

UNIT

5

Migration



Learning Objectives

- To understand the concept of migration
- To learn about the extent of migration in India and Tamil Nadu
- To analyse the factors underlying migration



Introduction

Concept of Migration

In any settlement-village or town- change in population occurs due to birth, death and migration. Of these three components of population change, birth and death is clearly identifiable events while migration poses the maximum amount of problem with regards to its definition and measurement. As almost everyone keeps moving most of the time, it is not easy to define which of these moves have to be classified as migratory moves.

In the Census of India, migration is enumerated on two bases

- Place of birth:** If the place of birth is different from the place of enumeration (known as life-time migrant).
- Place of residence:** If the place of last residence is different from the place of enumeration (known as migrant, by place of last residence).

5.1 Extent of migration in India and Tamil Nadu

In India, the Census of 2011 enumerated a total population of 121 crores, of which 45 crore people were reported as migrants, according to the definition of the place of last residence. Similarly, in Tamil Nadu out of 7.2 crore people, 3.13 crore people were counted as migrants, in 2011. That is, the percentage of migrants was 37 percent in the country, while it was at a much higher rate in Tamil Nadu at 43 percent.

Generally, one tends to associate migration with urban areas. However, we find that in India as well as Tamil Nadu, the extent of migration is much higher in rural areas compared to urban areas. In 2011, 37 percent of the population are counted as migrants in rural areas while the corresponding percentage in urban India is 27 percent. In Tamil Nadu, migrants account for 41 percent in rural areas