

B.A. Part III (Economics Honours)
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Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act of 1979:

- It is enacted to regulate the condition of service of inter-state labourers in Indian labour law.
- The Act's purpose is to protect workers whose services are requisitioned outside their native states in India.

Provisions:

Rights of interstate workers: In addition to the general labour laws applicable to all workers, the interstate workers are entitled with-

- Equal or better wages for the similar nature & duration of work applicable for the local workmen or stipulated minimum wages under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 whichever is more.
- To displacement allowance, home journey allowance, suitable residential accommodation and medical facilities free of charge on mandatory basis.
- Termination of employment after the contract period without any liability.
- Right to lodge complaint with the authorities within three months of any incident, accident, etc.

Role of contractors:

- Registration of all contractors who employ five or more Inter State Migrant Workmen on any day of the preceding 12 months.
- Furnish the details of workmen periodically
- Maintain the registers indicating the details of interstate workers

- Issue of passbook affixed with a passport-sized photograph of the workman indicating the name and the place of the establishment where the worker is employed, the period of employment, rates of wages, etc...
- Liable for the prescribed punishments for violations committed under this Act.

Role of principal employers:

- Registration of all principal employers who employ or directly or indirectly five or more Inter State Migrant Workmen on any day of the preceding 12 months.
- Maintain the registers indicating the details of interstate workers
- Every principal employer shall nominate a representative duly authorized by him to be present at the time of disbursement of wages by the contractor.

Role of state governments:

- Appointment of inspectors to oversee implementation of this act.
- Appointment of registration officers to grant and revoke registration of contractors/ principal employers/ establishments.
- Appointment of licensing officers to grant, suspend and revoke licenses to contractors/ principal employers/ establishments.
- Entertaining appeals from the aggrieved parties and disposal of the same as per this Act

The Interstate Migrant Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 2011 proposed to make this Act gender neutral by amending its title and replacing the word 'workman and workmen' by the words 'worker and workers' respectively.

Internal migrant statistics census 2001 and 2011:

- The number of internal migrants in India was **450 million** as per the most recent 2011 census.
- This is an **increase of 45%** over the 309 million recorded in 2001.
- Internal migrants as a percentage of population increased from 30% in 2001 to 37% in 2011.
- However, the nature of movement has remained relatively unchanged since 2001.
- **Bulk of the movement (62%) is within the same district.**
- Another 26% is between districts within the same state.
- **Only 12% of movement is inter-state.**

	2001(%)	2011(%)
Work/employment	14.70	10.22
Business	1.20	0.96
Education	3.00	1.77
Marriage	43.80	49.35
Moved after birth	6.70	10.57
Moved with household	21.00	15.39
Other reason	9.70	11.74

Source: Census of India, 2011.

- Inter-state migrants represented only 4% of the population in India in 2011, a rate almost unchanged since 2001.
- A World Bank paper, using 2001 census data, attributes the low rate of internal migration to:
 - Non-portability of entitlements (such as the Public Distribution System)
 - Preferential norms in educational institutions
 - Domicile requirements for state government jobs

Trends and patterns of internal migration:

- India's in-migration is growing at 4.5 per cent annually.
- Pune and Surat are the cities most affected by in-migration in Asia.
- Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka account for a third of interstate migrants, while those from northern states account for another 20 per cent.

Census 2011 data on migration:

- It showed that over 45.58 crore Indians were found to be "migrants" for various reasons.
- The socio-economic development of the southern states is considerably higher and has attracted more people.
- While marriage remains the primary reason for women to migrate, the Census data shows that Indian women are also migrating for work and education.
- The number of Indian women who are economic migrants has grown by 129 per cent.

Economic Survey of India 2017:

- It estimates that the magnitude of inter-state migration in India was close to 9 million annually between 2011 and 2016.
- Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are the biggest source states, followed closely by Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, and Rajasthan.
- The major destination states are Maharashtra, UP, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala.