

Chapter 7

Socio Economic Analysis of Gulf Migrants In Malappuram District

Saleel Ahammed.AK⁹ and DR Ibrahim Cholakkal¹⁰

Abstract: *Migration has been considered as one of the dominant factors which influences to the overall development of major economies in the world. It has a wider meaning and complex structure, apart from this, it is a multi-dimension concept and it includes various socio-economic aspects. Human migration is the movement of people from one place to another with the intentions of settling, permanently or temporarily in a new location. Due to the occurrence of oil boom in 1970s especially in Gulf Cooperation Countries (GCC), people from Kerala got opportunity to reap high amount of foreign remittance which ultimately leads to a drastic change in the overall aspect Kerala economy. The study tries to examine the socio-economic profile of gulf migrants in Malappuram district. The study mainly relies on both primary and secondary date. The primary data were collected 150 sample migrants from 3 different municipalities such as Kottakal, Tirurangadi and Kondotti. Malappuram district shows the highest emigration trend around (21.7%) followed by Thrissur and Thiruvanthapuram in Kerala, but the latest report on migration like Kerala Migration Survey (KMS-2018) shows some districts particularly Thiruvanthapuram, Pathanamthitta, Ernakulam, and Kozhikode show declining trend of emigration between 2008-2018. Matriculation/SSLC, with 30.4 percent of females and 26 percent of males, was the highest level of schooling as shown by analysis. In the matter of health status, both male and female are suffering acute and chronic diseases irrespective of their age. Financial and employment crisis are the major problems which has been suffered by the migrants in Malappuram districts.*

Keywords: Oil Boom, Emigration, Foreign remittance, In-migration, Migration

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Introduction

Migration is an international phenomenon and the concept of migration has captured world attention after the introduction of globalization, besides its significance and scope are rising after years and years. Today the concept of migration is a wider term and its impacts are reflecting on the various socio-economic aspects of the global economy. Migration is the movement of people between regions or countries (Oxford Economics Dictionary-2012) Migration is a permanent or semi-permanent change of residence. Internal or external migration has been a focus of attention by the demographer and policy makers. As usual people have been moving from state to state or court to country due to the various crucial factors.

The migration trend of India turned to be more dynamic than ever before because of the expansion of communication facilities helps for the fast movement of people in India not only to the international level but also within the country. India is a nation for high migration rate in recent years compared to other developing countries on the world. Over 98 million people migrated from one place another in 1990s. The highest outflow of migration occurred from India during the period oil boom which exists in gulf countries. However, in 1970s migration was slowing down. The number of migrants during 1991-2001 increased by about 22% over the previous decade an increase since 1951. Apart from this women migration from India has a significant role especially after the globalization. The main reason for women migration were seeking employment. The number of job seekers among all migrants has increased by 45% over the previous decade most of the migration causes in India are the combination of pull and push factors such as lack of rural employment, fragmentation of land holding, declining public investment in agriculture, inability of state to provide work and low growth of industry. The major paradox existing in India is dualism which means in one side of a country has highest development in all aspects but in other side has low development in rural and urban areas.

When starting the term socio-economic status means an individual or group's position within a hierarchical social structure and it depends upon the combination of variables including income, occupation, education and environment etc. most often it is measured a combination of education, income and occupation etc. "immigrate" and "emigrate" are the two words that have similar meanings and can be easily confused. The difference between these two are the former is the act of entering a foreign country

while the latter is the leaving country to live in another. Migration to the foreign countries especially to the gulf countries has been considered as the one of the most significant factors for the overall development of Kerala economy. Among the Indian states especially Kerala state stands for top position compare to other states in India for sending workers to gulf countries for the last three decades. the impact of this huge remittances has been considered as the backbone of our economy, further it has changed all the dimension of the state economy in all most all walks of life especially it enables households in Kerala to meet their basic needs and to invest in assets. According to first migration study in Kerala 13.6 lakh Keralites were living outside of India and they sent more than 4000 million year by year. Remittances are the key source of income for Kerala's economy in 2003 for instance, remittances were 1.74 times the revenue receipts of the state, 7 times transfer to the state from central government, 1.8 times the annual expenditure of the Kerala government and 15 to 18 times the size of foreign exchange earned from the export of cashew and marine product. Based on the report of Kerala Migration Survey (2018) there are 2.1 million emigrants from Kerala across the world of which 15.8% are women. Besides based on latest study regarding migration over 40% of their remittances in Kerala are using for purchasing land, construction and repayment of housing mortgage. In 2018 migration study shows the total remittance to Kerala are 85000 crores but in 2020 Kerala has been hit hard by the drop in remittance from the gulf countries were about 1.2 million workers returned to the state due to the covid –driven layoffs, according to the world bank. Malappuram district had the distinction of sending out the largest number of emigrants from Kerala in 1998 and in 2003. It retained this distinction in 2007. In fact, in 2007 Malappuram district was the place of origin of 336000 emigrants or around 18.2% of the total number of emigrants in Kerala. According to 2018 Kerala migration survey report the total number of emigrants are 406054 but it shows decreasing trend compare to Kerala migration survey report 2013

Objectives

1. To examine the growth and trend pattern of gulf migration from Kerala.
2. To examine the health and education status of migrants in Malappuram district
3. To analyze what are the problems faced by Gulf migrants in Malappuram district

Methodology

This study is descriptive and analytical in nature. It is based on both secondary and primary data. The primary data were collected from 150 migrant labourers with the help of well-structured schedule from 3 different municipalities such as Kottakkal, Tirurangadi and Kondotti. The multi-stage random sampling technique was used to collect the primary data. The secondary information was collected from Economic reviews, Dissertations, books and online data sources like INFLIBNET and Google Scholar. The statistical tools – descriptive statistics, ratios, graphs and tables are used.

Review of literature

The impact of migration on Indian economy was observed and analysed by many researchers. Some of the main studies selected for review are: Nambiar (1998) in the study titled “the socio-economic condition of gulf migrants” examined the process of migration and its outcome with references to return emigrants. The study was carried out in 1992 and he randomly selected 335 Gulf returnees from four districts of Trivandrum, Trissur, Malappuram and Kasargod which have large concentration of Gulf returnees. The study finds out those unique features of Gulf migrants that they were predominantly young, less educated and mostly from socially backward and economically poor families. The study reveals that the migration associated economic prosperity by-passed a fairly large number of emigrants as they were engaged household activities, service sectors and construction work, which earned them very low income. He also observes that the rehabilitation measures taken by the state government were inadequate.

K.C. Zachariah, E.T. Mathew, S. Irudaya Rajan (2000) in the study titled “socio-economic and demographic consequences of migration in Kerala”. Examined the impact of emigration on elderly population and gender issues in migration and their impact on emigrant’s wives. The study observed certain structural, behavioral and demographic changes in Kerala due to migration. Although there was the matter of loneliness and other health problems, most of the elderly people in the emigrant household received care and protection from their children. The study pointed out that even though the emigrant’s wives suffer so many stress problems such as psychological stress, loneliness, but still they promoting the migration of their husbands to the different parts world because they believed that it will improve their living condition.

Ginu, Zacharia, and Oommen (2008) in their study titled “Gulf migration, social remittance and religion”: examined The Changing dynamics of Kerala christens” shows that the arrival of new religious practices and remittances from gulf countries are changing the Syrian christens landscape in Kerala with long history of christens presence. The gulf migrant and their families are invariably using trajectory of religion to achieve social mobility and prestige in the sending society. Zachariah and Rajan (2010) in their study titled “impact of the global recession on migration and remittances in Kerala” revealed the dimensions of emigration, return emigration and remittances in the context of a surge in oil prices. According to their study, during the period 1998 to 2008, the number of emigrants has increased from 13.6 lakhs to 21.9 lakhs and return emigrants has increased from 7.4 lakhs to 11.6 lakhs, the number of remittances has increased from 18.4 thousand crores to 43.3 thousand crores, the educational status of Kerala emigrants has substantially improved and the Muslim community still accounts for more than 40 percent of the total emigrants from Kerala to the Gulf. The study also found that during the period 2003-2008, the unemployment had decreased by 1.505 million persons.

K.C..Zachariah, S.Irudaya Rajan (2011) in their study titled “Inflexion in Kerala’s gulf connection “examined mainly migration trends and geographic aspects of migration. They stated that compared to the previous year the migration trend especially to the gulf countries is very high. The number of Kerala emigrants living abroad in 2011 is estimated to be 2.28 million. Besides remittances from abroad to Kerala in 2011 were estimated to be approximately Rs 49695 crores. Muslim religion has acquired highest share of foreign remittance compared to the other religion in Kerala in 2011. Department of economics and statistics, (2013) conducted a study on migration in Kerala. Their study shows that increasing emigration to gulf countries and foreign remittance to Kerala is the main factor for increasing internal migration to the different regions of Kerala.

K. C. Zachariah and S. Irudaya Rajan (2015) “dynamics of emigration and remittances in Kerala” examined that, due to the slow but steady shift of emigrants towards gulf regions would causes a drastic change in the receipts pattern of remittances in Kerala. The proportion of Hindus among the emigrants from Kerala was 36.3 percent in 2014 but was only 29.5 percent in 1998. In spite of this upward trend, Hindu emigration is

far from reaching its due share in Kerala's population. The present trend shows that Muslims religion acquired greatest share in emigration field compared to other religions in Kerala.

Puthuma Joy (2016) "impact of migrants workers in the Kerala economy" revealed that huge inflow of foreign remittance to Kerala economy, this would lead to increasing the number in-migrants labourers to Kerala. He examined various aspects both emigration and in-migration on Kerala economy. Based on his study the major finding was that there was a close and positive relation between inflow of in-migrants labourers to Kerala from the various states of India and foreign remittance from foreign country especially from gulf countries.

Table 7.1: **Emigration trend in Kerala**

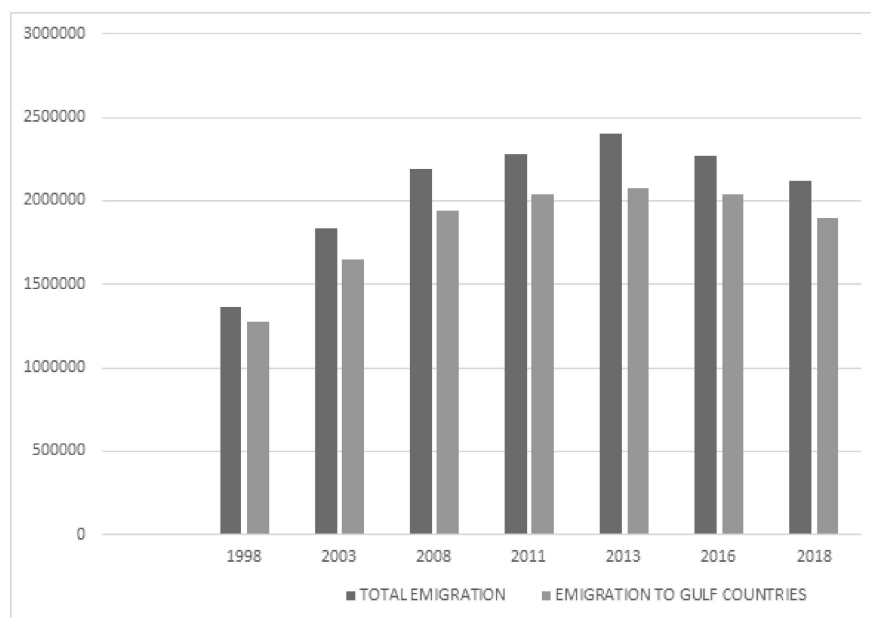
Year	Total emigration	Emigration to gulf countries
1998	1361919	1278711
2003	1838478	1646477
2008	2193412	1941422
2011	2280543	2037813
2013	2400375	2070854
2016	2271725	2035446
2018	2121887	1893752

Source: Kerala Migration Survey (2018)

There are 2121887 emigrates from Kerala across the world, it is 1.49 lesser than the 2016 KMS report. further more, the above table exactly shows from 1998 to 2013 there is a positive increasing trend of Emigration from Kerala but between 2013 and 2018 there is a declining trend. If we express the percentage of declining trend from 2013 to 2018 it almost 12.7%. Which made huge impact on different sectors of Kerala economy especially on the productive sector. When we analyse the trend and pattern of gulf migration from Kerala, we can clearly see that the migration gulf countries are much higher than the rest of the part of world from Kerala that means only few portions from population are migrating rest of the part of the world, among that category US and UK are the preference. district wise of emigration trend in 1998, Malappuram shows the highest emigration trend around (21.7%)

followed by Thrissur and Thiruvanthapuram in Kerala but the latest report of migration (KMC-2018) shows some districts particularly Pathanamthitta, Ernakulam, Thrissur, Palakkad, Kozhikode and Kasargod show declining trend of emigration between 2008-2018

Figure 7.1: **Emigration trend in Kerala**



Source: Kerala Migration Survey (2018)

Table 7.2: **Educational And Health Status of Migrants**

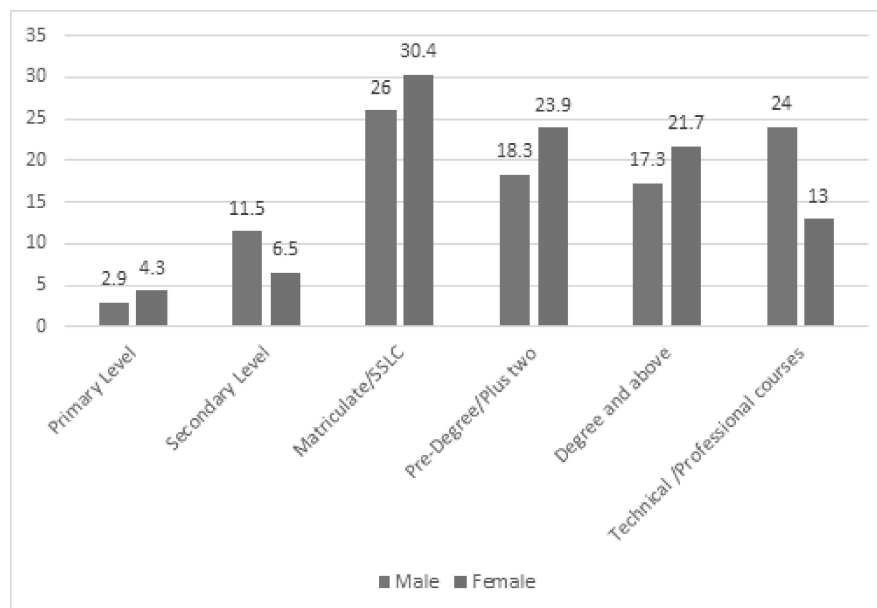
Education level	Male		Female	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Primary Level	3	2.9	2	4.3
Secondary Level	12	11.5	3	6.5
Matriculate/SSLC	27	26.0	14	30.4
Pre-Degree/Plus two	19	18.3	11	23.9
Degree and above	18	17.3	10	21.7
Technical /Professional courses	25	24.0	6	13.0
Total	104	100	46	100

Source: Sample survey

The above tables show that both educational and health status of 150 gulf migrants in Malappuram district. When we are analyzing the educational status of gulf migrants, we can see that male has upper hand compare to female category the highest migrant category is those who have Technical /Professional degree this is because the gulf country provides much employment opportunities to this category compare to other degree holders,

Highest educational qualification for both male and female was Matriculation/SSLC.30.4 percent of females and 26 percent of males completed matriculation.18.3 and 23.9 percent of male and female have pre degree qualification.17.3 and 21.7 percent of male and female have degree and above.24 percent and 13 percent of males and females have technical /professional education .Females are having highest educational qualification compared to males in case of primary, matriculation, pre degree and degree and above compared to males.

Figure 7.2: **Education status of migrants**



Source: Sample survey

Table 7.3: **Health status of migrants**

Type of Diseases	Male	Female
Acute Diseases	54	12
Chronic Diseases	14	6
Acute And Chronic Diseases	21	5

Source: sample survey

In the case of Health status of gulf migrants, we can see that both male and female have acute and chronic diseases. Acute disease means appears suddenly and last for a short amount of time on the other hand chronic disease is a condition that usually lasts for 3 month or longer and may get worse over a time. In the case of acute diseases and chronic diseases males are much more than females besides in the both diseases category there is low in side of females

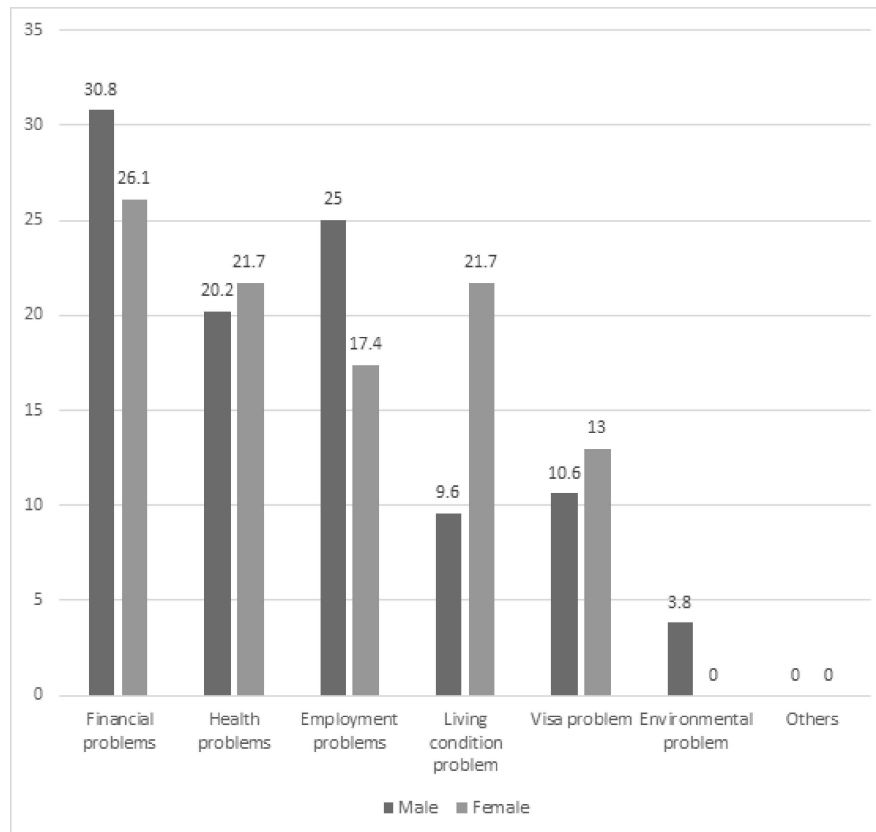
Table 7.4: **Problems faced by gulf migrants**

Problems	Male		Female		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Financial problems	32	30.8	12	26.1	44	29.3
Health problems	21	20.2	10	21.7	31	20.7
Employment problems	26	25.0	8	17.4	34	22.7
Living condition problem	10	9.6	10	21.7	20	13.3
Visa problem	11	10.6	6	13.0	17	11.3
Environmental problem	4	3.8	0	0.0	4	2.7
Others	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total	104	100	46	100	150	100.0

Source: Sample survey

Financial, health and employment problem are the majority of problem faced by the migrants. 29.3 percent faced financial problem. 20.7 percent of migrant's faces health problem. 22.7 percent of migrant's faces employment problem. 13.3 percent migrants said that their living condition are not good. 11.3 percent had visa problem. 2.7 percent faces environmental problems

Figure 7.3: **Problems faced by gulf migrants**



Source: Sample survey

Conclusion

The occurrence of oil boom in the 1970s in gulf countries caused large flow of Emigration from India especially from Kerala for reaping these benefits. The migrant labours are succeeded, which ultimately leads to the overall development in different states in India particularly in Kerala due to the large flows foreign remittance finally it causes to the overall socio-economic development in Kerala. The migration trend to gulf countries from Kerala to gulf countries increases from 1998 to 2013, from 2013 to 2018 this trend are decreasing due to the various factors .the top emigration is the gulf region but very few portion are concentrated in other countries like USA,UK and Australia because gulf countries with their higher income economies they attract migrants all over the world and they give much preference to employment opportunities

especially to educators Malappuram has been highest migrants sending district but from 1998 to 2018 its trend shows increase but slow in Malappuram district Technical /Professional degree holders are working in gulf countries than other degree holders besides in the case health major respondent are facing both acute and chronic diseases. In the case of problem faced by them financial and employment and environmental problems are serious concern.

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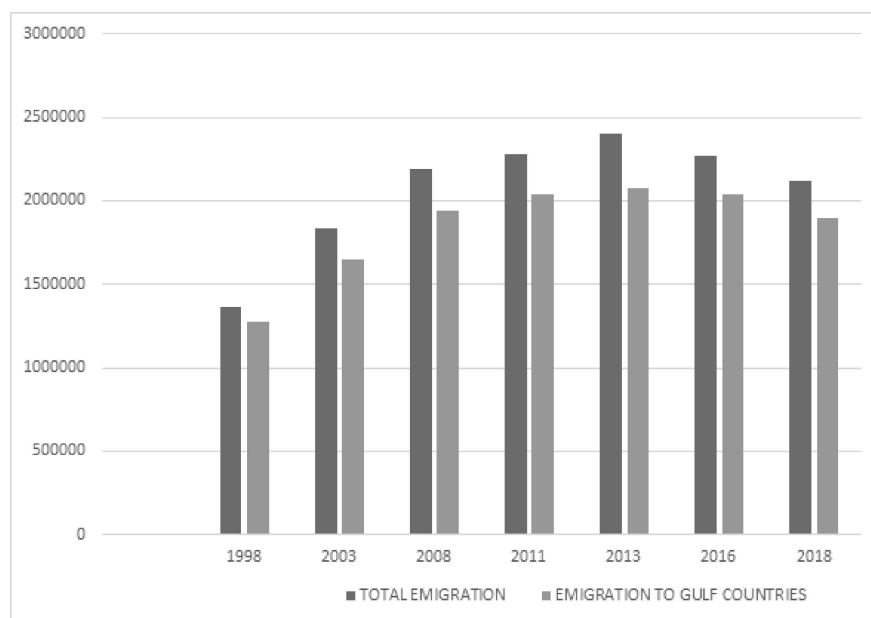
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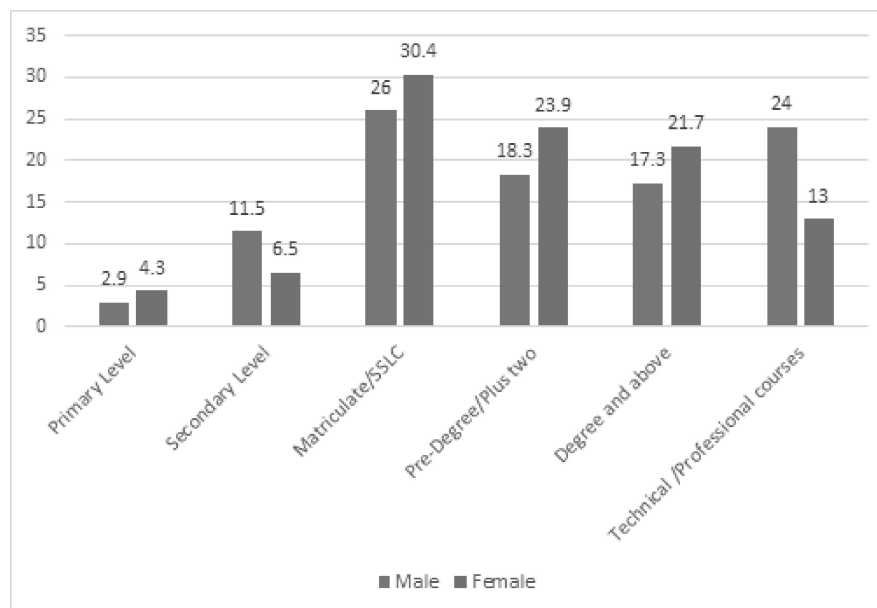
Education level	Male		Female	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Primary Level	3	2.9	2	4.3
Secondary Level	12	11.5	3	6.5
Matriculate/SSLC	27	26.0	14	30.4
Pre-Degree/Plus two	19	18.3	11	23.9
Degree and above	18	17.3	10	21.7
Technical /Professional courses	25	24.0	6	13.0
Total	104	100	46	100

Source: Sample survey

The above tables show that both educational and health status of 150 gulf migrants in Malappuram district. When we are analyzing the educational status of gulf migrants, we can see that male has upper hand compare to female category the highest migrant category is those who have Technical /Professional degree this is because the gulf country provides much employment opportunities to this category compare to other degree holders,

Highest educational qualification for both male and female was Matriculation/SSLC.30.4 percent of females and 26 percent of males completed matriculation.18.3 and 23.9 percent of male and female have pre degree qualification.17.3 and 21.7 percent of male and female have degree and above.24 percent and 13 percent of males and females have technical /professional education .Females are having highest educational qualification compared to males in case of primary, matriculation, pre degree and degree and above compared to males.

Figure 7.2: **Education status of migrants**



Source: Sample survey

Table 7.3: **Health status of migrants**

Type of Diseases	Male	Female
Acute Diseases	54	12
Chronic Diseases	14	6
Acute And Chronic Diseases	21	5

Source: sample survey

In the case of Health status of gulf migrants, we can see that both male and female have acute and chronic diseases. Acute disease means appears suddenly and last for a short amount of time on the other hand chronic disease is a condition that usually lasts for 3 month or longer and may get worse over a time. In the case of acute diseases and chronic diseases males are much more than females besides in the both diseases category there is low in side of females

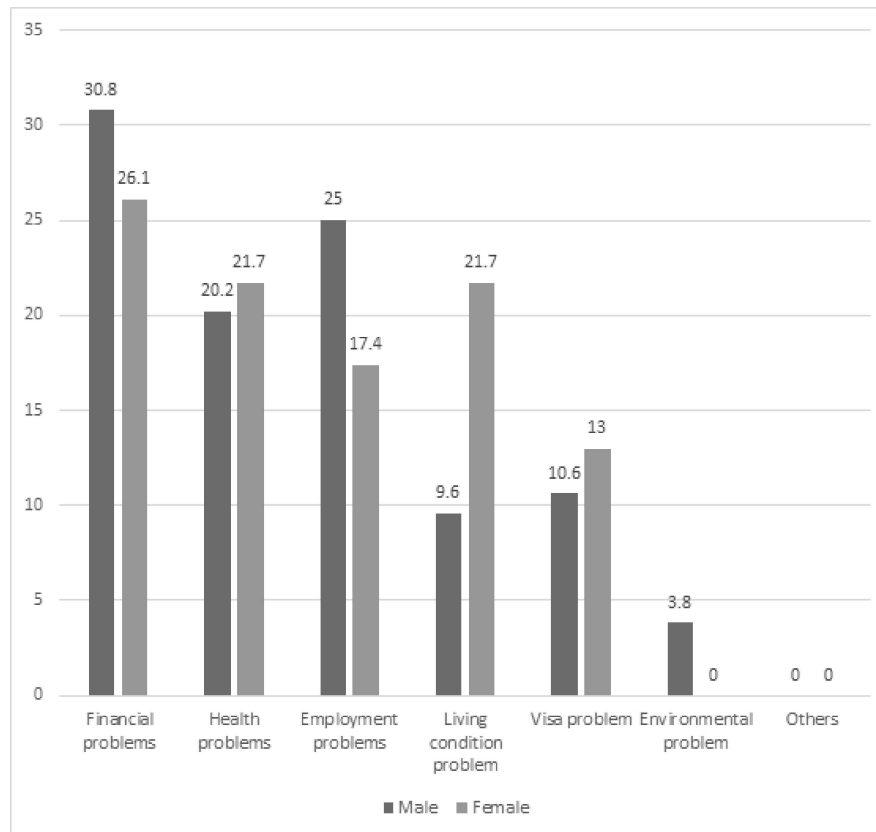
Table 7.4: **Problems faced by gulf migrants**

Problems	Male		Female		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Financial problems	32	30.8	12	26.1	44	29.3
Health problems	21	20.2	10	21.7	31	20.7
Employment problems	26	25.0	8	17.4	34	22.7
Living condition problem	10	9.6	10	21.7	20	13.3
Visa problem	11	10.6	6	13.0	17	11.3
Environmental problem	4	3.8	0	0.0	4	2.7
Others	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total	104	100	46	100	150	100.0

Source: Sample survey

Financial, health and employment problem are the majority of problem faced by the migrants. 29.3 percent faced financial problem. 20.7 percent of migrant's faces health problem. 22.7 percent of migrant's faces employment problem. 13.3 percent migrants said that their living condition are not good. 11.3 percent had visa problem. 2.7 percent faces environmental problems

Figure 7.3: **Problems faced by gulf migrants**



Source: Sample survey

Conclusion

The occurrence of oil boom in the 1970s in gulf countries caused large flow of Emigration from India especially from Kerala for reaping these benefits. The migrant labours are succeeded, which ultimately leads to the overall development in different states in India particularly in Kerala due to the large flows foreign remittance finally it causes to the overall socio-economic development in Kerala. The migration trend to gulf countries from Kerala to gulf countries increases from 1998 to 2013, from 2013 to 2018 this trend are decreasing due to the various factors .the top emigration is the gulf region but very few portion are concentrated in other countries like USA,UK and Australia because gulf countries with their higher income economies they attract migrants all over the world and they give much preference to employment opportunities

especially to educators Malappuram has been highest migrants sending district but from 1998 to 2018 its trend shows increase but slow in Malappuram district Technical /Professional degree holders are working in gulf countries than other degree holders besides in the case health major respondent are facing both acute and chronic diseases. In the case of problem faced by them financial and employment and environmental problems are serious concern.

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Chapter 2

Monsoon trawl ban and Household's survival strategy among Marine Fisherfolk in Malappuram District

Nusaiba.K.P³

Abstract: *The marine fisheries sector has undergone drastic change during the period 1950-2014 owing to impact of globalization measure. Introduction of mechanised trawlers, outboard motors opening up the sea for multinational corporations and joint ventures were the major changes which had reverberation in the marine fisheries sector of Kerala (Rajasenana,2016). The Indo Norwegian project and introduction of large-scale motorisation of the country craft increased the fish production in Kerala. It ultimately enhances the earning and the livelihood of the fisherfolk although the increase in fish production has led to an increase in income and employment opportunities. But the consequences were severe competition and conflict between traditional and mechanised fishing sector and also overfishing and juvenile fishing and decline in fisheries resources. to solve this problem government appointed several expert committees and implemented monsoon trawl ban (closed season regulation). Monsoon trawl ban means preventing mechanised vessels operation for a couple of months to sustain the fishery resources.*

Key words: Marine fisherfolk, Monsson Trawl Ban

Introduction

The fisheries and aquaculture sector contributes significantly to food security and nutrition, especially in some of the world's most food-limited regions, while simultaneously supporting the livelihood of hundreds of millions of people around the world (FAO,2019). India's coast spreads over nine coastal states and four union territories (UTs). There were 3477 fishing villages with a total of 893.3 thousand fisher families, of which 818.5 thousand (92 percent) were traditional fisher families. From time immemorial, the fisherfolk along the coasts of India depended for their living on the marine fishery resources in the inshore waters: they

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used indigenous and traditional techniques which required expertise and specialisation. the fishing and allied activities were followed by specific communities as artisanal occupation (Rajan,2002). In India, Kerala occupies the foremost position in marine fish production accounting for annual 20 percentage of total landings and extensive coastal belt of 590 km. Marine fisheries are the only source of livelihood of more than 10 lakh marine fishermen of Kerala coast. And now adays this sector has become an important source of earning foreign exchange (GoK,2019).

The marine fish production has undergone drastic change during the period of 1950 -2014 owing to the impact of globalization measures and the stages of development of marine fisheries sector categorised in to three stages. first stage is pre modernisation phase, the period before 1950 , were fishing was the only source of income with the entire community dependent on it. The second, modernisation phase, the stage with introduction of new policies and technologies like Indo Norwegian Project and technological innovation like ,the bottom trawler, outboard motorises technology . third is post modernisation phase ,1990 onwards, an improved status of livelihood indices of fisherfolk (Rajan and Pillai,2020). The fishing sector in Kerala was not capable of absorbing these rampant ramifications and hence witnessed abnormal resources depletion and sustainable impacts and hence the period witnessed formation of fishermen's unions and the beginning of struggles for livelihood and appointment of commissions.

Alarming resources depletion and reduction in catches of the traditional fishers and the resultant clear dichotomy of the fishing sector in to motorised and mechanised have together with its realisation that the alien technology used by the mechanised sector has developed into a scenario of conflicts at sea and even at the shore(Rjasenan.D,2016). The destructive catching technique like trawling, purse seing and ring seining attributed to decline in fish catch.. According to Kurien (1998), the open access nature of the fishery, use of inappropriate technology, the demand-pull factors and pressure of population leads to overfishing in the seas. New technology and capital-intensive method also lead to juvenile fishing, overfishing and reduction of fishery resources. It is against the sustainable development of a society. So, monsoon trawl ban has been implemented by Government of Kerala to conserve fishery resources and also save the traditional fisherfolk. The trawlers will be banned from fishing in the territorial waters of the state and traditional

crafts will be allowed to operate during this period. The trawl ban introduced by the Government with the objective of protecting the fisheries sector has further increased the unemployment in the fisheries sector during the month of June to August. The nature of job (seasonal) leads to poverty and deprivation among fisherfolk. The basic purpose of this paper therefore, to analyse the socio-economic impact of monsoon trawl ban on marine fisherfolk in Malappuram district and what are the main survival strategies among the household.

Objectives

- To analyse the socio-economic impact of monsoon trawl ban on marine fisherfolk in Malappuram district
- To identify the main survival strategies adopted by marine fisherfolk in Malappuram district during this period

Data and Methods

The present study examined the impact of socio-economic impact of monsoon trawl ban on marine fisherfolk in Malappuram district. In order to achieve the objective of the study, the data was collected through field survey from 57 households of Ponnai Municipality in Malappuram District, had foremost position in terms of total number of marine fisherfolk (CMFRI,2010).The secondary information was collected from Economic Review,CMFRI,Economic Survey,online books and articles.

Review of Literature

Due to the unique feature of Kerala like scarcity of food, increasing population, high density of population, development of non- food crops instead. It is high for the state to concentrate on alternative source of food, in order to tackle this situation. In this juncture fisheries have a significant role as an alternative source of food (Kutty, 2004). Fishing especially marine is an age old vocation of certain community living along the coast(Rajan,2002). Fishermen mean the person who engaged mainly in fishing and related activities for their livelihood (Ambili , 2008). The traditional fisherfolk are all those man, women and children who earn a livelihood by evolving in harvesting, handling, processing and marketing of fish and fish products(Dhanuraj, 2004). Kurien's (1995) analysis is based on the fisher's socio economics in terms of income, land holdings, housing quality, health conditions and literacy levels to that

of the fishery development imperatives and its contribution to fisheries sector to state domestic product. Though the domestic product increases the standard of living of the community goes in the reverse direction in comparison with the people working in other sectors of the state. Overfishing is nothing but excessive fishing effort in fisher that leads to fall in the fish harvest (Kurien and Achari ,1990). The main reason behind the overfishing and juvenile fishing is the increased use of trawl nets for fish catching. Thrush and Dayton (2002) stated that trawling is one of the most important sources of human-induced physical disturbance on the seafloor throughout the world The high profit earned by the trawlers in the sector motivated more trawlers and trawl labourers in the lucrative business of trawl fishing. Instead of profit ended up with the phenomenon of “tragedy of common”, in order to alleviate the prevailing situation, Maharashtra, Kerala, Tamilnadu have enabled suitable policies and regulations in the fisheries sector and introduced trawl ban during monsoon months (Salim .et.al 2017).

Monsoon Trawl Ban in Kerala

The monsoon trawl ban which is imposed every year during the monsoon season to ensure the prosperity of the marine stock ,prohibits fishing by trawling off the Kerala coast during the period . And preventing mechanised vessels operation for a couple of months to sustain the fishery resources. The fishers started their demand first for the enforcement of the Kerala Marine Fishing Regulation Act of 1980 (KMFRA) and then for the implementation of monsoon trawling ban with a view to protecting their livelihood. the prolonged struggle finally resultant in the implementation of regulative measures.

List of Expert Committee

According to Rajasenan (2016) there are nine committee which were appointed by government of India mainly to study the problem and to make necessary actions.

- Babu Paul committee:1981
- Kalawar Committee:1984
- Balakrishnan nair committee I :1987
- Balakrihsnan Nair Committee II:1989
- P.S.B.R James Committee:1993

- Silas Committee:1994
- Balakrishnan Nair Committee III:2000
- D.K.Singh Committee :2006
- Expert Committee on Fish Wealth of Kerala : 2014

The first committee appointed under the chairmanship of D.Babu paul in 1981 failed to decide on the issue of monsoon. Subsequently kerala witnessed a series of expert committees with their recommendations on monsoon trawl ban. In 2014, seven expert committee on the Fish Wealth of Kerala under the chairmanship of Additional Director of Fisheries ,Kerala reached a conclusion that trawl ban imposed in Kerala since 1980 has identified the need to extend the trawl ban period from 45 days from 60 days in two periods each for 30 days i.e. June-July and October-November.(Rajasenana,2016).

Marine Fisherfolk in Malappuram District

The district has 70 kms of sea coast. It stretches from Kadalundi Nagaram in the north to Palappetty in the south. According to CMFRI, 2010 there are 610,165 total fisherfolk in kerala and out of this Trivandrum had the first position(23.98 percentage) followed by Malappuram(16.08 percentage) with 15.29 active fishermen. There are 23 fishing villages in Malappuram district. From the CMFRI (2010), when we consider the fisherfolk population Puduponnani(7084)was the first position followed by Alungal beach,Meentheruvu ,Mukkadi.

Table 2.1: **Profile of fisherfolk in Puduponnani**

District profile	Total	Percentage
Landing centres	11	6%
Fishing villages	23	10.36%
Fishermen families	14940	12.26%
Traditional fishermen	14747	12.68%
BPL families	6760	10.33
Fisherfolk population	98120	16.08
Active fisherfolk	22,238	15.29

Source: Computed from CMFRI,2010

In order to study the socio-economic impact of monsoon trawl ban on marine fisherfolk in Malappuram district, Puduponnani fishing village selected as a sample area because of it has highest number of fisherfolk population compared to other Malappuram districts.

Socio-economic profile of sample respondents

The socio economic profile of the Puduponnani coastal locality provide the information about their age ,sex ,religion ,educational status, income level ,expenditure pattern etc.

Age wise category

The age wise category shows the labour force and dependency ratio of a population. The labour force participation is the section of working population in the 16-64 age groups.

Table 2.2: **Age wise category**

Age	Percentage
below 17	19.99
18-59	73.69
60 and above	6.32
Total	100

Source: Sample Survey,2019

In the above table, the findings of the current study reveal that 19.99 percentage of the respondents coming under the age group of below 17 and 73.69 percentage of the respondents coming under the age group in between 18-59 and only 6.32 percentage respondents are coming under the 60 and above age group.

Family size of the respondents

The family size refers that total number of individuals in a family.

Table 2.3: **Family size of the respondents**

Particulars	Percentage
Family size (1-5)	50%
Family size(6-10)	46.56%
Family size(>10)	3.44%
Total	100

Source: Sample Survey, 2019

Data from the sample shows that the most of the fishermen lived in nuclear family, 50 percentage houses have five members in the family and 46.56 percentage houses have more than 5 members in the family. Only 3.44 percentages of the respondents have more than 10 members in their family.

Marital Status

Marital status shows the number of married, unmarried, widowed persons among the respondents.

Table 2.4: **Marital Status**

Marital status	Percentage
Married	54.07
Unmarried	39.25
Widow	6.66
Total	100

Source: Sample Survey, 2019

From the above table the findings of the study reveals that majority (54.07 percentages) of the respondents were married and 39.25 percentages are unmarried. Marriage at very early age is very common among fisherfolk even in the case of male and females.

Housing condition

Every fisherman prefers to live on the seafront near the point where he lands his craft and from where he can observe the sea. As a result the population density in marine fishing villages was around 2652 persons per square kilometre. This is in comparison to the state figure of 742

person per square kilometre, which is already one of the highest in the countries (Kurien and Paul,2001).

Table 2.5: **Housing condition**

Roof	Percentage	Wall	Percentage	Floor	Percentage
Concrete	32.73%	Stone	43.10%	Concrete	18.97%
Tiled	15.52%	Bricks	5.17%	Red oxide	55.17%
Thatched	51.75%	Coconut lives	51.72%	Tiled	25.86%

Source:Sample Survey,2019

The above table shows that the major portion of the fishermen's houses are thatched (51.72 percentage) and floor created made with red oxide(55.17%).They face lots of problem in the time of monsoon and they lost their house due to *kadalshobam*. And after the incidents they need to rebuild their houses and it will ultimately lead to debt among fishermen's

Educational Status

According to Amartya Sen "If education makes a person more efficient in commodity production, then this clearly is an enhancement of human capital. This can add to the value of production in the economy and also to the income of a person who has been educated. But with same levels of income, a person may benefit from education, in reading, communicating, arguing, in being able to choose in a more informed way, in being taken seriously and so on." (Kurien, 1998)

Table 2.6: **Educational Status**

Educational level	Percentage
Illiterate	16.66
Primary level	48.15
SSLC	24.88
Plus two	6.82
Higher Education	3.49
Total	100

Source:Sample Survey,2019

Fishermen population have comparatively low educational status than non fishermen community. In Pudukonni, there are lot of illiterate people who are failed to attain formal education due to financial problems. So due to this they are compelled to do job at very young age. This is the case of educational attainment of male. When we go through the female education, now a day the educational level is high compared to male counterparts. But still the dropout among female and marriage at early age are existed. The high rate of unemployment among the educated children of fishermen have a negative influence on educational development (John Kurien, 1981)

Income status

Fishing is very difficult and risky occupation and always the return is uncertain. If they had huge fish catch then they will get high return. But supply increases their return will also reduced.

Table 2.7: **Monthly income**

Income	Percentage
below 1000	11.53
1000-5000	40.38
5000-10000	46.15
Above 10000	1.92
Total	100

Source: Sample Survey,2019

From the above table we can find the income status of the respondents.11.53percentage of the respondents have income below 1000 and 40.53 percentage of the respondents have the income level between 1000–5000 and 46.15 percentage of the respondents have income level between 5000–10000. Only 1.92 percentage of the respondents have above 10000 income. The unpredictable return and low income leads to financial problems among fishermen. They fail to do other jobs due to t lack of knowledge and skill about the job other than fishing . But the present generation are try to turning away from traditional occupation. Most of them are reluctant to take traditional job and majority of them are concentrated on job's in gulf countries.

Expenditure pattern

Due to lack of income the fisherfolk savings always negative. Here the expenditure pattern shows the fishermen's priority for spending money on food, housing, education, clothing etc.

Table 2.8: **Priority for Expenditure Spending**

Sl. No	Priority for expenditure spending	NP	LP	MP	HP	E
1	Food	0	6%	11%	55%	28%
2	Housing	2%	5%	12%	64%	17%
3	Education	1%	10%	2%	73%	14%
4	Clothing	4%	10%	0%	68%	18%
5	Electricity	0	0	80%	18%	2%
6	Entertainment	0%	27%	26%	47%	0%

NP-No priority,HP-Low priority,MP-Medium priority,HP-High priority-essential

Source : Sample Survey,2019

According to Keynesian psychological law, when income increases consumption also increases but less than proportionately. But in the case of fisherfolk in almost all months their expenditure always higher than their income due to lack of return from their job. In the above table the findings reveals that 55 percentage of the respondents gave high priority for food

Table 2.9: **Jobs other than fishing during trawling period**

Job	Percentage
Driver	7.93%
Marketing of fish	11.11%
Construction work	4.76%
Net repairing	39.68%
Painting	9.52%
Shop keeper	6.34%
No job	20.63%
Total	100

Source: Sample Survey,2019

During the period of trawl ban the fishermen become unemployed temporarily, and they don't have income. So, they want to move towards other jobs other than fishing for their survival. During ban period 39.68 percentage of the respondents are engaged in net repairing, 11.11 percentage respondents are engaged in marketing of fish, 7.93 percentage respondents are engaged in driver job, 6.34 respondents are engaged in shop keeping jobs, 4.76 percentage respondents are engaged in construction work and 20.63 percentage respondents are fail to find any alternative job. But still there was seasonal and frictional unemployment during this two month. Governments support like rationing and pension during this month are not efficient and sufficient so they forced to approach money lenders or financial institutions for credit.

Problems towards ban period

In order to analyse the problem encountered during the monsoon trawl period as felt by the trawl labourers, 50 sample trawl labourers selected from Pudukonni where the number of fishermen are very high. The important problems were ranked by the trawl labourers and on the basis of the ranks assigned based on their priorities.

Table 2.10: **Problems towards ban period**

Reason	Percentile position	Mean score	Rank
Poverty	8.33	77	1
Unemployment	25	63	2
Lack of Government support	41.67	48.6	3
Seasonal employment	46	45.94	4
Non – availability of credit	75	37	5
Low wage rate	23	23	6

Source: Sample Survey, 2019

It could be inferred from the results that poverty is the most prominent problem associated with the ban, which was ranked first with mean score 77. This was followed by unemployment (mean score, 63), lack of government support (mean score 48.6), seasonal employment (mean score, 45.94), non-availability of credit (mean score, 37), and low wage rate (mean score, 23). It was found that low wage rate was the least affected problem. The Garette ranking analysis revealed that the unemployment

and poverty is the most encountered problem by the trawl labourers during the ban period. The trawl ban period is characterized by considerable unemployment to the tune of 35-40 days during the ban period. The seasonal employment is the alternative source of employment was found to be tertiary sector of fisheries in the repair and maintenance of craft and gears. During the period of trawl ban the fishermen become unemployed temporarily, and they don't have income . So they want to move towards another jobs other than fishing for their survival. The main problems during trawl season are, Non-availability of credit, Unemployment, lack of Government support, Seasonal employment and Low wage rate

Conclusion

The main objective of the study was to bring about the impact of monsoon trawl ban on marine fisherfolk. The same has been done by taking the Pudukonni fishing village as the sample area for the study. An improvement has been made over time when considering the illiteracy rates and primary education in the lives of the fishermen community, but they still lag behind the mainstream society. They are faced lots of problem like poverty, unemployment, lack of income, lack of alternative job .One of the main survival strategy that was adopted by the fisherfolk in Pudukonni was to migrate to middle east. Compared to previous generation, large share of the fisherfolk population migrated to gulf countries for better job and higher income. Lack of fish resources and decreased fish catch leads to decline the income of fisher folk ,so they are compel to do alternative job other than fishing. The now existing vulnerable conditions of the fishermen should be eradicated with education and awareness. The community has to go a long way to attain human development and be at par with the mainstream society.

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Chapter 4

Characteristics of Indian Emigrants in the United States of America

Abdul Rasheed. M⁶

Abstract: *The study focuses on the various socio-economic aspects of Indian emigrants who are residing in United States of America. This study was based on secondary data and are collected from various sources such as Kerala Migration Survey (KMS), American Community Survey (ACS), World Bank Reports, reports of International Labor Organization (ILO) etc. The major findings of this study are the percentage changes in emigration from India to the United States shows a decreasing trend especially after 2010. This decreasing trend is visible in student migration also. The proportion of Indian immigrant students in the US is 18% as of 2019, and 70% of them are studying in math, computer science, or engineering. New York City has the highest percentage of Indian immigrants in the United States, followed by Chicago and Washington, D.C. The age distribution of Indians in US shows that 81% of Indian emigrants are coming under the age group of 18-64. The employment status of Indians displays that Indians are more likely to be employed in occupations like management, science, business and arts. Finally, our analysis demonstrates that, overall years, Indian immigrants have experienced less poverty than other immigrants as a whole.*

Key Words: Migration, High Skilled Migration, Emigration, Immigration, Citizenship, Green card, Poverty.

Introduction

The migration of people is a universal phenomenon where people move from one place to another either for searching for better opportunities and living standards or their security. Anyone who moves permanently to another geographic region of the same country and all who move permanently to another country can be defined as migrants (J.R Weeks, 1985). Migration has its impacts and effects on both home countries and host countries because in one side it ensures a flow of monetary resources

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from the host country to home and increases the gross national product of the home thereby increase investment and capacity to produce, reduce poverty and improve education and health facilities, etc. On another side it ensures the host countries to get cheap availability of manpower and leads to the fuller and better utilization of resources (Wikramasekara, 2010). Globalization around the world has created a good atmosphere for the movement of labor between world labor markets.

The oil boom witnessed by the Persian Gulf in 1970s motivated the oil-exporting countries in that region to absorb more laborers from outside to bridge the labor shortage. So the demand for both skilled and unskilled laborers increased dramatically (Shibinu,2021). It paved the way for the movement of labor from countries like India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Southeast Asia. The mass poverty, unemployment, low wage, and poor standard of living in India caused many Indians to move to the Gulf region to get new and better opportunities. Migration can be classified as internal, external, voluntary, involuntary, temporary, and permanent. History tells us that all these migrations are very common in India. But in the last three or four decades, due to the fast-changing socio-economic conditions, the complexity of modern human life the voluntary external migration (both temporary and permanent) has gained its importance. People are migrating to countries like Canada, the USA, Middle East, South Asian countries, and other countries to find out better occupational opportunities. If migrants can find a decent job abroad it not only improves the material wellbeing of the migrants but it improves the living conditions, opportunities of the migrant household also. So migration brings some sorts of development among migrants as well as migrant households.

High Skilled Labor Migration from India

India had been a close political and religious links with several countries. The trends and the implication of emigration from India varied from time to time. A systematic emigration flows to various parts of the world started from India in the 18th c under the British rule. The first batch of unskilled workers started to migrate to Mauritius for a sugar plantation. During that period the major destination of Indian emigrants was West Indian Colonies, Fiji, South Africa, Malaysia, Mauritius, Singapore, Ceylon, and Burma (Naidu1991). After that, a large number of Indians were migrated to advanced industrial countries like the UK in the early 19th century and North America in the 20th century. Among

the countries, the UK was the most attractive country for a significant number of Indian engineers, Scientists, Doctors, and technical workers during the 1960s. Moreover, a notable flow of Indian professionals to countries like Australia, Germany, Japan, Malaysia, and New Zealand was also noted in the 1990s. Emigration from India to developed countries grew steadily between 1950 and 2000. But during 2003, nearly 1.25 million academically and technically qualified experts from India emigrated to the USA, UK, Canada, and Australia (Khadria,2009). According to Abraham Lincoln, “Labour is before and independent of capital. Capital is only the fruit of labour and could never have existed if labour had not first existed. Labour is the superior of capital, and deserves much the higher consideration”.

The above statement of Abraham Lincoln revealed the growing importance of labour as an input in the economy. Indian people started their movement to the USA in the 1800s. But the movement of people is strictly focused on skilled and qualified people after the US government passed the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965. Now after Mexico and China, India becomes the second-largest migrant-sending country to the USA and they contributed a lot to the technology boom in the United State (US Census Bureau). The migration of Indians to the USA started in 1820. During these periods most of the emigrants were “uneducated and unskilled”. In 1965 the US government implemented the immigration and Nationality Act, which smoothen the flow of migration from India to the USA. Immigration Act passed by the USA in 1990 introduced a new visa named H-1B visa which attracted more outsiders especially Indians to the USA. As a result, the Indian Immigrant population in the USA grew significantly during 1990–2010. Data shows that there was a tenfold increase in the number of Indian immigrants in the USA from 206000 in 1980 to 2.04 million in 2013 (Courtesy of migration policy institute, Department of Homeland Security). Another factor that speeds up Indian emigration to the US is the introduction of an H-1B visa. This visa program allowed highly skilled foreign workers in “designated specialty occupations” to come and work in the US. In 2014 Indians accounted for 70 percent of the approved temporary H-1B visa and Indians become the number one recipient of an H-1B visa.

Objective

The main plus point of Indian emigrants compared to other foreign-born populations are, Indian high skilled emigrants are more likely to

get good jobs due to their ability to handle the English language fluently. The main objective of this paper is to examine the characteristics (both social and economic) of Indian emigrants in the USA.

Data and Methods

This paper examines the social and economic characteristics of Indian emigrants in the USA. The area of concerns are Indian emigrant population in the USA, the major cities where Indians are concentrated, green card and citizenship granted to the Indians, age distribution and employment participation of Indian emigrants, health coverage and insurance and poverty rates among Indians in US. The study is based on secondary data. The data for this study is drawn from various sources such as Kerala Migration Survey (KMS), American Community Survey (ACS), World Bank Reports, reports of International Labor Organization (ILO), UNESCO, US census bureau, Migration Policy Institute (MPI), Current Population Survey (CPS), various open door reports, US Bureau of labor statistics, Bureau of consular affairs, US department of statistics, Department of Homeland security's year book, etc.

Pattern of Emigration from India to USA

The destinations of every emigrant are determined by their educational qualification. More clearly the highly skilled Indians are likely to migrate to the traditional destinations such as the US, Canada, UK, and recently towards English speaking European countries. But normally the less skilled and unskilled workers prefer Middle East countries as their destination (GCC countries). Globalization around the world and the competition between the industrialized nations seeks to attract the best and the brightest mind. A large number of workforce and the well-developed educational system enabled India to become a supplier of Highly skilled persons to many developed countries like the USA, Canada, UK, and even to the EU countries (Khadria, 2009). In 1960 only 12000 Indian emigrants lived in the US and it was only less than 0.5 percent of the overall immigrant population of the USA. When the US government introduced a series of legislative changes between 1965 and 1990 migration from India to the USA started to flourish. The major changes are the introduction of temporary skilled work programs, removed national – origin quotas, and issued an employment-based permanent visa. Data shows that in 2016, Indians became the largest recipient of H-1B visas and were the second-largest group of international students in the USA (US Statistical Year

Book of the Immigration and Naturalization Service).

An initiative of US Known as the green card allowed the people of other nations to enter and reside in the USA for highly qualified employment. The objective of this green card is to provide legal status for immigrants in the USA and make the USA the most attractive destination for highly skilled laborers. According to the Census Bureau's 2018 American Community Survey (ACS), the total number of Indians in the USA was 17.8 lakh in 2010 and it increased by 49% and reached 26.5 lakh in 2018. When we consider the ranks of the countries about their proportion of immigrants in the USA, India stood at the 3rd position. Still, Mexico remained the top rank.

Table 4.1: **Indian immigrant population in the USA 1980-2019**

Year	Indian Immigrant Population	Percentage Change
1980	206,000	-----
1990	450,000	54
2000	1,023,000	56
2010	1,780,000	42
2015	2,390,000	25
2019	2,688,000	33

Source: Data from US Census Bureau 2010 and 2019 American Community Survey (ACS)

Data shows that (Table.4.1) the number of Indian immigrant population in US total population was 206, 000 in 1980. It increased to 2688, 000 in 2019. But the rate of increase in Indian population during 2015 and 2019 is less compared to the rate of increase during 2010 and 2015.

If we go through the Indian Students population in the USA it was 103260 in the year 2010. It increased to 186000 in 2017 and 202014 in 2019. Currently, India makes up 15.9% of all international students in the USA. For the last ten consecutive years, China stood at the top in the list for sending a large number of students to the USA. The total number of Chinese students in the USA during 2018-2019 is 369548. In 2019 the percentage of Indian students in the USA is 18 percentages, surpassed only by China.

Among the Indian students, more than 70% choose Engineering/ Computer Science/ Math as their study area. Only 6% of students choose Physical and life Science. Percentage of Indian students who choose life science is only 2.3% (Open Door Report on International Educational Exchange- 2016-17). When we consider the academic level of Indian Students in 2016-17, 56.3% are at a graduate level and only 11.89 are at the under graduate level. Among the different states of USA Texas is the top destination for Indian students with 21960 followed by California with around 19000 students. Apart from this New York, Illinois and Massachusetts are another major destinations for Indian students. The notable thing is that Texas was not a top destination for all International Students, but only a third destination.

There are some hurdles faced by the Indian students who are seeking higher education in USA. The cost of studying engineering and medical science in USA is comparatively high. Moreover the appropriation of visa is very difficult and the less access to grants and funding. All these makes still India as a major supplier of strong human resources to this country. The demographic advantage of India also helped India to become the major supplier of skilled human resources.

Green card for high skilled migrants

The green card is otherwise known as “Lawful permanent Resident Card” is the unofficial nickname for the permit allowing immigrants to permanently live and work in the USA. OR the green card is the identification card issued by US authority indicating the holders’ status to live and work in the USA permanently (American Dream). Green cards are normally issued to new arrivals as well as the existing immigrants in the US to adjust their status. As per the data given by the US Department of Homeland Security, in each year around one million immigrants receive US green cards and more than half of the new green cards go to people already living in the US.

Table 4.2 shows the number of the green card issued to different countries both in the form of adjusted status and new arrivals in the fiscal year 2015. In both cases, Mexico occupies the first position with 77,497 adjusted status and 81,122 new arrivals. In the case of India, the number of adjusted status green cards for the fiscal year is 36,314 and the numbers of the green card issued to new arrivals were 27,798. The total number of the green card issued in the fiscal year 2015 in terms of adjusted status was 542,315 and in terms of new arrivals were 508,716.

In 2017 the number of Indians who received green cards is 60,394 as against 64,687 in 2016 (DHS). According to information collected by CATO, in 2018, 13.1 lakh Mexicans (28% of the total) were caught up in the green card backlog followed by Indians with 9.2 lakh (19%).

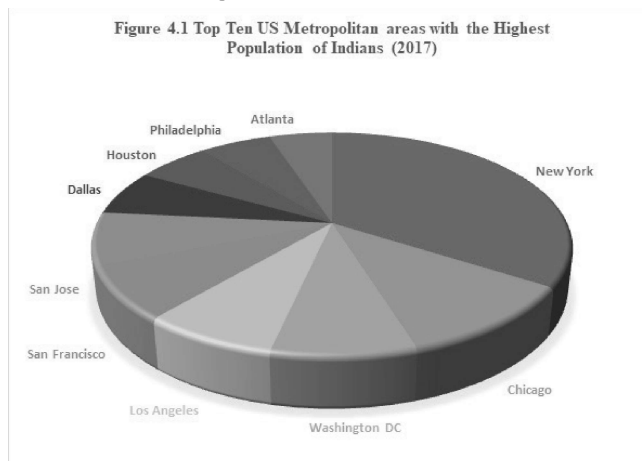
Table 4.2: List of Top five recipient of Green card (Adjusted status & new arrivals-Fiscal Year- 2015)

Sl. No	Countries	No. of green card issued (Adjusted Status)	Sl. No	Countries	No. of Green card Issued (New arrivals)
1	Mexico	77,497	1	Mexico	81,122
2	Cuba	48,259	2	Dominican Republic	43,187
3	China	36,533	3	China	38,025
4	India	36,318	4	Philippines	35,935
5	Philippines	20,543	5	India	27,798

Source: U.S Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

Cities with highest Indian Population

Among the different states of America, New York City has the largest number of Indian immigrants. The total number of Indians living in New York City in the year 2017 was 526133. The second important destination for Indian immigrants in the USA was Chicago with a population of 171901. Washington DC became the third top destination with 127,963 Indian immigrants.



Source: MPI tabulation of data from the US Census Bureau (2017).

Citizenship Granted to Indians in the USA

The US is one of the top destinations for highly skilled laborers. A person with a green card applies for naturalization or citizenship. A citizen has certain rights and protection compared to others. They have the fundamental right of doing vote in the election and ensure additional employment opportunities.

Table 4.3: **Citizenship Granted to Indians**

Year	Grant of Citizenship
2014	37,854
2015	42,213
2016	46,188
2017	50,802

Source: US Department of Homeland and Security.

The annual Immigration Report of the Department of Homeland security shows that in 2017, 50802 Indian immigrants got US citizenship. It was 42213 in 2015 and 46188 in 2016. Indians accounted for 6% of the total citizenship granted by the US government in 2006. Table 4.4 shows that during the nine months ended in 2018 June 30, 37,431 Indians got US citizenship and it is about 7% of the total immigrants. It helps India to become the second-largest group next to Mexico (95,107). Chinese people got 28,547 citizenship during the same period and they became the third-largest recipient of US citizenship. When we compare to the previous corresponding period, 5,950 more Indians got US citizenship during the first three quarters of the fiscal year 2018 and there was an increase of 19%. Similarly, in the case of Mexico and China, the percentage increase is 22% and 18% respectively.

Table 4.4: **Citizenship granted in the US: Top three nations**

Country of Birth	9 month ended, June 2018 (% of total)	9 month ended, June 2017 (% of total)	Increase in numbers (% Rise between the two periods)
Mexico	95,107 (17.5%)	77,735 (16.4%)	17,372 (22%)
India	37,431 (7.0%)	31,480 (6.6%)	5,951 (19%)
China	28,547 (5.2%)	24,179 (5.1%)	4,368 (18%)

Source: USCIS Quarterly Data

Age distribution of Indian Emigrants (%)

Data shows that the average age of Indian emigrants in US is 40 years compared to 46 years of all emigrants and 37 years of the native born. Among the emigrants, 81% of all Indian emigrants are coming under the category of 18-64 category as against the 78 percentage of the overall foreign-born population in the US. Indians are older than the US born population but younger than the overall foreign born population.

Table 4.5: **Age distribution of Indian Emigrants (%), 2019**

Age Category	All immigrants	Indian-Born immigrants	Native Born immigrants
Below 18	6%	7%	25%
18-64	78%	81%	59%
Above 65	16%	12%	16%

Source: MPI tabulation of data from the U.S. Census Bureau 2019 ACS.

Employment Participation by Origin

The employment participation of Indians in the US is slightly higher than all immigrants and the US born population. When compared to the overall US and foreign born population, Indians are more likely to be employed in occupations like management, business, science and arts.

Table 4.6: **Employment Participation by Origin (%), 2019**

Employment & Occupation Category	Native Born	Indian-Born immigrants	All immigrants
Management, Business, Science and Arts occupation	41%	76%	35%
Service Occupation	17%	5%	23%
Sales and Office Occupation	22%	12%	15%
Natural Resources, Construction and Maintenance Occupation	8%	1%	13%
Production, Transportation and material moving occupation	13%	6%	16%

Source: MPI tabulation of data from the US Census Bureau 2019 ACS.

Poverty among Indians in US

The available information on poverty shows that there is a continuous fall in poverty both among Indians and overall immigrants after 2008. In all years, the poverty among Indian emigrants are lower than that of the poverty among the overall immigrants. In 2008, the poverty among Indians were 16.4%. It decreased to 5% in 2019.

 Table 4.7: **Poverty among Indians in US**

Year	Poverty among Indians (%)	Overall Poverty among Immigrants (%)
2002	8.2	---
2008	16.4	28.7
2015	7	17
2019	5	14

Source: American Community Survey

Health and insurance coverage

The health insurance coverage rate of Indians are high compared to the overall emigrants and native born population. Only 5% of Indian immigrants were uninsured compared to the 8% of the native born and 20% of the total foreign born population.

Table 4.8: Health coverage for all immigrants, Indian-Born and Native born, 2019

Category	Native Born	Indian-Born immigrants	All immigrants
Private Health Insurance	69%	84%	58%
Public Coverage	36%	16%	30%
Uninsured	8%	5%	20%

Source: MPI tabulation of data from the US Census Bureau 2019 ACS.

Note: The sum of share is likely to be more than 100 due to the reason that people may purchase more than one type insurance.

Conclusion

As high skilled emigration from India to the USA is more or less a recent phenomenon. The activities and the working conditions of Indian professionals in the US are under-researched. The findings have a wider application in contributing to the policy discussion on migration and development, especially to the benefit of developing and newly emerged economies. In the context of two-sided investment, the skilled labour mobility between India and the US needs to be checked. The movement from India to the US is determined mainly by the skill shortage faced by the US and also the ability of Indian professionals compared to other nationals. Considering the intense desire among highly-skilled Indian youth and students to emigrate to a developed nation such as the US, recruiting such aspirants could be economically viable and much more beneficial and productive for the US. Indians are able to handle English fluently when compared to other immigrants in the US. It helped them to get good opportunities at there in the America. But after Donald Trump took the administration of US, there was a tendency for Indian emigration to fall due to the strict immigration policy adopted by his administration. His reform includes halting the processing and issuance of visas like H-1B visa for skilled workers. Since a large portion of this type of visa goes to Indian national, it reduces the chance of Indians to immigrate to the US. There must be negotiations and agreement on visa availability, smoothening the visa procedure, and visa facilitation to increase the labour mobility between India and the US and also to strengthen the bilateral relation between India and the

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Chapter 9

COVID 19 Pandemic and its Impact on Kerala

Umaira KK

Abstract: Kerala is the one of the well known state in India. Kerala's development popularised due to sustaining of high literacy rate accompanied by free education, higher life expectancy through advanced medical facility, ensuring food security through public distribution system, maintaining gender equality and so on. One of the pillars of Kerala's development for the last four decades has been emigration and the remittances. Hence alarming growth of covid-19 brought unprecedented recession in all sectors of the Kerala economy. Increasing number of return emigrants as part of COVID 19 and fall in remittances doubled recessive trends of Kerala economy (Kerala migration survey, 2019).

Key Words: Return migration, Remittances, Kerala, COVID-19

Introduction

The Kerala's development is unique in several respects in the sense of egalitarian society, positive records in health, education, decentralization, and population planning, and its active coalition system of governing have made the state a vibrant civil society, transforming itself from traditional, ancient feudal roots and so on. Kerala concentrated more on investing in its people rather than in markets. Human resources are the mainstay of its development. The state is sometimes compared, at all metrics, to developed countries. Its excellent record in education, health, and land redistribution provides a unique case for arguing that the basis for true development is social and human, rather than economic.¹³ Emigrants are one of the most important pillars of Kerala economy and in its development. Human migration means movement of people from one place to another with the intentions of settling, permanently or temporarily at a new location. The movement is often over long distances and from one country to another. Indian citizens have been migrating to

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different countries for searching better job and economic prosperity. Emigration from India to the Gulf countries takes place mainly from seven states – Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Gujarat, Goa, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu (Nair, 1983). Kerala held the premier position among the migrant sending states in India „because its relations with the Gulf countries were more intense than those of other states“ (Paul, 2008). The important feature of emigration from Kerala to the Middle East countries is that it is contract migration. Emigrants go on a contract basis for a few years, most of them leaving behind their families in Kerala and return to Kerala when the period of the job contract is over. Thus migration begets migration; emigration begets the return emigration (Zachariah & Rajan, 2011). But owing to the global financial down turn and nationalisation of employment in the Middle East, the emigrants faced pay cuts and lost jobs and many had to return to their home countries (Nagarajan 2009). The number of return emigrants to Kerala in 2018 was 1.3 million (Rajan 2018). Return emigrants are „persons returning to their country of citizenship after having been international migrants (whether short-term or long-term) in another country and who are intending to stay in their own country for at least a year“ (UN, 1998).

Due to a wide and sudden spread of COVID-19 which directly affected migrants. Most of them returned to home country due to various reasons. The world economy faces the thread of a serious recession. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) forecasted that in a best case scenario, its fallout would slash global growth by half a percentage point (Lowrey, 2020). Similarly, bodies such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank and the Secretary General of United Nations also predicted global recession and significant economic crisis in many countries. The threat of recession is particularly important for third world countries especially, India as the pandemic came at a time when the country was already facing problem of economic slowdown. Sectors such as tourism, aviation, hospitality and trade will be severely affected, and these sectors would be the first to face the impact. According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), micro-, small- and medium sized enterprises (MSMEs) and the services sectors are likely to be among the most affected due to reduced consumer spending.

Impact of COVID 19 on kerala economy

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to imposition of severe restrictions like restrict travel of people from their residence to outside world, all public gatherings were stopped, the operation of all types of passenger transport viz. private motor transport, public transport, rail, metro rail and air transport were stopped or restricted. In order to prevent spread of disease, social distancing and quarantine were also introduced. As part of overcome this crisis, producers, traders, hotels, educational institutions etc introduced new ways of doing business. GSDP data for 2018-19 published by the Department of Economics and Statistics (DES) says that total loss of GSDP for 69 days lockdown led to as Rs 105431 crore. This loss will be equivalent to 13.5 percent of the GSDP for a year. A sector wise breakup of the losses shows that primary sector incurred a loss of Rs 8718 crore, secondary sector Rs 26633 with manufacturing (industry) and construction suffered huge losses and loss of tertiary sector is Rs 57475 crore. In tertiary sector, transport, repair, hotels, financial services, real estate, professional services and other services incurred huge losses in productions of goods and services (GSDP data for 2018-19 as base),

The lockdown has resulted in huge loss of employment of all categories like self-employed, regular and casual labours who featured employment in dominance of the informal sector. According to NSO (2019), total loss of employment in manufacturing and construction was more than 50 percent. In tertiary sector, the sub sectors which registered more than 50% loss of employment were trade; repair of motor vehicles; transportation and storage; accommodation and food services, financial and insurance, education, arts, entertainment and recreation and other services. Based on the loss of GSDP for the various sectors and considering the distribution of workers to various sectors, the 69 days lockdown has pushed more than two third of self-employed and casual workers to acute unemployment, financial crisis, indebtedness, economic distress and so on. In the case of non-Keralite migrant workers, there are 4.34 lakh migrant workers from other states like from West Bengal, Assam, Bihar, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Jharkhand, etc. At the time of announcement of lockdown. Of this 1.53 lakh workers returned, 1.2 lakh workers wish to return to their native places and 1.61 lakh do not want to leave the state (Department of labour and skills, Government of Kerala, 2020)

Return emigration doubled recessive trends of Kerala economy

Spread of COVID-19 created panic among the Keralite emigrants in the Gulf and other countries to return to Kerala and a large number of emigrants have registered with NORKA and other agencies of immediately returning to Kerala mainly from six Gulf countries viz. UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman and Qatar. The main reasons of return is that lack of facilities for treatment, lack of hospital beds to admit COVID-19 patients, inability to undergo costly treatment in private hospitals, lack of space and facilities for quarantine in labour camps etc.

According to a migration survey of Centre for Development Studies, Kerala has 21.22 lakh emigrants, among them 18.94 lakh migrated to West Asian countries viz. UAE, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar. The share of non-Gulf countries is only 11%. USA, UK, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Singapore and Malaysia are the non-Gulf countries having sizable number of Keralite emigrants. Kerala has been receiving large amount of foreign remittances every year from the Keralite emigrants.

Table 9.1: **Country of Residence of Emigrants**

Destination	2013	2018	Increase/ Decrease (%)	Emigrants in 2018 (Share %)
UAE	8,98,962	8,30,254	-7.6	39.1
Saudi Arabia	5,22,282	4,87,484	-6.7	23.0
Oman	1,89,224	1,82,168	-3.7	8.6
Kuwait	1,83,329	1,27,120	-30.7	6.0
Bahrain	1,49,729	81,153	-45.8	3.8
Qatar	1,06,107	1,85,573	74.9	8.7
Other West Asia	2,12,21	0	-	0.0
Total Gulf Countrie	20,70,854	18,93,752	-8.6	89.2

Source: S. Irudaya Rajan, K C Zachariah (2019). Kerala migration survey

The total migrant remittances received in Kerala was more than the total expenditure of Kerala for several years. The annual remittances received in Kerala was higher than the annual total expenditure of government of Kerala, during the period except two years. Prior to the spread of

COVID-19, Kerala has received about one lakh crore rupees a year as remittances. In the light of the current crisis, it is expected that the remittances in 2020 in Kerala will witness a fall of about Rs 10,000 to Rs 15,000 crores.

Table 9.2: Remittances and Total Expenditure of Government of Kerala

Year	Remittances (Rs Crore)	Total Expenditure (TE)* of Govt.	Remittances as % of TE
1998	13,652	9,880	138.2
2003	18,465	17,427	106.0
2008	43,288	30,904	140.1
e2011	49,695	50,896	97.6
2013	71,142	66,244	107.4
2018	85,092	1,20,070	70.9

* Total expenditure, Source: S. Irudaya Rajan, K.C Zachariah (2019). Kerala migration survey

Conclusion

During the last four decades, the large scale emigration of contract workers from Kerala to Gulf countries and the continuous flow of large amount of remittances has been a major factor in Kerala's economic development especially on labour market, consumption, savings, investment, poverty, income distribution and economic growth. Hence large scale return of Keralite from the Gulf, fall in remittances, prolonged lockdown, quarantine, physical distancing and other isolation measures to suppress transmission of the COVID-19, the state's economy is heading towards a recession. The only category of workers who were not affected are those workers in public sector viz. state and central governments, public sector undertakings, autonomous institutions, universities and semi government institutions. Now Kerala government tries revival of economy by various schemes and policies like reviving COVID-19 affected sectors and sections of people, solve massive youth and educated unemployment problems, improve the fiscal situation, change in social welfare policies needed, rehabilitation of return emigrants and so on.

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ആബിദ ഹുസൈൻ



ആബിദ ഹുസൈൻ

പ്രെസ്റ്റർ ജോൺ

പെരിപ്ലത്തുകളിലും മിത്തുകളിലും കേട്ടുവന്ന ഒരു ഇതിഹാസ ഭരണാധികാരിയുടെ ചരിത്രസത്യം തേടിയിട്ടുള്ള യാത്രയാണ് 'പ്രെസ്റ്റർ ജോൺ', പശ്ചാതലം ലെബോറിന്റെ തന്ത്രപര്യടങ്ങളാണെങ്കിലും കഥാപാത്രസരതയിൽ പോർച്ചുഗീസും തന്റെ വിഹിതം പങ്കിട്ടെടുക്കുന്നു. നൂറ്റാണ്ടുകൾക്ക് മുമ്പ് ഒരു ലെബോർകാൽ യൂറോപ്പിന്റെ അജാദായിരുന്നോ എന്ന കൗതുകം വായനക്കാരെ ഭരിച്ചുകൊടുക്കും അവിസ്മലിനുള്ളൊന്നും നടത്തുന്നതുണ്ട്. വിദ്യയും യാഥാർത്ഥ്യവും വേർതിരിച്ചറിയാനാറ്റമത വിധം, ചരിത്രത്തെയും ഭാവനയെയും സന്തുതിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ ഒരുക്കിയിട്ടുള്ള ഹിസ്റ്റോറിക്കൽ ഇൻവെസ്റ്റിഗേഷൻ ശില്പം.

വായനക്കു തീർന്നശേഷം പ്രെസ്റ്റർ ജോൺ

PRESTER JOHN

പ്രെസ്റ്റർ ജോൺ



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