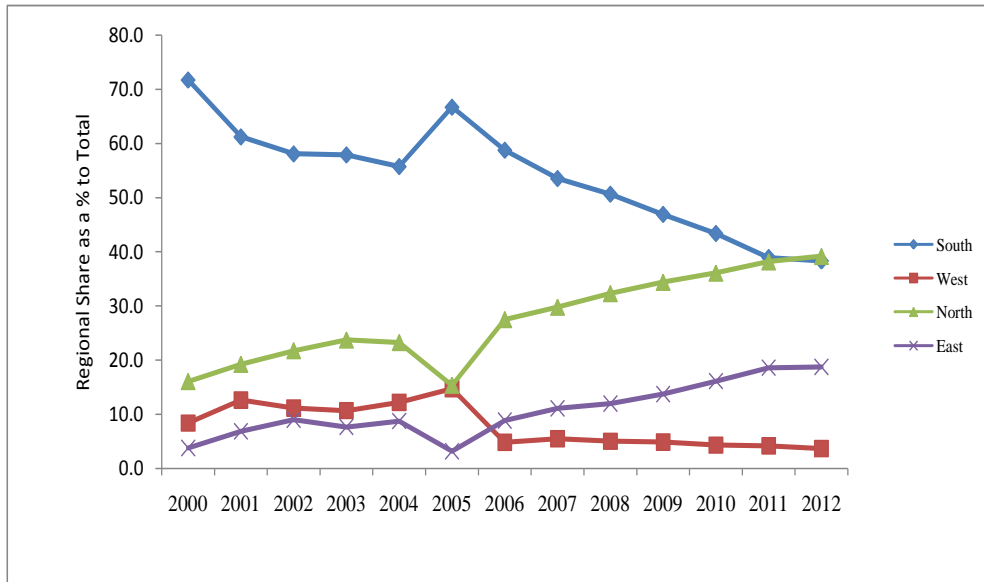


Table 5 shows the age-wise and gender-wise break up of emigrants as cleared by the eight PoE offices across India. The number of women emigrating from Andhra Pradesh is much higher than those from other states. Andhra Pradesh is followed by Kerala and Maharashtra. As the tables show the amount of emigration from certain PoE offices is very high compared to others, for example, the number of emigration clearances given by PoE offices at Mumbai, Hyderabad, Delhi and Chandigarh is higher than those at Chennai, Cochin, Kolkata and Trivandrum. However, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh continue to dominate as the source of workers.

**Table 5: Age and gender profile of people as cleared by PoE offices
(Jan 2009 – Aug 2010)**

Age & Gender	Age between 18-21 years		Age between 22-25 years		Age between 26-30 years		Age between 31-35 years		Age between 36-40 years		Age between 41-45 years		Age between 46-50 years		Age between 51-55 years		Age between 56-60 years		Age between 61 years & above	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Chandigarh	6078		16393		14490	3	8849	17	6109	6	3089	4	1103	2	221		22		4	
Chennai	768	0	9635	0	14859	0	10557	563	7934	661	5103	383	1784	221	386	30	35	1	7	0
Cochin	1162	1	6762	2	8180	47	5121	587	3550	870	1881	907	660	583	70	15	4	0	0	0
Delhi	2690	0	24461	0	26757	1	15838	52	10362	66	5374	50	1837	26	447	8	32	3	6	0
Hyderabad	5225	2	30378	14	35227	17	22801	10836	15998	4462	8572	1400	3124	319	483	24	44	4	12	2
Kolkata	844	0	5956	0	7041	0	4284	16	2993	12	1616	8	514	5	95	1	17	0	2	0
Mumbai	5135	1	147863	40	189272	54	109568	631	74852	532	41456	394	14681	214	3132	42	378	5	51	0
Trivandrum	833	0	3836	1	4784	35	3096	384	2548	499	1506	447	691	284	77	16	8	0	0	0

Source: Special tabulation by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs for this paper.

Table 6: Emigration clearances granted by type of work, 1988-1992

Category	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
Carpenter	6,361	12,900	6,939	5,132	145
Cook	3,550	3,051	2,070	2,386	239
Driver	6,562	6,334	6,724	5,123	131
Electrician	3,494	3,689	4,496	2,832	112
Engineer	354	268	248	173	13
Fixer/Fabricator	1,904	2,008	2,827	1,052	29
Foreman	927	906	983	764	30
Paramedical staff	1,349	736	434	437	18
Labourer/Helper	91,196	40,657	58,779	45,028	17,345
Mason	8,550	8,731	8,913	6,323	246
Mechanic/AC also	3,562	4,476	3,263	2,467	111
Office Staff	3,916	2,211	1,385	1,087	56
Operator	1,309	1,855	1,342	1,001	39
Painter	2,273	2,501	1,867	1,866	65
Plumber	1,971	1,624	2,047	1,831	33
Tailor	5,115	4,361	3,722	3,231	163
Technician	3,539	1,450	3,389	2,642	136
Welder	1,497	1,222	3,272	1,291	55
Supervisor	1,021	813	1,069	444	21
Surveyor	461	264	218	234	12
Salesman	1,580	4,199	4,121	3,818	147
Housemaid/House-boy	891	2,965	0	1,400	1,938
Fitters	0	1,690	0	0	0
Agriculture	0	0	0	452	108
Others	18,284	17,778	2,565	19,302	3,074
Total	169,666	126,689	120,673	110,316	24,266

Source: Same as Table 6.

The Ministry of Labour had, in the past, published data on labour migration by employment category. However, the data are of questionable quality (See Table 6). Surprisingly, 56 per cent of the emigrants left India on labour contracts to work as labourer, helper, cook and housemaid or houseboy, without any educational qualification or with just a few years of schooling. This is supported by the first study conducted in Kerala (Zachariah, Mathew and Irudaya Rajan, 2001a; 2001b). Since 1992, trade level data were not available. On request, the MOIA provided us with

the latest data on the trade. Recruitment to trades/occupations such as driver (176244), mason (123695) and carpenter (55749) is far higher than many other trades as shown in table 10.

Table 7: No. of workers with emigration clearance by PoE offices in various trades (Jan 2009 – Aug 2010)

Trade/PoE	Chandigarh	Chennai	Cochin	Delhi	Hyderabad	Kolkata	Mumbai	Trivandrum	Total
Carpenter	5306	2212	567	7382	6441	2333	30768	740	55749
Mason	7590	3776	1256	9538	12341	3496	83667	2031	123695
Bartender	10	12	20	28	0	0	4	0	74
Steel Fixer	1442	1097	382	3542	1603	215	9687	536	18504
Crane Operator	27	126	26	17	27	13	571	22	829
Technician	0	860	554	10	65	392	18903	11	20795
Supervisor	0	477	38	3	0	246	2152	4	2920
Electrician	895	3403	909	1786	3476	1242	22620	1292	35623
Plumber	603	1921	420	1046	1649	985	12786	1090	20500
Scaffolder	41	83	108	199	40	17	1246	36	1770
Painter	1511	1487	725	1391	2581	595	10501	267	19058
Rigger	128	745	310	454	841	171	3875	10	6534
Driver	46	2280	2523	1500	5237	1419	162974	265	176244
Welder	3	2341	760	424	850	1110	16550	764	22802
Plasterer	101	67	7	150	0	27	848	1	1201
Fabricator	57	1196	97	368	258	115	2229	281	4601
Laborer	2105	429	158	6071	1356	181	5039	21	15360
Helper	101	2378	207	403	35	975	1790	19	5908
Cook	30	4090	267	155	1446	461	8739	146	15334
Housemaid	21	1907	1915	61	22972	6	850	1275	29007
Others	36373	22030	19153	40328	105923	9684	192575	10234	436300
Total	56390	52917	30402	74856	167141	23683	588374	19045	1012808

Source: Source: Special tabulation by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs for this paper.

With regard to destination countries, our analysis indicates that around 95 per cent of labour outflows reach six key destinations (Saudi Arabia, UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman and Qatar) in West Asia in 1988. This trend continued till 2002 with 75 per cent going to these countries. In 1994, Saudi Arabia led with 65 per cent annual labour outflows from India followed by the UAE. In terms of absolute numbers, barring 1999, Saudi Arabia attracted the largest number of Indian labourers (Irudaya Rajan and Joseph, 2013). This is true also for 2002. The available labour outflow statistics reflect that over the years, the Gulf countries have remained an important destination for Indian workers. Even in 2008, 96 per cent of migrant labour left Indian shores for the six countries in the Gulf. The UAE tops the list, receiving 41 per cent of the workers from India, followed by Saudi Arabia with 27 per cent (Irudaya Rajan and Remya Prabha, 2008). Interestingly, Saudi Arabia has not only emerged as an important destination for Indian workers, but also moved to number one position as the destination attracting Indian workers at the time of the financial crisis and continues to do so (Irudaya Rajan and Narayana, 2012).

Table 8: Labour outflows from India by destination 1988-2012

Year	Bahrain	Kuwait	Oman	Saudi Arabia	UAE	Others	Total
1988	8,219	9,653	18,696	85,289	34,029	9,348	165,234
1989	8,520	5,679	16,574	49,710	28,189	11,786	120,458
1990	6,782	1,077	34,267	79,473	11,962	6,300	139,861
1991	8,630	7,044	22,333	130,928	15,446	7,121	191,502
1992	16,458	19,782	40,900	265,180	60,493	13,971	416,784
1993	15,622	26,981	29,056	269,639	77,066	19,974	438,338
1994	13,806	24,324	25,142	265,875	75,762	20,476	425,385
1995	11,235	16,439	22,338	256,782	79,674	28,866	415,334
1996	16,647	14,580	30,113	214,068	112,644	26,162	414,214
1997	17,944	13,170	29,994	214,420	110,945	29,951	416,424
1998	16,997	22,462	20,774	105,239	134,740	54,952	355,164
1999	14,905	19,149	16,101	27,160	79,269	42,968	199,552
2000	15,909	31,082	25,155	59,722	55,099	56,215	243,182
2001	16,382	39,751	30,985	78,048	53,673	59,825	278,664
2002	20,807	4,859	41,209	99,453	95,034	106,301	367,663
2003	24,778	54,434	36,816	121,431	143,804	85,193	466,456
2004	22,980	52,064	33,275	123,522	175,262	67,857	474,960
2005	30,060	39,124	40,931	99,879	194,412	144,447	548,853
2006	37,688	47,449	67,992	134,059	254,774	134,950	676,912
2007	29,966	48,467	95,462	195,437	312,695	127,426	809,453
2008	31,924	35,562	89,659	228,406	349,827	113,223	848,601
2009	17,541	42,091	74,963	281,110	130,302	64,265	610,272
2010	15,101	37,667	105,087	275,172	130,910	77,419	641,356
2011	14,323	45,149	73,819	289,297	138,861	65,116	626,565
2012	20,150	55,868	84,383	357,503	141,138	87,999	747,041

Source: Same as Table 3.

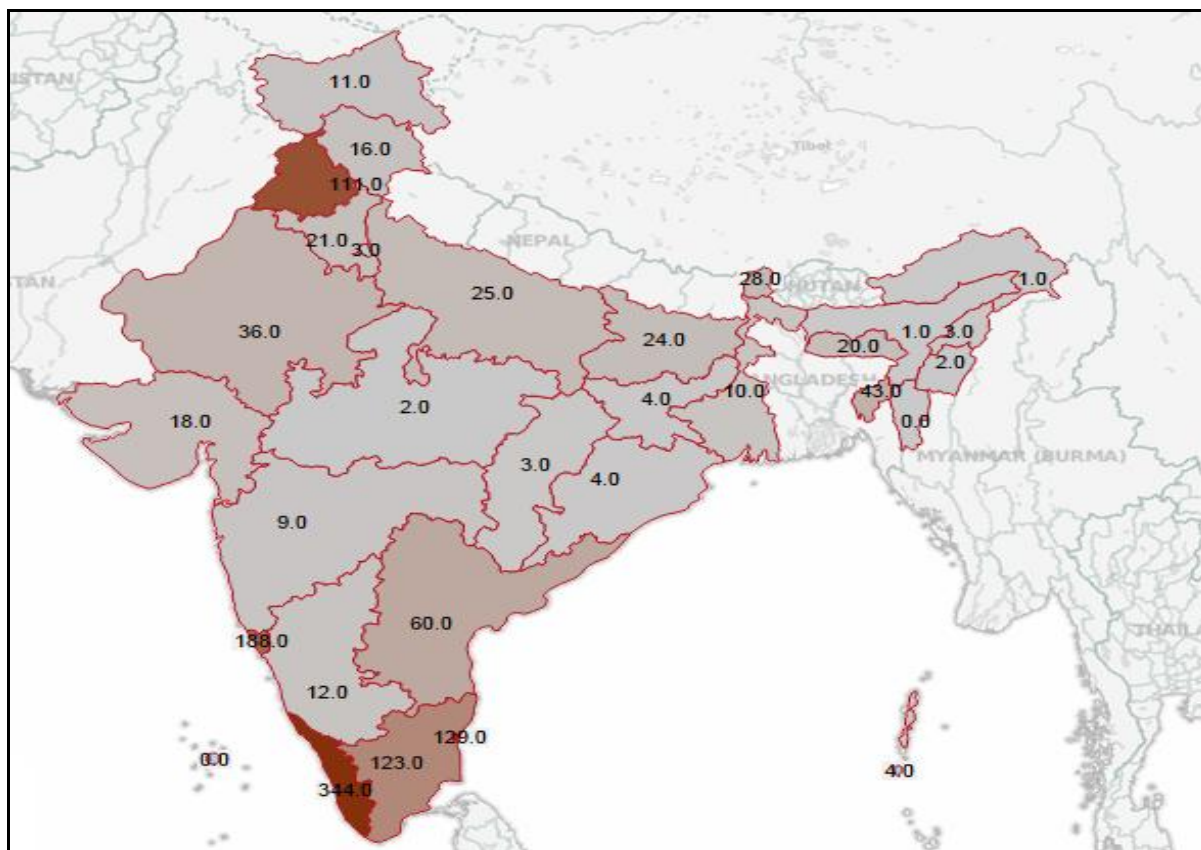
State-wise analysis based on NSS rounds and IHDS

A state-wise analysis of households with atleast one migrant member has been reported by both NSS rounds 49 and 64 as well as the IHDS. Though they both pertain to the same regions and handles the same variables, differences could be spotted between the figures they project. The differences may be due to the sample sizes they consider, analytical differences etc. However both these sources are inevitable to any research scholar in the country and it also sheds light on the mismatches between data brought out by different agencies which warns the researchers on being cautious of the data they rely upon.

Data on out migration of individuals from the households in India is drawn from the various National Sample Survey (NSS) rounds on migration in India. According to NSS - “Any former member of the household who had left the household, any time in the past, for stay outside the village/town, was considered as out-migrant, provided he/she was alive as on the date of survey” (NSSO 2010). The stock of out-migrants in NSS 64th Round is not strictly comparable with the previous NSS round (49th Round), since Out-migrant in 49th Round was defined as “any former member of the households who left the households for stay outside the state during last five years before the date of survey provided he/she was alive and residing outside the state on the date on inquiry”. Thus, households with inter-state migrants and emigrants were considered in 49th Round while in 64th round even inter-district and intra-district –out migrants were considered.

NSS (2007-08) data shows that rural households from states such as Kerala (344) , Punjab (253) and Goa (188) participate extensively in the international migration. At the same time there are states like Orissa, Jharkhand, Chattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh have less than 5 international migrant households per 1000 rural households. Among Union Territories Chandigarh (111) Daman and Diu (373) and Pondicherry (129) also have high international migration than most of the states (Figure 4). North eastern states have limited participation in international migration with exception of Tripura which has 43 international migrant households per 1000 out-migrant households.

Figure 4: International emigrant households in Indian states per 1000 rural migrant households as reported by the NSS 64th round (2007-08)

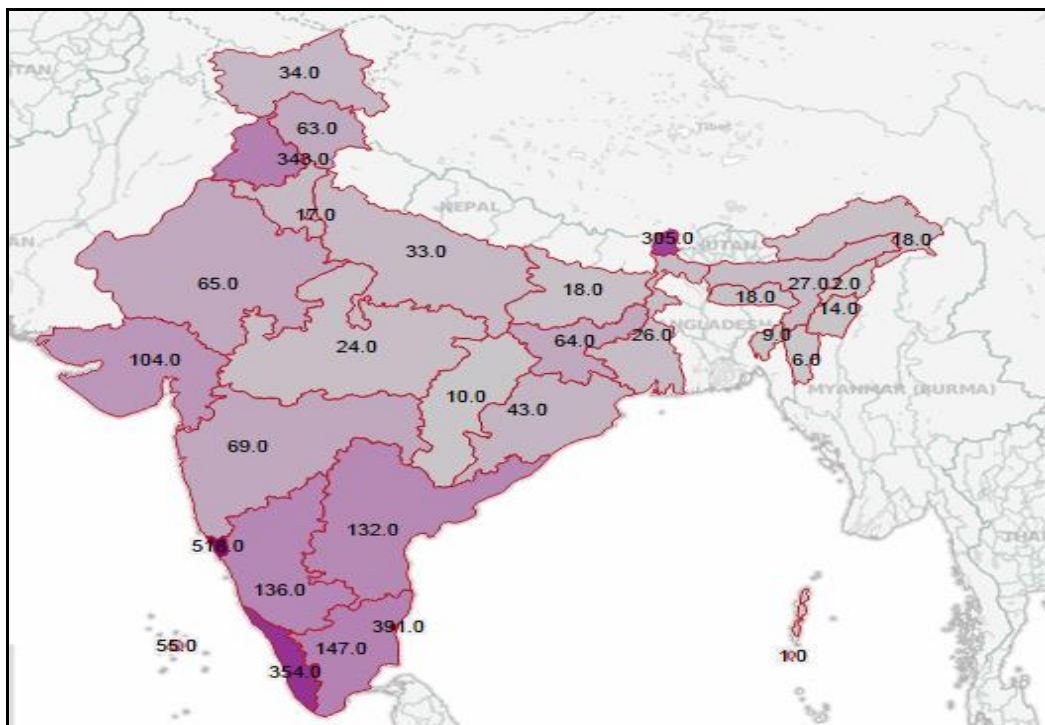


Source: Calculated by the author based on the individual files from the National Sample Survey 64th round conducted during 2007-2008.

Note: High intensity of colours show high concentration of emigrant households in the region.

It is also evident from the NSS data (2007-08) that there is greater participation of urban households in the international migration than their rural counterparts across most of the states. But the overall scenario still remains the same with Kerala (354) Goa (518) Sikkim (305) and Punjab (153) leading the race (Figure 5). Again among Union Territories Chandigarh (343), Daman and Diu (356) and Pondicherry (391) have higher international migrants households per 1000 out-migrant households.

Figure 5: International emigrant households in Indian states per 1000 Urban migrant households as reported by the NSS 64th round (2007-08)



Source: Calculated by the author based on the individual files from the National Sample Survey 64th round conducted during 2007-2008.

Note: High intensity of colours show high concentration of emigrant households in the region.

The IHDS data shows similar scenario of international migration in India with respect to NSSO 64th round (2007-08). The quantum of migration intensity shown by IHDS data is lesser than that of NSS data. Still it shows that states such as Kerala Punjab and Goa does have higher concentration of international emigrant households than any other states in India (Figure 6). IHDS data complements NSS data reemphasizing the fact that not all regions of the country evenly participate in the international labour migration process.

Table 9: Distribution of out-migrant by present place of residence for each state/U.T per 1000 out-migrants as reported by NSS 49th and 64th Rounds

States/ UTs	Out Migration in India NSS 49 th Round [1993]				Out Migration in India NSS 64 th Round [2007-08]			
	Rural		Urban		Rural		Urban	
	Abroad	Within India	Abroad	Within India	Abroad	Within India	Abroad	Within India
Andhra Pradesh	135	865	555	445	36	964	107	893
Arunachal Pradesh		1000	254	746	0	1000	16	984
Assam	33	967	9	991	1	999	23	977
Bihar	43	957	26	974	17	983	15	985
Chhattisgarh					4	996	6	994
Goa	620	380	88	912	169	831	400	600
Gujarat	159	841	373	627	13	987	98	902
Haryana	26	974	24	976	11	989	24	976
Himachal Pradesh	26	974	62	938	8	992	37	963
Jammu & Kashmir	100	900	26	974	6	994	27	973
Jharkhand					9	991	47	953
Karnataka	20	980	109	891	8	992	117	883
Kerala	522	478	602	398	201	799	213	787
Madhya Pradesh	4	996	67	933	1	997	21	979
Maharashtra	78	922	596	404	5	995	60	940
Manipur		1000	7	993	1	999	16	984
Meghalaya		1000	155	845	14	986	14	986
Mizoram	16	984		1000	0	1000	5	995
Nagaland		1000	31	969	1	999	1	999
Orissa	33	967	10	990	3	997	32	968
Punjab	477	523	267	733	173	827	135	865
Rajasthan	136	864	200	800	18	982	44	956
Sikkim	8	992		1000	21	979	184	816
Tamil Nadu	191	809	394	606	81	919	111	889
Tripura		1000		1000	32	968	7	993
Uttrakhand					1	999	52	948
Uttar Pradesh	34	966	108	892	16	984	19	981
West Bengal	87	913	147	853	7	993	18	982
Andaman & Nicobar		1000	35	965	2	998	1	999
Chandigarh	426	574	136	864	142	858	326	674
Dader Nagar-Haweli	90	910	698	302	6	994	191	809
Daman & Diu	837	163	607	393	311	689	391	609
Delhi		1000	77	923	4	996	26	974
Lakshadweep		1000		1000	0	1000	62	938
Pondicherry	231	769	272	728	99	901	408	592

Since NSS 64th round data is not comparable with the earlier round in relative sense from the above data, but we may still conclude that the trend remains the same. In NSS 64th round, rural areas of Kerala (201), Punjab (173) and Goa (169) still shows high proportion of international migration. As for the urban areas proportion of international migration is highest in the states of Kerala (213), Punjab (135) and Goa (400) and closely followed by Tamil Nadu (111) and Andhra Pradesh (107). NSS 64th round also shows Sikkim having high proportion of international migration and as for UTs Chandigarh and Daman and Diu also have high proportion of international migrants.

Emigration from Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala based on the (NSS 64th Round 2007-08)

Table 10 and Figure 7 reveals that the costal districts of Tamil Nadu has high intensity of emigration as seen in Sivaganga with the highest number of emigrant households (169.7), followed by Perambalur (110.0) Thanjavur (86.4) Ramanathapuram (81.4) Thiruvarur (80.7) Nagapattinam (58.8) Kanniyakumari (56.3) and Pudukkottai (50.7). Districts of Chennai (36.8) and Madurai (31.6) still have significant levels of emigration but fall relatively far behind Sivaganga (169.7) and Perambalur (110). It is evident that emigration is not evenly spread across the state. Districts such as Thiruvallur (3.2) Nilgiris (3) Coimbatore (3) Salem (2.3) Theni (1.5) and Dharmapuri (0.3) have just 3 migrant households per 1000 households and the National Sample Survey has found no emigrant households in Erode, Karur and Tiruvannamalai districts. In a nutshell, eight districts in Tamil Nadu reported above 50 emigrants per 1000 households, ten districts between 10 to 50 emigrants per 1000 households and another eight districts reported below 10 emigrants and four districts reported no emigrant households at all.

In Andhra Pradesh, the highest level of emigration measured in terms of emigrants per 1000 households is reported in Karimnagar district (82.4), followed by Cuddapah (81.8), Hyderabad (64.8), Nizamabad (47.9), Adilabad (29.9) and West Godavari (28.3). At the same time, there is hardly any emigration in districts such as Warangal (4.1) Nellore (3) Khammam (2) Prakasam (1.5) Mahbubnagar (1.3) Nalgonda (1.2) Kurnool (0.9) and Anantapur (0.7). Vizianagaram reported no emigrant households as per the NSS data. It is seen that the north western region of Andhra Pradesh has high migration intensity. While in case of Tamil Nadu it was seen that the coastal districts have high emigration levels but in case of Andhra Pradesh it is the interior districts that have high migration levels (see Graph 8).

**Table 10: Emigration Profile by Districts in Tamil Nadu
based on the NSS 64th Round 2007-08**

Districts TN	Per 1000 HH	Districts TN	Per 1000 HH	Districts TN	Per 1000 HH
Sivaganga	169.7	Cuddalore	28.9	Thoothukkudi	6.3
Perambalur	110.0	Virudhunagar	28.3	Thiruvallur	3.2
Thanjavur	86.4	Viluppuram	27.2	Nilgiris	3.0
Ramanathapuram	81.4	Tiruchirappalli	21.5	Coimbatore	3.0
Thiruvarur	80.7	Kancheepuram	20.6	Salem	2.3
Nagapattinam	58.8	Ariyalur	19.0	Theni	1.5
Kanniyakumari	56.3	Tirunelveli	14.4	Dharmapuri	0.3
Pudukkottai	50.7	Dindigul	12.1	Erode	0.0
Chennai	36.8	Vellore	8.7	Karur	0.0
Madurai	31.6	Namakkal	7.3	Tiruvannamalai	0.0

Source: Calculated by the author based on the individual files from the National Sample Survey 64th round conducted during 2007-2008.

**Table 11: Emigration Profile by Districts in Andhra Pradesh
based on the NSS 64th Round 2007-08**

A P Districts	Per 1000 HH	A P Districts	Per 1000 HH	A P Districts	Per 1000 HH
Karimnagar	82.4	East		Khammam	2.0
Cuddapah	81.8	Godavari	12.7	Prakasam	1.5
Hyderabad	64.8	Srikakulam	8.4	Mahbubnagar	1.3
Nizamabad	47.9	Guntur	8.3	Nalgonda	1.2
Adilabad	29.9	Medak	7.4	Kurnool	0.9
West Godavari	28.3	Chittoor	5.9	Anantapur	0.7
Visakhapatnam	17.3	Krishna	5.3	Vizianagaram	0.0
Rangareddi	13.5	Warangal	4.1		
		Nellore	3.0		

Source: Calculated by the author based on the individual files from the National Sample Survey 64th round conducted during 2007-2008.

Even though emigration may not be evenly spread across all districts in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, there is definitely high levels of emigration in these states. NSS data cannot shed light on the year to year outflow of migrants across districts over the time but it does bring out the fact that there is indeed high level of emigration in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh and these must have a significant bearing on the economy of the state. In addition, to examine the impact of emigration, the sample size of the NSS is inadequate in Indian context. We will discuss further this aspect in

the next section on Kerala where we have both the NSS data and the Kerala Migration Survey conducted by the Centre for Development Studies available (Zachariah and Irudaya Rajan, 2012)

Both the NSS and KMS indicates that Malappuram has the highest level of emigrants but the difference reported between the two is about 223 emigrants per 100 households – 294 emigrant households by NSSO as against 517 households by KMS. Out of fourteen districts of Kerala, thirteen districts reported higher emigrants in KMS compared to the NSSO.

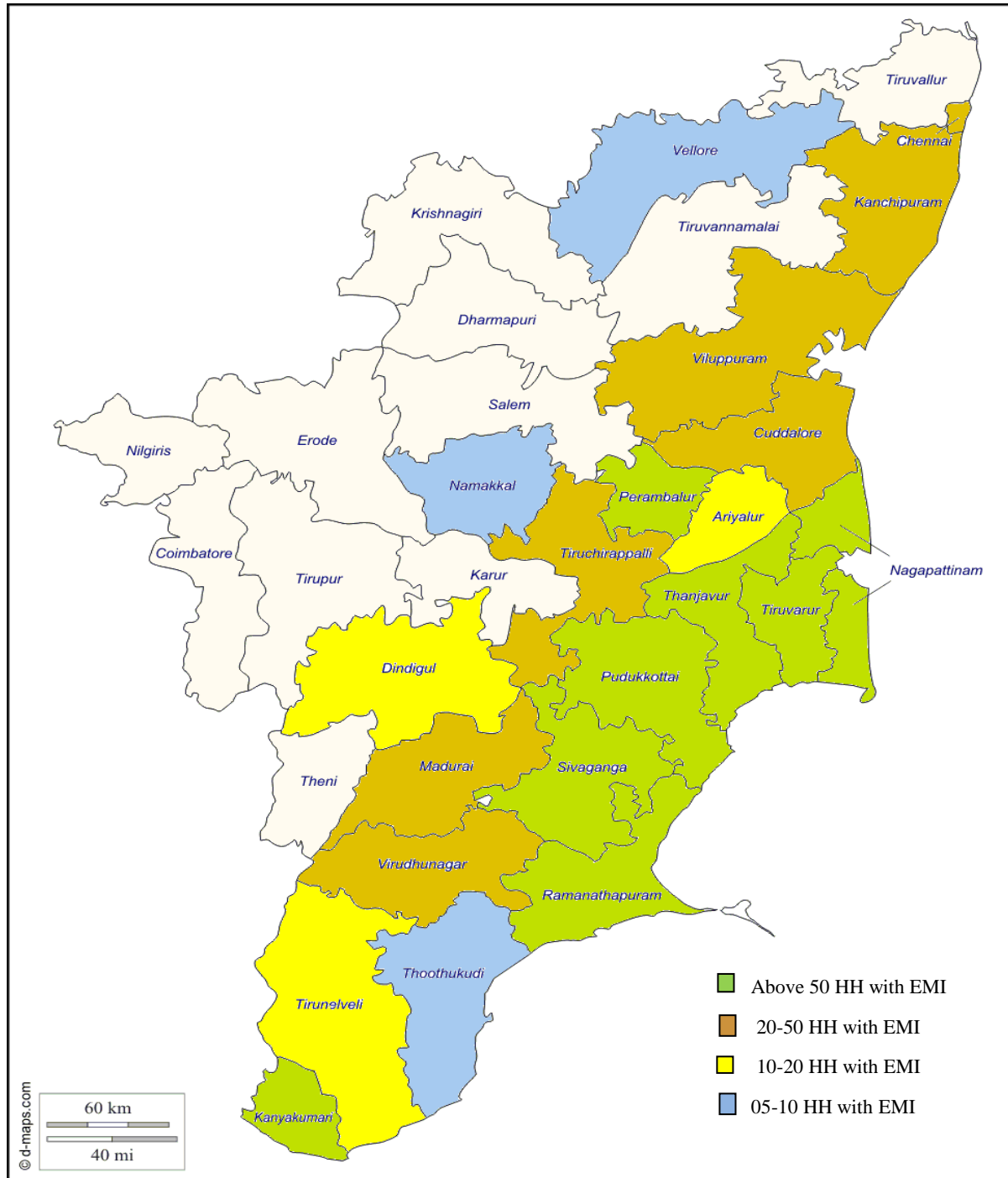
NSS reports only Malappuram (294) and Pathanamthitta (271) above 250 mark whereas KMS data indicates that there are several apart from Malappuram and Pathanamthitta that are way above 250 mark such as Kannur (514), Kollam (249), Kozhikode (294), Thrissur (292) Alappuzha (268), Thiruvananthapuram (273) and Kasaragod (415). It is also widely known that NSSO underestimates the volume of the emigration. Given the availability of alternate data sources the extent of underestimation of the level of emigration can be ascertained in case of Kerala but this cannot be done for other states such as Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. We will provide a separate case study of Kerala based on the various rounds of KMS in the later sections and emphasize the need for conducting large scale migration surveys both in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

Table 12: Emigration Profile by Districts in Tamil Nadu based on the NSS 64th Round 2007-08 and KMS 2011

Kerala Districts	NSSO Per 1000	KMS 2011 Per 1000	Kerala Districts	NSSO Per 1000	KMS 2011 Per 1000
Malappuram	294	517	Kasaragod	141	415
Pathanamthitta	271	284	Ernakulam	134	157
Kannur	232	514	Thiruvananthapuram	127	273
Kollam	212	249	Palakkad	124	225
Kozhikode	201	294	Kottayam	113	240
Thrissur	182	292	Idukki	60	28
Alappuzha	148	268	Wayanad	42	142

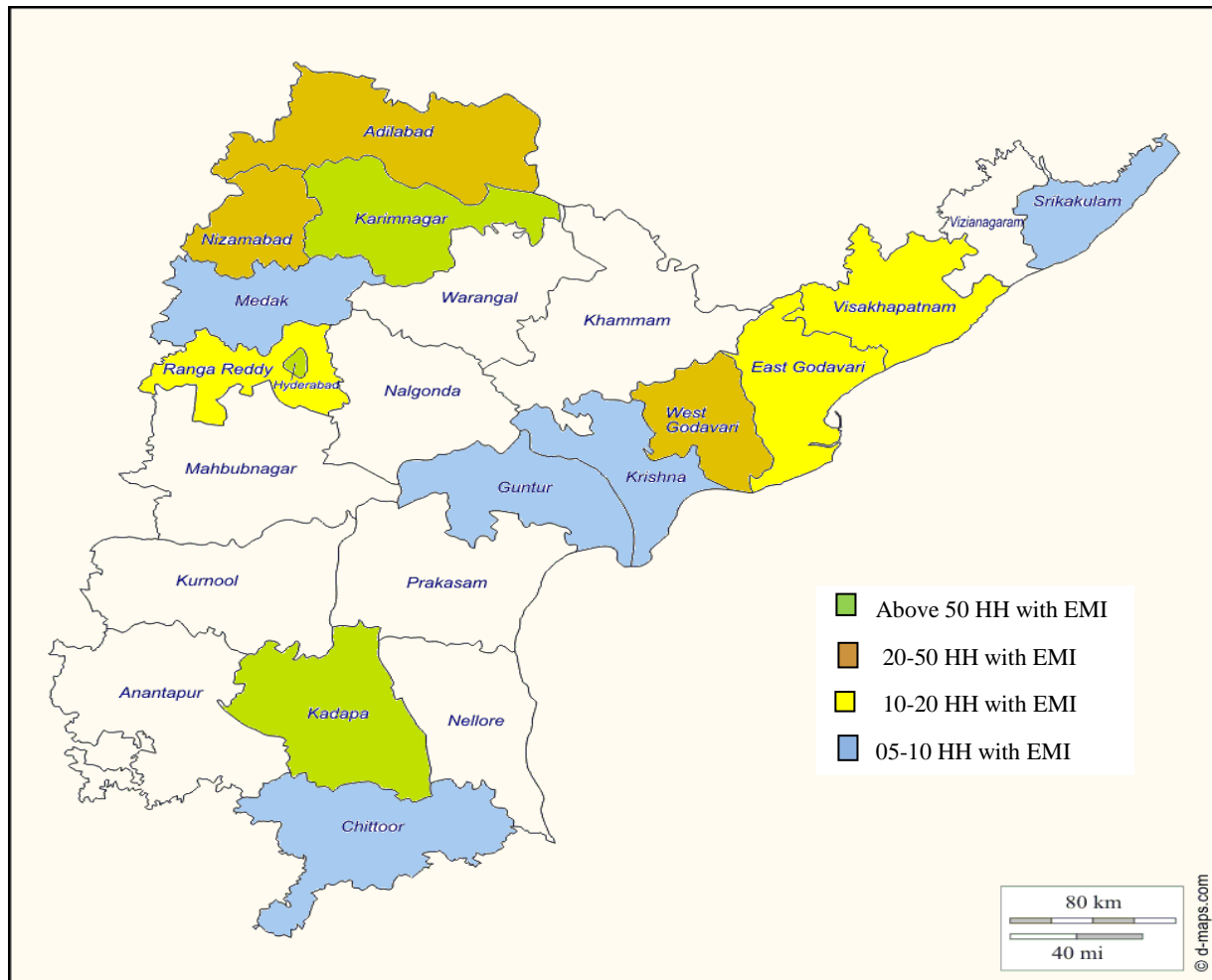
Source: Calculated by the author based on the individual files from the National Sample Survey 64th round conducted during 2007-2008 as well as the Kerala Migration Survey 2011 conducted by the Centre for Development Studies financed by Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India and Department of Non-Resident Keralite Affairs, Government of Kerala.

Figure 7: Emigrants per 1000 Households by Districts, Tamil Nadu, 2007-08



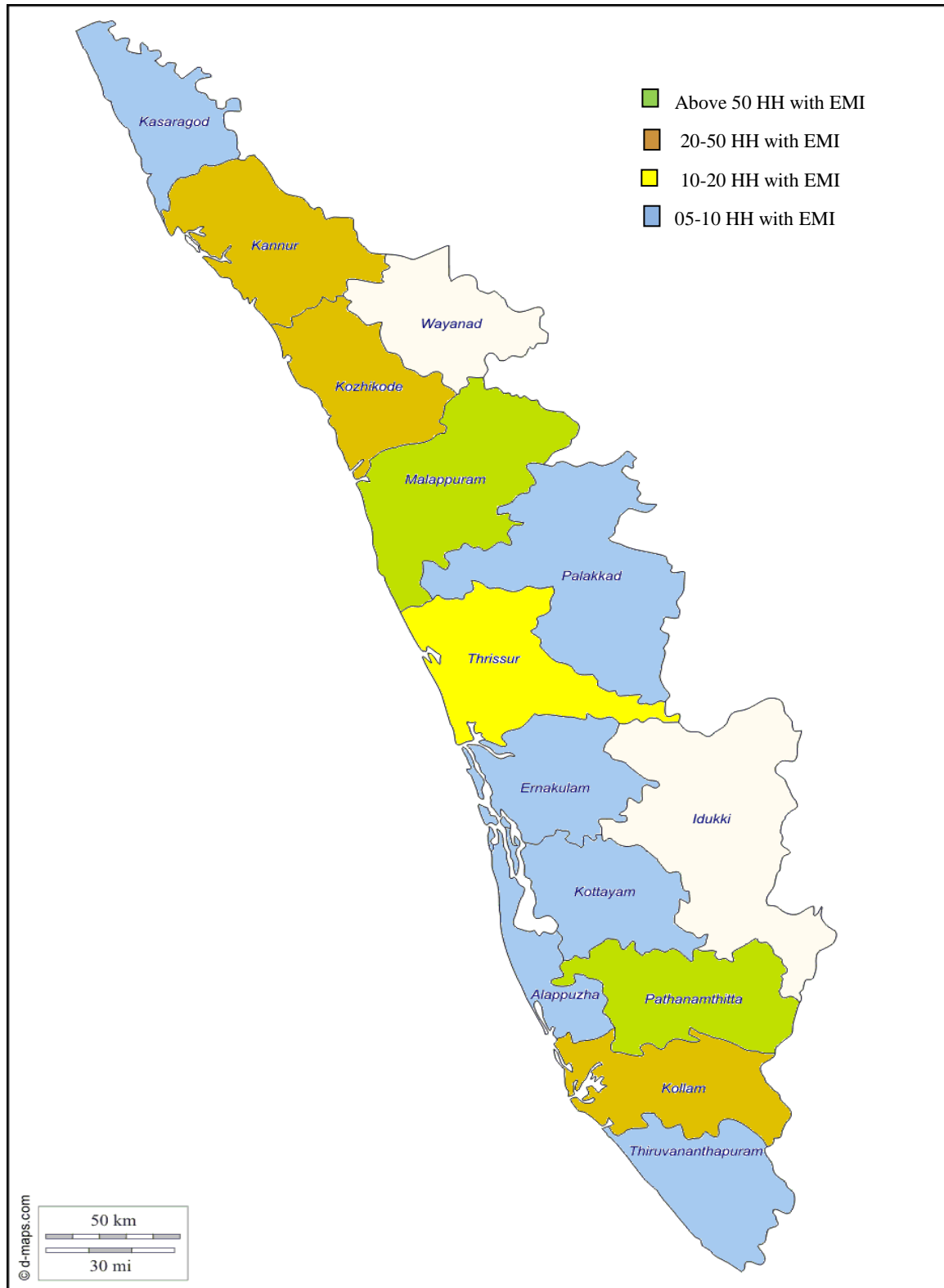
Source: Calculated by the author based on the individual files from the National Sample Survey 64th round conducted during 2007-2008.

Figure 8: Emigrants per 1000 Households by Districts, Andhra Pradesh, 2007-08



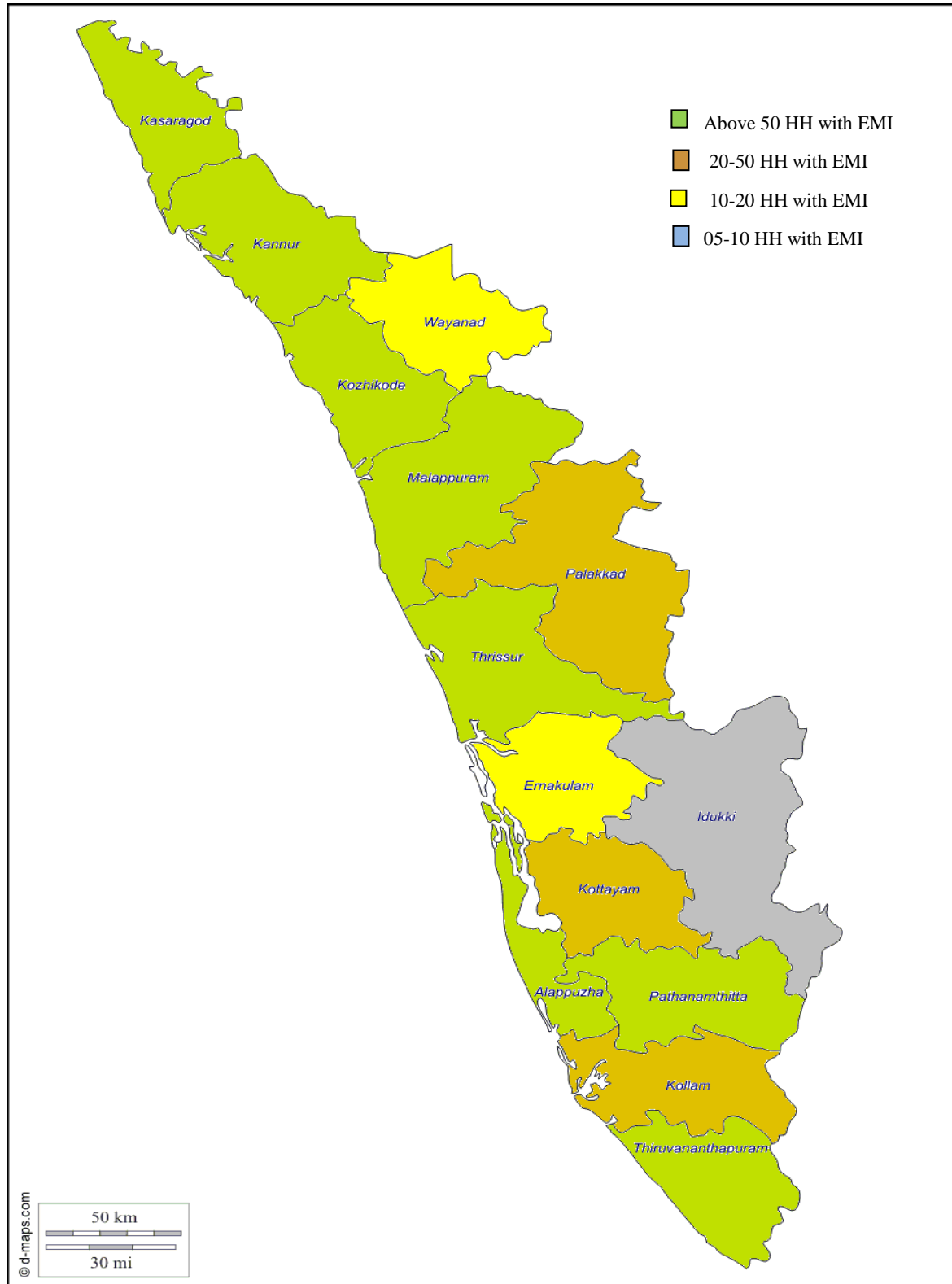
Source: Calculated by the author based on the individual files from the National Sample Survey 64th round conducted during 2007-2008.

Figure 9: Emigrants per 1000 Households by Districts, Kerala, 2007-08



Source: Calculated by the author based on the individual files from the National Sample Survey 64th round conducted during 2007-2008.

Figure 10: Emigrants per 1000 Households by Districts, Kerala, KMS 2011



Cost of Emigration

Emigration is a costly affair and there is a significant cost associated with the emigration process. Table 5 presents the total emigration cost when the emigrants are assisted by friends and relatives across different centres in the country based on the surveys conducted by the Centre for Development Studies, Kerala. When there are friends and family members to assist in the migration process emigrants significantly bear a lower the cost of migration. Apart from assisting emigrants in various stages of emigration process, most of the time they also comes in aid in financing emigration since it is very unlikely that the total cost of migration can be financed through own savings.

It can be seen that the average emigration cost is the highest in Thiruvananthapuram (Rs 44375) whereas it is significantly less in case of Ernakulam (RS 29194). Given that the average emigration cost in Hyderabad is significantly lower than that of Thiruvananthapuram it can be said to have translated into higher emigration clearance at Hyderabad than Thiruvananthapuram on individual levels. It is also seen that the average emigration cost at Chennai is greater than both Ernakulam and Hyderabad. The most startling difference is observed in case of Mumbai where it is only Rs. 6104 which is insignificant when compared to Thiruvananthapuram where it is Rs. 44375. Given such a difference in the level of emigration cost there is bound to have higher emigration clearance from Mumbai. When the emigration process is carried out through recruiting agencies the variation in the cost of emigration is very less across different centres which are shown in the table 6.

When the emigration process is carried out through recruiting agencies the variation in the cost of emigration is very less across different centres. Still there is a significantly higher cost of emigration in Thiruvananthapuram which is more than double that of Kolkata. Emigration cost at Hyderabad is marginally less than that of Ernakulam. It is still way below Thiruvananthapuram but there is on an average only 135 emigration clearances per day in Hyderabad as it is 200 for Thiruvananthapuram and 180 for Ernakulam.

Higher migration cost can also be associated with higher demand for emigration clearance which can probably be one of the factors behind such high levels of emigration cost in case of Thiruvananthapuram. It is not always that lesser emigration cost would in itself translate in to higher levels of emigration but lesser emigration costs would indeed be beneficial to the region

that has high emigration costs such as Thiruvananthapuram. At the same time emigration can also be encouraged in regions such as Hyderabad and Kolkata that has lower emigration cost as charged by recruitment agencies.

Table 13: Average cost of emigration (through friends/relatives) across eight locations, 2007

	Average	Minimum	Maximum
Chandigarh	15412	672	35500
Chennai	32208	200	100000
Delhi	37880	200	125000
Ernakulam	29194	200	165000
Hyderabad	18905	650	50000
Kolkata	20140	5000	40200
Mumbai	6104	750	49750
Thiruvananthapuram	44375	1500	150000
Total	25712	200	165000

Source: Irudaya Rajan, Varghese and Jayakumar. 2011

Table 14: Total cost of emigration (through Recruitment Agencies) in six locations in India, 2007

	Number	Average	Minimum	Maximum
Delhi	10	44120	11200	70000
Ernakulam	14	47429	14000	130000
Hyderabad	3	46667	25000	80000
Kolkata	19	30084	1000	60000
Mumbai	9	50306	13200	73200
Thiruvananthapuram	33	68428	500	140000
Total	88	51451	500	140000

Source: Irudaya Rajan, Varghese and Jayakumar, 2011

Remittances

Remittances constitute a major source of external financing for India; these flows are far in excess of external sector aid and foreign investment (FDI) flows, and a major factor accounting for the improvements in India's balance of payments.

The most crucial factor as can be seen, has been Private Transfers to India, in other words, remittances from Indians working abroad sent to their families in India. These have been steadily and in fact exponentially growing over the last two decades. Remittances as a percentage of GDP (factor cost) in India has been growing, and was around 5.5 per cent in 2011, which is a significant figure, (Figure 11) showing that the Indian economy is benefitted to a large extent by the remittances it receives from its citizens working abroad. In fact, India is now the top recipient of migrant remittances in the world, accounting for US \$63 billion in 2011 (World Bank, 2011) and close to \$70 billion as migrant remittances in in 2012, followed by China with \$66 million (Table 15).

The other major component is Foreign Direct Investments to India which have been continuously rising steadily after liberalization. At the same time, Portfolio investment to India has also been rising albeit unsystematically, showing steep falls in certain years. Though Foreign Direct Investments have been a stable source of finance to India, Portfolio Investments, due to the absence of any locking-in periods have been quite unstable and volatile.

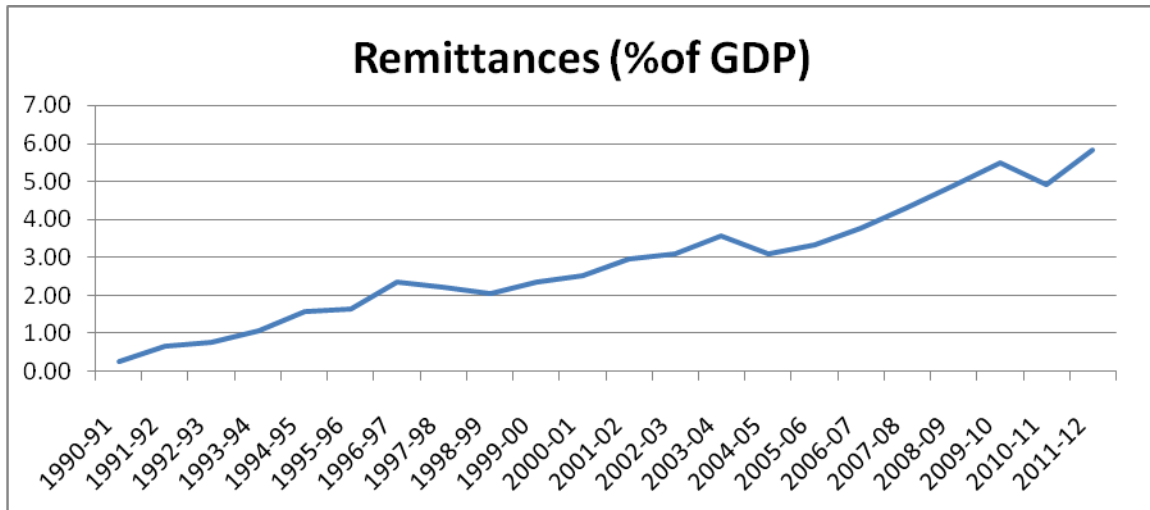
Table 15: Remittance flows to India 1990- 2012

Year	Foreign Direct Investment (Inflow) US \$ mn	NRI Deposits US \$ mn	External Assistance (Inflow) US \$ mn	Private Transfers (Inflow) (Remittances) US \$ mn	Remittances % of GDP
1990-91	107	2,136	3,397	2,083	0.75
1991-92	147	5,77	4,367	3,798	1.29
1992-93	345	2,163	3,302	3,864	1.25
1993-94	651	1,171	3,475	5,286	1.61
1994-95	1,351	986	3,191	8,112	2.29
1995-96	2,174	948	2,933	8,540	2.24
1996-97	2,864	3,305	3,056	12,435	3.14
1997-98	3,596	1,153	2,885	11,875	2.82
1998-99	2,518	960	2,726	10,341	2.27
1999-00	2,170	1,540	3,074	12,290	2.59
2000-01	4,031	2,317	2,941	13,065	2.62
2001-02	6,130	2,728	3,352	15,760	3.04
2002-03	5,095	2,976	2,878	17,189	3.08
2003-04	4,322	3,641	3,326	22,182	3.68
2004-05	6,052	-962	3,785	21,075	3.20
2005-06	8,962	3,719	3,607	24,951	3.47
2006-07	22,826	4,321	3,747	30,835	3.90
2007-08	34,844	179	4,217	43,508	5.30
2008-09	41,903	4,289	5,159	46,903	5.27
2009-10	37,746	2,922	5,846	53,636	5.45
2010-11	32,902	3,239	7,806	55,618	5.31
2011-12	46,552	11,920	5,576	66,129	

Source: Hand book of Indian Economy RBI and World Bank

NRI Deposits in India have been showing a gradually rising trend since 1990s though with some minor fluctuations, which can possibly be attributed to changes in exchange rates due to which people prefer to invest more in gold rather than deposits during such periods. Net Foreign Aid to India has also been more or less fluctuating and not been significantly high in any period.

Figure 11: Remittances as a percentage of GDP



Source: Hand book of Indian Economy RBI.

Traditionally, it has been held that the Gulf countries and North America were the two dominant sources in terms of region, with Europe following as a distant third. In 2008-09 for example, the Reserve Bank of India has estimated, based on a survey of remittance-receiving households, that close to a third (30.8 per cent) of total foreign remittances came from the Gulf countries, 29.4 per cent from North America, and 19.5 per cent from Europe

Average remittances received by the households have been reported by both NSSO 64th round as well as IHDS surveys. To have a better insight of the quantum of remittances send by out-migrants by their places of residence, it has been bifurcated into international migrants residing abroad and internal migrants residing in India. Table 8 shows that households in Goa and Chandigarh receive relatively higher level of remittances than any other states in India. Rural households in Punjab, Kerala and Daman and Diu also have average remittances above Rs.50,000 whereas for urban households in Andhra Pradesh, Haryana Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Dadar and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, Delhi and Pondicherry have their remittance levels above Rs.50000.

Table 16: Average Remittances Received by Households during last 365 Days [NSS 64th round and IHDS 2005]

States/ UTs	Average HH Remittances NSS 64 th Round [2007-08]		Average HH Remittances [IHDS 2005]		Average Remittances received per Out-Migrant NSS 64 th Round [2007-08]			
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Abroad	Internal	Abroad	Internal
					Rural	Rural	Urban	Urban
Andhra Pradesh	19892	55797	12199	13913	38500	9900	99000	25100
Arunachal Pradesh	13951	20048			53700	12900		18800
Assam	14243	24240	12500	17313	80000	12700	16700	22200
Bihar	15148	33350	9722	14770	34200	12100	392000	20000
Chhattisgarh	8209	23001	3679	11933	1400	6300	81700	18600
Goa	206477	178574	48833	12500	206200	34300	168700	52400
Gujarat	15147	39900	7202	15791	444500	9600	69700	22800
Haryana	44454	60277	24216	42500	109000	30800	96700	50500
Himachal Pradesh	23163	41091	22433	32765	35200	19100	126700	35000
Jammu & Kashmir	44427	52578	17136	3500	35700	37700	40000	49000
Jharkhand	21961	36075	10923	19917	31200	18700	34100	31700
Karnataka	13977	47421	10410	12403	41500	9200	58600	31900
Kerala	51212	59617	23827	40052	56500	18700	61600	22000
Madhya Pradesh	10084	29373	10419	12183	25400	8600	52600	23500
Maharashtra	12127	44151	15731	15214	32400	8400	100400	24900
Manipur	31650	45836		128875	27900	29600	50700	41500
Meghalaya	27803	47583	1000	5000		24800	112800	41200
Mizoram	20542	37988	24000			19600	35400	36700
Nagaland	14634	15556				12100	20000	13200
Orissa	13848	38278	8244	14459	23300	11400	80700	27100
Punjab	83527	78681	46533	57353	101000	40900	88700	46900
Rajasthan	28059	51328	23244	35732	43100	21300	61300	38400
Sikkim	24889	44987			17800	22500	35000	39200
Tamil Nadu	22504	42411	13304	17296	38900	11800	65500	24800
Tripura	23128	38924	5000	4320	41000	19400	33600	37300
Uttrakhand	18826	44173	24216	42500	76400	14300	31800	44200
Uttar Pradesh	14677	26690	13167	22233	30800	10800	44500	20400
West Bengal	14877	35304	14132	15763	37800	12200	52800	26300
Andaman & Nicobar	29163	33299			60000	20100	500	27900
Chandigarh	135461	236566		100000	73200	82000	346000	79400
Dader Nagar-Haweli	25849	73884			72000	24000	99400	49400
Daman & Diu	54269	109774	50000		58900	49400	101300	93600
Delhi	20467	79309	6300	25667	42000	16300	252700	37700
Lakshadweep	27047	48623				22000	24500	34000
Pondicherry	30961	71283	11000	29000	59100	11200	62400	55300

IHDS survey is also used to show the average remittances received by households, but the level of remittances reported by IHDS is lower than that estimated by NSSO. It still shows rural households in Goa, Punjab, Daman and Diu having relatively higher remittance level whereas the Urban households of Haryana, Manipur, Punjab, Chandigarh and Uttarakhand having relatively higher levels of remittances than other states/UTs. Average remittances sent by international migrants are in most cases higher than the average remittances sent by the internal out-migrants. States like Chattisgarh still has high rural urban differential in the level of remittances sent by the out-migrants. International migrants from Goa, Gujarat, Haryana and Punjab on an average send remittances of more than Rs 100000 per year. Whereas there are also exceptional cases such as Bihar and Meghalaya where average remittances sent by international migrants from urban areas are more than Rs.100000 per annum. Other states such as Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chandigarh, Daman and Diu and Delhi also receive average remittances from international migrants to the tune greater than one lakh rupees a year.

According to the remittances estimated by Zachariah and Irudaya Rajan (2014), Kerala received the highest remittances with Rs.49695 crores in 2011 and maintains the lead among the Indian states. Tamil Nadu occupies the second position with Rs.44416 crores and Andhra Pradesh occupies the fourth position with Rs.30424 crores. Remittances figures indicates again the need for conducting large scale migration surveys both in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh to assess the impact of migration on the economy and society.

3. Kerala Case Study

Due to its historical linkages to overseas migration and as one of the major labour exporting states in India, Kerala is an especially fascinating State to conduct detailed research on migration and development. Non-Resident Keralites (NRKs) constitute 2.3 million of the total Indian diaspora. The principal destination of Kerala's emigrants is the Gulf region with nearly 40 per cent living in the UAE and 25 per cent in Saudi Arabia and the wider Arabian Gulf together responsible for 90 per cent of emigrant flows from the state (Zachariah and Irudaya Rajan 2012). Zachariah and Irudaya Rajan (2012) estimated that the inflow of international remittances to Kerala in 2011 was Rs. 49,695 crore, accounting for nearly 15 per cent of the overall remittance flow into India and 31 per cent of state income, placing Kerala as the largest remittances receiving state in India. NRK

deposits currently stand at Rs. 62,000 crore and have crossed 25 per cent of total bank deposits in the state.

The Centre for Development Studies has undertaken five rounds of migration surveys in Kerala since 1998 and the fifth round was completed in 2011 and the sixth round will be completed in 2014. With the help of KMS data, we shall briefly review the trends in migration from Kerala, remittances and its impact on the economy and households.

3.1 Trends in Emigration

An estimate of the number of emigrants from Kerala as of March 2011 is 2.281 million. The corresponding number was 2.193 million in 2008, 1.838 million in 2003 and 1.362 million in 1998. These numbers indicate that emigration from Kerala has experienced an increasing trend since 1998 (Table 17). However, each succeeding period showed a decreasing trend in the increases in the number of emigrants. At this rate, the increase in the number of emigrants from Kerala would disappear (zero increase) in less than two years. Emigration from Kerala could reach inflexion point before 2013. In that case, emigration from Kerala is unlikely to exceed 2.5 million.

Table 17: Emigrants, Return Emigrants, and Non-Resident Keralites, 1998- 2011

Year	Emigrants	Return Emigrants	Non-Resident Keralites
2011	2,280,543	1,150,347	3,430,889
2008	2,193,412	1,157,127	3,350,538
2003	1,838,478	893,942	2,732,420
1998	1,361,919	739,245	2,101,164
	Per 100 Household		
2011	29.1	14.7	43.7
2008	29.0	15.3	44.3
2003	26.7	13.0	39.7
1998	21.4	11.6	33.0

Source: CDS Kerala Migration Surveys.

The number of Kerala emigrants who returned and living in Kerala (REM) in 2011 is estimated to be 1.15 million. There was a small decrease in the number of return emigrants during 2008-11. It was 1.16 million in 2008, 0.89 million in 2003 and 0.74 in 1998. Non-Resident Keralites (NRK=EMI+REM) numbered 3.43 million in 2011, 3.35 million in 2008, 2.73 million in 2003 and 2.10 million in 1998.

Corresponding to 100 households in the state, there were 29.1 emigrants, 14.7 return emigrants and 43.7 NRK in 2011. Not all households in Kerala had an emigrant or return emigrant in 2011. Only about 18.2 per cent of the Kerala households had an emigrant in 2011 and only 27.1 per cent had an NRK. The vast majority of the households – nearly 82 per cent – did not have an emigrant member. Nearly three-fourths had neither an emigrant nor a return emigrant.

A surprising aspect of this ratio is that although the number of emigrants increased by 24 per cent between 2003 and 2011, the proportion of households with at least one emigrant or one NRK remained fairly constant. At the same time, the corresponding proportion varied considerably by religion and by districts.

3.2 International Migrants by Religion

As in the past, the vast majority of the emigrants from Kerala in 2011 were Muslims (about 44.3 per cent), although their share in the total population was only about 26 per cent. In other words, they retained their lead through all these years. On the other hand, the Hindu emigrants were only 36.4 per cent of the total, although their share in the total population is about 56 per cent. However, over the years, the Hindus have improved their share, from 29.5 per cent in 1998 to 36.4 per cent in 2011. The gain among the Hindus was mostly at the expense of the Christians whose share shrank from 25.1 per cent in 2003 to 20.0 per cent by 2011 (Table 18).

In spite of the recent gain in the share of emigrants, the Hindus lag very much behind the other two communities with respect to emigrants per household. While there are 60 emigrants per 100 households among the Muslims and 30 among the Christians, the Hindus have only 19 emigrants per 100 households. Emigration from Hindu households has a long way to go before it can catch up with the other communities.

The trends in the proportion of emigrants by religion over the period 1998-2011 indicates that the proportion of the Hindus among the emigrants is on the increase, the proportion of the Christians is on the decrease and the Muslims, on the whole, maintain their relative position over time. The decrease in the absolute size and the relative share of the Christians could mostly be due to demographic factors, namely, the decline in the share of the Christians (especially those in the young working ages) in Kerala's population.

Table 18: Emigrants. Return Emigrants and Non-Resident Keralites by Religion, 2008 and 2011

Religion	Emigrants		Percent		Per 100 HHs		Percent of HHs With 1 Migrant	
	2011	2008	2011	2008	2011	2008	2011	2008
Hindus	853,177	845,406	37.4	38.5	18.1	19.1	12.2	12.4
Christians	417,625	472,654	18.3	21.5	29.0	29.0	15.7	16.3
Muslims	1,009,740	875,352	44.3	39.9	59.1	57.6	37.5	36.4
Kerala	2,280,542	2,193,412	100	100	29.1	29.0	18.3	18.0
	Return Emigrants							
Hindus	511,797	408,060	44.5	35.3	10.9	9.2	8.8	7.2
Christians	130,016	238,526	11.3	20.6	9.0	14.6	6.2	11
Muslims	508,534	510,541	44.2	44.1	29.8	33.6	24.4	25.7
Kerala	1,150,347	1,157,127	100.0	100.0	14.7	15.3	11.7	11.8
	Non-Resident Keralites							
Hindus	1,364,974	1,253,466	39.8	37.4	29.0	28.3	19.6	18
Christians	547,641	711,180	16.0	21.2	38.1	43.6	21.3	24.7
Muslims	1,518,274	1,385,893	44.3	41.4	88.8	91.2	58.5	52.9
Kerala	3,430,889	3,350,539	100	100	43.7	44.3	27.1	26.5

Source: CDS Kerala Migration Surveys.

Among the return emigrants, 45 per cent were Hindus, 44 per cent were Muslims and only 11 per cent were Christians. Hindus were over-represented among the return emigrants (in comparison with their share among the emigrants), Christians were under-represented, and Muslims retained their share.

The largest number of emigrants originated from Malappuram district, a position it retained from the beginning. However, its share has shrunk somewhat in recent years, from 21.8 per cent in 1998 to 17.9 per cent in 2011. The story is the same in the other major centres of emigration: Pathanamthitta and Thrissur districts. On the other hand, districts like Kannur, Kasaragode have gained considerably in recent years. In general, there was a northward shift in the origin of emigrants from Kerala.

3.3 Emigrants by Destination Countries

The principal countries of destination of Kerala emigrants have remained more or less unchanged over these years, with 90 per cent of the Kerala emigrants going to one or other of the Gulf countries. Within the Gulf region, the UAE retained its number one rank, with Saudi Arabia

coming in the second position. Nearly 40 per cent of Kerala's emigrants live in the UAE and 25 per cent in Saudi Arabia. In the last 3 years, especially, after global crisis, Saudi Arabia has gained about 2 percentage points and UAE has lost out by the same proportion (Table 19).

Table 19: Country of Residence of Emigrants, 1998-2011

Countries	Number				Percent			
	2011	2008	2003	1998	2011	2008	2003	1998
UAE	883,313	9,181,22	670,150	421,959	38.7	41.9	36.5	31.0
Saudi Arabia	574,739	503,433	489,988	510,895	25.2	23.0	26.7	37.5
Oman	195,300	167,628	152,865	139,571	8.6	7.6	8.3	10.2
Kuwait	127,782	129,282	113,967	68,163	5.6	5.9	6.2	5.0
Bahrain	101,556	101,344	108,507	74,654	4.5	4.6	5.9	5.5
Qatar	148,427	121,613	98,953	62,969	6.5	5.5	5.4	4.6
Other West Asia	6,696	0	2,047	0	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0
Sub-Total	2,037,813	1,941,422	1,636,477	1,278,211	89.4	88.5	89.0	93.9
USA	68,076	102,440	98,271	29,862	3.0	4.7	5.3	2.2
Canada	9,486	13,695	4,777	0	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.0
United Kingdom	44,640	38,894	22,520	0	2.0	1.8	1.2	0.0
Other Europe	10,602	9,861	14,331	0	0.5	0.4	0.8	0.0
Africa	12,834	12,600	15,696	0	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.0
Singapore	11,160	11,504	14,331	0	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.0
Maldives	7,254	7,091	13,649	0	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.0
Malaysia	13,392	12,052	4,777	0	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.0
Other South East Asia	16,182	8,766	7,507	0	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.0
Australia/New Zealand	24,552	21,364	6,142	0	1.1	1.0	0.3	0.0
Other Countries	24,552	13,726	0	53,882	1.1	0.6	0.0	4.0
Total	2,280,543	2,193,415	1,838,478	1,361,955	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: CDS Kerala Migration Surveys.

3.4 Remittances: Remittances to Kerala have continued to grow ever since Keralites started migrating to the Gulf region. Total remittances to Kerala during the 12-month period ending in March 1, 2011 were Rs 49,695 crores. This amount was about 15 per cent higher than the remittances in 2008. These numbers indicate that the rate of growth of remittances has slowed down in recent years in tune with the slowing down of emigration from the state since 2008. While remittances increased by 134 per cent during 2003-08, it grew by just 15 per cent during 2008-2011. While remittances per household increased from Rs. 24,000 in 2003 to Rs. 57,000 in 2008, the corresponding increase was just Rs. 6,100 between 2008 and 2011 (Table 20).

Table 20: Total Remittances to Kerala

Years	Crores	Percent Increase	Per Household (Rs)
1998	13,652		21,469
2003	18,465	35.3	24,444
2008	43,288	134.4	57,215
2011	49,695	14.8	63,315

Source: CDS Kerala Migration Surveys.

3.5. Remittances by Districts: Total remittances by districts are obtained by pro-rating household remittances by district. As mentioned above, the total for the state is Rs. 49,695 crores. Out of this Rs. 9,040 crores came to Malappuram district which is 18.2 per cent of the state's total. This amount is Rs. 114,319 per household in the district. The share of remittances to Malappuram district has increased from 15.0 per cent in 2008 to 18.2 per cent in 2011. The average amount a household in Malappuram received also increased from Rs 103,585 in 2008 to Rs. 114,319. These numbers represent an increase of Rs.10,734 per household in the state during 2008-2011.

The other districts that received large amounts of remittances are: Ernakulam (12.3 per cent), Kannur (10.4 per cent) and Thiruvananthapuram (9.5 per cent). The share of total remittances in most districts in South Kerala (Thiruvananthapuram to Idukki) declined between 2008 and 2011.

While total remittances experienced a decline in the southern district and increases in the northern district, the situation with respect to remittances per household shows an opposite pattern. Southern districts gained in remittances per household and northern district lost out in this matter. This could be due to the differentials in educational attainments of emigrants from these regions.

3.6 Remittances by Religion

Of the total remittances of Rs. 49,695 cores, Rs. 18,099 crores was received by Hindu households, Rs. 8,508 crores received by Christian households and Rs. 23,089 crores were received by Muslim households. During 2008-2011, all the religious groups experienced increases in the remittances: 10 per cent each among the Hindus and the Christians and 21 per cent among the Muslims. Muslim households received, on an average, Rs. 135,000 as remittances in a year. Compared with this, the Hindu households had received only Rs. 38,000, only about one-fourth of what the Muslim household received. The average remittance per household among the Christians was less than half of that of Muslim households, only Rs. 59,000 (Table 21).

Table 21: Total Remittances by Religion, 2008 and 2011

Religion	Amount (Crores)			Per cent		
	2011	2008	2003	2011	2008	2003
Hindus	18,099	16,493	5,475	36.4	38.1	29.7
Christians	8,508	7,800	4,679	17.1	18.0	25.3
Muslims	23,089	18,995	8,311	46.5	43.9	45.0
Total	49,695	43,288	18,465	100.0	100.0	100.0
Remittances per Household						
Hindus	38,489	37,385	6,134			
Christians	59,175	50,107	13,760			
Muslims	135,111	119,004	24,351			
Total	63,315	57,227	11,586			

Source: CDS Kerala Migration Surveys.

3.7 Macro-economic Impact: Workers remittances to the Kerala have some a major impact on Kerala's economy. Remittances were 31.2 per cent of the state's net state domestic product (NSDP).

Table 22: Macro Economic Impact of Remittances on Kerala Economy, 2011

Indicators	1998	2003	2008	2011
Remittances	13,652	18,465	43,296	49,695
NSDP	53,552	83,783	140,889	159,144
Per Capita Income	16,062	25,764	41,814	52,084
Modified NSDP	67,204	102,248	184,185	208,839
Revenue Receipt of Government	7,198	10,634	24,936	31,181
Transfer from Central Government	1,991	2,653	7,861	7,982
Government Non-Plan Expenditure	5,855	9,908	18,934	22,546
State Debt	15,700	31,060	61,653	78,239
Receipt from Cashew Export	1,317	1,217	1,198	1,636
Receipt from Marine Products	817	995	1,431	1,670
Modified Per Capita Income	20,157	31,442	54,664	67,994
Remittances as percent of NSDP (%)	25.5	22.0	30.7	31.2
Remittances as ratio of Revenue Receipt	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.6
Remittances as ratio of Transfer from Centre	6.9	7.0	5.5	6.2
Remittances as ratio of Government Expenditure	2.3	1.9	2.3	2.2
Remittances as ratio of State Debt	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.6
Remittances as ratio of Receipt from Cashew Export	10.4	15.2	36.1	30.4
Remittances as ratio of Receipt from Marine Export	16.7	18.6	30.3	29.8

Source: CDS Kerala Migration Surveys.

The state's per capita income was Rs. 52,084 (2010), without taking into consideration remittances to the state, but it stood at Rs. 68,375 if remittances were also included. Remittances are 1.6 times

the revenue receipt of the Kerala Government, 6.2 times what the state gets from the Centre as revenue transfer. It is more than twice the Government's annual expenditure. It is more than 60 per cent of the state's public debt (Table 22).

3.8 End Use of Household Remittances

Households make use remittances for many purposes. The proportions of households that used remittances for subsistence, education, etc., are given Table 23. The second highest use of remittances among Kerala households is investing on their children's education and it has both short and-long term implications on the households, community and society.

Table 23: Proportion of HHs that Used Remittances for Various Purposes, 2008

End Use	% of HHs*
Subsistence	78.4
Education	38.9
Repaying Debt	36.7
Bank Deposit	14.6
Buying/building houses	9.4
Land Reclamation	5.6
Dowry Payment	3.1
Purchase land	2.6
Business	0.4
Others	6.3

**As the HHs use remittances for more than one purpose, these proportions will not add to hundred, and the sum will be greater than 100.*

3.9 Impact of Remittances on Household Consumption

Emigration followed by remittances amounting more than 49,695 crores of rupees should have considerable impact on the disposable income of Kerala households. This increase in turn should be reflected in the consumption pattern of the Kerala households. The possession of consumer durables by Kerala households is one indicator of the impact of emigration on the Kerala economy. KMS 2011 collected information on the quality of houses, use of fuel used by households, ownership of land/house, and possession of television, refrigerator, motor cycle, mobile phone, etc. Households with emigrants and those without emigrants are compared with respect to the possession of these common household consumer items in Kerala.

3.10 Quality of House

A fairly large number of households with emigrants or return emigrants use the remittances they receive for the construction of houses. As a result, a major impact of emigration and remittances is on the quality of houses in Kerala. It is a common sight in Kerala to see lines of palatial houses even in remote areas indicating that many persons from that area had once been emigrants.

In KMS 2011, as in earlier surveys, houses are classified as “luxurious”, “very good”, “good”, and “poor” or “kutchra”. Luxurious house are those with three or more bedrooms, attached bath, concrete roof and mosaic/tile flooring.

Figure 12: Percentage of Quality of Houses - By Number of NRKs

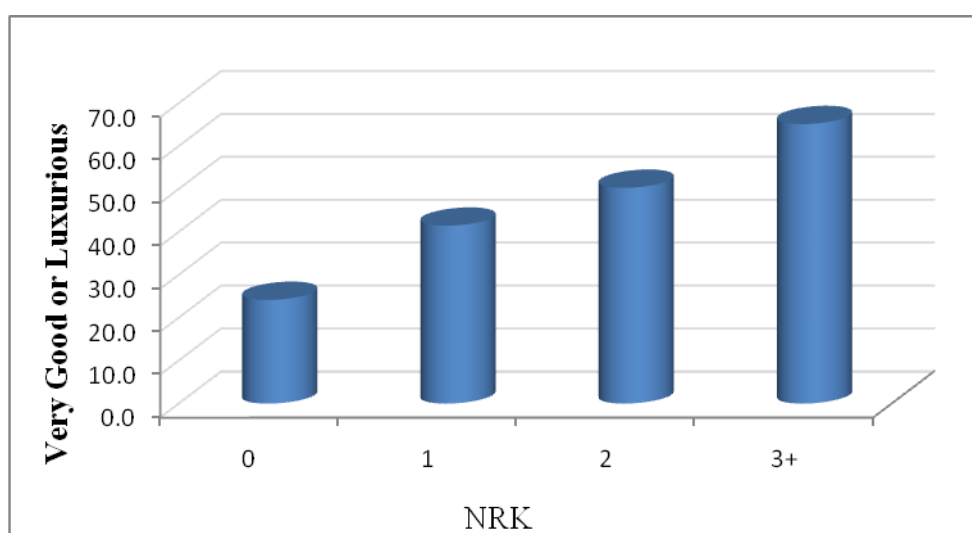


Table 24: Quality of Houses by Number of NRKs in the Household

NRK	Luxurious	Very good	Good	Poor	Kutchra	Total	Very good or better
0	5.6	18.6	53.7	19.0	3.1	100.0	24.2
1	10.9	30.5	46.4	10.6	1.5	100.0	41.5
2	15.4	34.9	41.8	7.0	0.9	100.0	50.3
3+	28.7	36.4	31.4	3.4	0.0	100.0	65.2
Total	7.7	22.2	51.1	16.4	2.6	100.0	29.9

Source – KMS 2011

Households with an emigrant or return emigrant tend to possess better quality houses than those without an emigrant. The proportion of households possessing “luxurious” or “very good” houses shows a steady increase with the number of NRKs in the household, and is 24.2 per cent for

household without an NRK and 41.3 per cent for households with one NRK, 50.3 per cent for households with two NRKs and 65.2 per cent for households with more than two NRKs. The same trend is seen with respect to very good houses. The percentage doubles from 18.6 per cent in households without an NRK to 36.4 per cent in households with more than two NRKs. Emigration has indeed a very positive effect on the quality of the houses.

Similarly, the proportion of households that use LPG for cooking increases from 28.6 per cent for households without an NRK to 34.6 per cent for households with one NRK to 38.2 per cent for households with two NRKs, to 58.8 per cent for households with more than two NRKs. The presence of an emigrant or return emigrant has indeed made a very positive impact on the quality of life of a household.

Table 25: Percentage of Households in Possession of Consumer Durables with NRK and Without NRK

Consumer items	2011			2008		
	NRK	Non-NRK	All	NRK	Non-NRK	All
Motor Car	14.6	8.3	10.0	10.8	6.1	7.4
Taxi, Truck	3.5	3.2	3.3	2.4	1.9	2.0
Motor Cycle	30.4	23.2	25.1	28.9	21.1	23.2
Land Phone	68.7	41.7	49.0	77.5	51.7	58.6
Mobile Phone	90.5	83.1	85.1	77.3	68.3	70.7
Television	92.5	85.6	87.5	88.1	77.8	80.5
MP3/DVD/VCD	65.2	46.0	51.2	54.8	37.5	42.1
Refrigerator	62.8	38.1	44.8	56.2	28.4	35.8
Computer/Laptop	16.5	9.3	11.2	10.5	4.8	6.3
Microwave Oven	4.2	2.8	3.2	2.0	0.2	1.3
Net Connection	7.1	4.6	5.3			

Source: KMS 2011

Additional empirical evidence on the positive impact of emigration on the quality of life is provided by the number of consumer durables possessed by households with an NRK and those without an NRK. The percentage of households possessing these consumer durables such as a car or motor cycle, phone, television set, refrigerator and computer is much higher among households with an NRK than among households without an NRK. For example, 62.8 per cent of households with an NRK possess a refrigerator, compared with only 38.1 per cent in households without an NRK. In the case of a laptop computer, the percentages are 16.5 per cent for households with an NRK and 9.3 per cent for households without an NRK. Thus, households with an NRK are more likely to possess a consumer item than households without an NRK.

Thus, migration tends to contribute to consumption inequality between households with migrants and those without.

Conclusion:

Data on labour outflows as provided by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) pertains only to the class of emigrants that require emigration clearance, which is just a small fraction of the total emigration from India. There are a range of categories which falls under Emigration Check Not Required (ECNR) category that is exempted from emigration clearance. This result in only partial coverage of the labour outflows from India which does not present the true scenario of international labour migration.

It must still be emphasized that the accurate data on international labour migration in India is not available. Labour outflow from India in NSS represents the stock of emigrants which is at best just an approximation which necessarily does not represent the true scenario. In addition to the inadequate sample size, another disadvantage is that NSS data does not capture the year-to-year flow of emigrants which can only be ascertained by periodic surveys such as the Kerala Migration Surveys.

Estimates from NSS Survey need to be treated with caution given relatively smaller sample size which cannot accurately estimate the stock of emigration across states and districts. It is usually seen that NSS underestimate the level of emigration which is proved by the Kerala Migration Survey which shows higher level and spread of emigration than those provided by NSS. Again it emphasized that given the availability of alternate data the extent of underestimation of the level of emigration by NSS can be ascertained in case of Kerala through KMS, but this cannot be done for other states since large scale surveys like KMS is not available for other states. KMS provides a fairly accurate picture of the level of emigration given its large sample size and sound data collection procedures and robust methodology in arriving at the estimates of emigration.

It is well acknowledged that there is uneven spread of emigration across states. It is evident that emigration plays a pivotal role in the socio economic scenario of these sates. Thus to have a better understanding of the role of emigration in the socio economic lives of the households in these states it is imperative to have a large scale survey of emigration. This would not only help in ascertaining the true level of emigration across districts and states but would also help understand the role of emigration across the socio-economic lives in these states.

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