

**GULF LABOUR MIGRATION -A STUDY WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE  
TO KERALA**

*Dissertation submitted to*

**MAHATMA GANDHI UNIVERSITY**

*in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of the degree of*

**MASTER OF ARTS IN ECONOMICS**

By

**SHERIN TOM**

**Register No: AM14ECO011**

Under the guidance of

**Dr. SwathyVarma P.R.**



**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS  
ST.TERESA'S COLLEGE(AUTONOMOUS)  
ERNAKULAM  
MARCH 2016**



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## CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the dissertation titled "GULF LABOUR MIGRATION -A STUDY WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO KERALA", submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirement of MA Degree in Economics to the Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, is a record of bona fide research work done under my supervision and guidance.

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**Head of the Department**  
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**Guide and Supervisor**  
**Dr. Swathy Varma.P.R**



## DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the dissertation titled "GULF LABOUR MIGRATION -A STUDY WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO KERALA " submitted by me for the M.A. Degree in Economics is my original work.

*Swathy Varma*

Signature of Supervisor

Dr.Swathy Varma.P.R

*Sherin Tom*

Signature of Candidate

Sherin Tom



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## **Abbreviations**

**ICPD** - International Conference on Population and Development.

**POI**- Person of Indian Origin.

**MOIA**-Ministry of Overseas Internal Affairs.

**CHAPTER I**  
**INTRODUCTION**

## 1.1. INTRODUCTION

Migration is a universal phenomenon. The origin of migration can be traced to the origin of human kind. Migration takes place in two ways; external migration and internal migration. External migration occurs when people migrate from a country to foreign country. On the other hand internal migration occurs from region to region within a country. If we look back to the history, we can notice the contribution of migration to the development of countries like America and Middle East countries. Migration can be voluntary or involuntary movements. Voluntary migration is a movement of people from region to region or country to country to earn a livelihood. Apart from this there is forced migration due to natural calamities, wars, and diseases etc., called as involuntary migration. In India internal and external; voluntary as well as involuntary migration can be noticed from the history. But in the recent past, say during last three or four decades voluntary external migration has gained momentum due to complexity of modern human life and fast changing socio-economic conditions.<sup>1</sup>

Globalization around the world has resulted in labour movement between labour markets. Migration from one country to another country has become a common phenomenon. This international migration contributes to the development of both sending as well as receiving countries even though the contribution to sending country is significant. The contribution of migration to development can be seen at family level and community level. At family level, migration may improve household earnings, food, health, housing and educational standards. At the community level, improvement can be noticed in health, education, sanitation and infrastructure benefiting both migrants and non-migrant households. The oil boom of 1973 in Persian Gulf motivated the oil exporting countries in the region to come out with development plans constrained by labour shortages. This new labour market attracted both skilled and unskilled labour from the countries like India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh and South East Asian countries. The poverty, unemployment, low wages and poor standards of living in India caused many Indians to migrate to Gulf to en cash the new opportunities. In India the southern state of Kerala received much attention in the 1970s in view of the large number of emigrants to gulf countries which resulted in a paradigm shift in the socio-economic conditions of certain regions in Kerala.<sup>2</sup>

The emigrants migrating to the countries like USA, Middle East, Canada, European countries, South Asian countries and others to find better occupational opportunities. These migrants vary from unskilled workers to large scale businessmen. So the present study tries to examine the contribution of gulf migration to Indian economy.

## **1.2 REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

This section is to make an overview of various studies on international migration with a view to get a vivid picture of the problems associated with Gulf Keralities.

In the last two decades several studies were conducted about the Kerala work force that migrated to the Middle East and allied topics, which are rich sources of secondary data for this study.

Parveen Nangia and Uma Saha (2001), in their thesis "Profiles of Emigrants from India :A Comparative study of Kerala and Punjab" made a comparative study of migration from Punjab and Kerala and found that emigration from Kerala is much higher than Punjab. Majority of emigrants from Punjab came from Jalandhar district alone, whereas in Kerala emigrants originate from much larger area consisting of most of the Kerala districts. In Kerala the migrants are from Malappuram(21 percent) , Kannur(15 percent)and Trichur and Kollam districts(11 percent each).In Punjab the majority of migrants are from Jalandhar (52 percent) followed by Hoshiarpur(16 percent).Since most of the migrants from Kerala go to the Gulf countries ,where they are not allowed permanent residence, their skills are only a temporary loss to the country .Majority of emigrants from Punjab are nearly half from Kerala work in production and transport related activities. Emigrants are mostly young males and hail from socially and economically better off families. From Punjab, Sikhs and from Kerala, Muslims have a greater stake in emigration.<sup>3</sup>

Zacharia, Mathew and S Irudaya Rajan (2002), "Migration Patterns and their Socio-Economics in 'Kerala's Gulf Connection, CDS study on International labour migration from Kerala state in India' estimated that the number of emigrants from Kerala in the second half of 1993 was 1.36 million and the total cash remittance received by Kerala households during the a 12-month period in 1998 was 35,304 million.<sup>4</sup>

Kannan and Hari (2002), "International labour migration from Kerala", argued that migration made a very positive impact on Kerala. Due to migration, the number of unemployed people declined by more than 30 per cent. Workers remittances to Kerala, which is estimated to be 13 to 14 thousand crores constituted as much as 22 per cent of the Net State Domestic Product by 2000. Remittances in 2001 were larger than the annual budget for Kerala 2001-2002.<sup>5</sup>

Chandra Mowli (1992) "Bridging the Gulf: India's manpower migration to West Asia" stated that India and Pakistan are the major suppliers of labour to the Gulf. The favoured destinations of Indians have been Saudi Arabia, closely followed by Oman and the UAE, and then Kuwait and Bahrain.<sup>6</sup>

Albert Hourani (1991), in "A History of Arab peoples" reported that the migrant workers in the oil producing countries might earn more than they could hope to in their own countries, but had no security and no possibility of improving their position by concerted action. They could be removed at will and there were others waiting to take their places. By the end of 1970's, they were even more vulnerable, since many of them no longer came from Arab countries but were brought in temporarily and on contract from other countries.<sup>7</sup>

The Centre for Development Studies (CDS) conducted four large-scale Kerala migration surveys covering 10,000 households since 1998 to assess the levels and trends of international migration from Kerala and its impact on Kerala economy and society. The first Kerala migration survey (1998) concluded that migration has provided the single most dynamic factor in the otherwise dismal scenario of Kerala in the last quarter of the twentieth century. It is one of the positive outcomes of the Kerala Model of Development. In Kerala, migration must have contributed more to poverty alleviation than any other factor including agrarian reforms, trade union activities and social welfare legislation.<sup>8</sup>

Rachna Subrahmaniam (2001), "Relocation Blues", The Sunday Times of India, reported that during the past few decades, international migration has taken new strides in India and every hundreds of thousands of Indians are quitting their regular jobs for greener pastures abroad.<sup>9</sup>



Briks, Secombe and Sinclair (1985), in their , “Migration Workers in the Arab Gulf: Impact of declining oil reserve” estimated that in 1985 the sock of Indian migrant workers in the middle east region was 1.1 million.<sup>10</sup>

Ravi Ram K (2004), “Asian Development Bank: The Adverse implications and search for alternatives” Centre for development studies one working paper stated that India gets \$10 billion from the migrant workers of which more than half of it is from Kerala expatriates of the Gulf. The domestic savings in the scheduled bank, which also include remittances from Kerala’s expatriates is Rs.600 billion. Of this amount only 250 billion is given as credit in the state. The state should use the remittance of Gulf Keralities as a bargaining chip to get more resources for its development.<sup>11</sup>

Pushpangadhan (2003), in article “Remittance, consumption and economic growth” concluded that the first and foremost area for the growth of Kerala economy is the promotion of migration. This would imply, among other things, state’s active involvement in locating the hidden markets for skilled labour globally and providing them world-class training facilities. Such hidden opportunities include demand for middle level computer technicians in France and global demand for teachers and health sector professionals.<sup>12</sup>

Zacharia and his team (2001), “Migration Patterns and their Socio-Economics in Kerala Gulf connection”, CDS Studies on International labour migration from India attribute demographic expansion, agricultural stagnation, educational expansion, and the lack of growth in secondary and tertiary sectors as the main reasons for out migration from Kerala. The study stated that 1.5 million Keralities reside outside the state and they remit collectively Rs.40,000 million a year to the state. Migration in Kerala began with demographic contraction.<sup>13</sup>

South and Crowder (1998), “Residential mobility between cities and suburbs : race sub urbanization and back to the city moves”, found that there is a strong positive effect of educational attainment on the likelihood of migrating. They also found that education has a stronger effect on black mobility than the white mobility.<sup>14</sup>

Studies conducted by Gulani (1993), "The impact of Male migration on Women" showed that unemployment is the main reason for emigration from state.<sup>15</sup>

Haider Yusaf Sai (1997) in his article 'Pakistani labour migration to the Middle East' Economic and industrial publication asserted that migration to the Middle East has generated resources that do not favour the privileged classes on an immediate basis, while it has brought immense benefits for the rural areas, particularly in the form of individual benefits to the individuals. The sharp increase in remittance income from the middle East, from the early 1970's onwards, became an increasingly significant factor in easing Pakistan's balance of payment Account. In 1982-83 when the official remittance income from the Middle East peaked at U.S \$: 3 billion, it represented more than 90 percent of Pakistan's annual export earning. The government of Pakistan has generally viewed the migration process as a positive factor and has taken steps to promote it. Pre-existing ties between Pakistan and the Middle East region, established on the basis of religion, historical associations and geographic proximity were additional factors, which helped facilitate the acceptability of Pakistani labour.<sup>16</sup>

Bimal Ghosh (1997) in his paper 'Migration and Development: Some Selected Issues' explained the relation between International migration and development. He stated that "Both economic theory and common sense tend to confirm this, as does the history of many nations which have built their economic prosperity, alongside flourishing culture, through successive waves of immigration." According to him emigration usually does not involve more than 2 per cent of a country's labour force. In 1973 Turkey had one million migrants abroad, which was 6 per cent of its labour force. In 1991 more than 16 per cent of Haiti's population were outside the country. Large-scale migration from Egypt to the Gulf States in the 1970's helped it keep the unemployment rate under control.<sup>17</sup>

Adams and Page (2003), in their study "The impact of international migration and development" has attempted an assessment of the relationship between poverty, migration and remittances for 74 low and middle-income developing countries. The major finding is that both international migration and international remittance have a strong, statistical impact on reducing poverty in the developing world. According to them, a ten percent increase in the share of international migrants in a country's population will lead to a 1.6 percent decline in the poverty head count.<sup>18</sup>

### **1.3. Objectives of the study**

The main objectives of the study includes:

1. To analyse the labour migration trends in India & Kerala.
2. To examine the socio-economic & working conditions of the emigrants from Kerala.

### **1.4. Problem Identification**

After 1970, there was a major shift in the migration trend in India. The oil price increase in 1973 gave rise to a massive investment program by the oil producing Arab countries, resulting in an increase in demand for labour (Shekhar 1977). These oil producing countries permitted the immigration of workers from other countries. This process resulted in a massive emigration of workers from India to gulf countries. The boom in software industry during 1990 to 2000 also motivated the computer professional to migrate to USA, European countries, South Asian Countries and gulf countries. In India the southern state of Kerala received much attention in the 1970s in view of the large number of emigrants to gulf countries. The emigration to Gulf countries totally changed the socio-economic conditions of certain regions in Kerala like Malappuram, Kasargod and Thrissur. The changes have been eroded into the consumption pattern, investment pattern, life style, religion and education. As a result, economically and culturally, some parts of the state simulate the Gulf countries. Some of the migrants have come back and settled down in their native places seeking self employment. So the study aims to analyse the educational, social, political and economical status of gulf migrants from Kerala and trends in gulf migration.

## **1.5. Present Relevance of the Study**

International labour migration from Kerala to the Gulf countries and consequent inflow of remittances has brought many changes in the economic and social life of the emigrant family and the society as well. The studies have noted that there was significant improvement in the educational level of the members of the emigrant family and in the society. Majority of the emigrants from Kerala to the Gulf countries belong to the Muslim community who are backward socially, economically and educationally. As a result of changes in the socio-economic characteristics of the emigrant households and the knowledge about the changing nature of the demand for labour in the Gulf regions, the emigrants began to give more and better education to their children. The changes in the immigration policies of Gulf countries which restricts visa for unskilled workers have also persuaded the emigrants to provide better education to their children. The increased demand for higher and better education from among the children of emigrant families has resulted in the development of educational institutions in the emigration centered regions. This has enhanced the skill and educational standards of the children of emigrant families. As such, it seems that emigration has boosted the growth of educational institutions and the growth of educational institutions have resulted in the migration of skilled and better educated laborers to the Gulf.

## **1.6. Concepts and Definitions**

**Migration:** - Migration is a form of geographical mobility from one geographical unit to another and normally involves a change of residence from the place of origin to the place of destination permanently or semi- permanently.

**International Migration:** - The term international migration is used to refer the movement of people from one country to another.

**Immigration and Emigration:** - Immigration and emigration are related to international migration. However, immigration means movement of people into a particular country, while emigration is movement of people from a particular country.

**Emigrant household:-** The household having at least one male member of the family (head of the family) working in a Gulf country for five years or more and continuing there at the time of the survey is considered as an emigrant household.

**Remittances:** - Remittances are defined as the share of foreign based earnings sent by emigrants to their relatives in the home country in the form of cash.

**NRK (Non-Resident Keralite):-** Non-Resident Keralite is a person who is either an emigrant or a return emigrant.

**GCC Countries:** - GCC countries mean Gulf Co-operation Council Countries which include countries like Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and UAE.

## **1.7. Methodology**

### **SOURCE OF DATA :**

The study is based on both the primary and secondary data although the major thrust of the study is on primary data. The necessary secondary data was collected from reports and publications of various departments of the Government of India and Kerala. Census Reports, Reports of the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Economic Reviews, Economic Surveys, Human Development Reports etc. are also used. In addition, World Bank Review, Journal of Social and Economic Development, Working Papers of Centre for Development Studies, Economic and Political Weekly, International Migration Journals, etc. were also referred. For the empirical analysis, the primary data is collected from the workers of 'The Challenge and Achievement Group, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

### **AREA OF STUDY:**

The area selected for the present study is migrated labour to Gulf. The Challenge and Achievement Group, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia Company selected for taking representative sample.

**SAMPLING SIZE:** A total of 50 respondents were selected for the study,(ie., 10 % of total 500 population from migrated workers).



## **SAMPLING:**

Random sampling technique used for the selection of sample of 50 respondents, data was collected through online questionnaires.

## **PERIOD OF STUDY:**

All the data were collected during 2015-2016.

## **1.8. Scheme of the study**

The study is organized in four chapters:

**Chapter one** includes the introduction and relevance of the study, objectives, methodology, review of literature, limitations and scheme of the study.

**Chapter two** gives an overview of trends in Gulf labour migration.

**Chapter three-** Analysis of Socio-economic background of Gulf migrated labour.

**Chapter four-**This chapter provides major findings and recommendations and conclusion.

## **1.9. Limitations**

1. An important limitation of the study is that the sample size taken was small. A larger sample may yield better results.
2. The findings of the study entirely depends on the reliability of the data given by the respondents.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **Trends in Gulf Labour Migration- An Overview**

Indian emigration has been taking place since centuries, but never before in history had India witnessed such massive movements of people from the country to other parts of the world as in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

## **2.1. INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION TRENDS– AN OVERVIEW**

The number of international migrants worldwide has continued to grow rapidly over the past fifteen years reaching 244 million in 2015, up from 222 million in 2010 and 173 million in 2000. Nearly two thirds of all international migrants live in Europe (76 million) or Asia (75 million). Northern America hosted the third largest number of international migrants (54 million), followed by Africa (21 million), Latin America and the Caribbean (9 million) and Oceania (8 million). In 2015, two thirds (67 per cent) of all international migrants were living in just twenty countries. The largest number of international migrants (47 million) resided in the United States of America, equal to about a fifth (19 per cent) of the world's total. Germany and the Russian Federation hosted the second and third largest numbers of migrants worldwide (12 million each), followed by Saudi Arabia (10 million).<sup>19</sup>

In 2014, the total number of refugees in the world was estimated at 19.5 million. Turkey became the largest refugee-hosting country worldwide, with 1.6 million refugees, followed by Pakistan (1.5 million), Lebanon (1.2 million), and the Islamic Republic of Iran (1.0 million). More than half (53 percent) of all refugees worldwide came from just three countries: the Syrian Arab Republic (3.9 million), Afghanistan (2.6 million), and Somalia (1.1 million).<sup>20</sup>

The median age of international migrants worldwide was 39 years in 2015, a slight increase from 38 years in 2000. Yet in some major areas, the migrant stock is becoming younger. Between 2000 and 2015, the median age of international migrants declined in Asia, Latin

America and the Caribbean, and Oceania.<sup>21</sup>

Most migrants worldwide originate from middle -income countries (157 million in 2015). Between 2000 and 2015, the number of migrants originating from middle-income countries increased more rapidly than those from countries in any other income group. The majority of migrants from middle-income countries were living in a high income country. In 2015, of the 244 million international migrants worldwide, 104 million (43 per cent), were born in Asia. Europe was the birthplace of the second largest number (62 million or 25 per cent), followed by Latin America and the Caribbean (37 million or 15 per cent) and Africa (34 million or 14 per cent).<sup>22</sup>

In 2015, India had the largest “diaspora” in the world (16 million), followed by Mexico (12 million). Other countries with large diasporas included the Russian Federation (11 million), China (10 million), Bangladesh (7 million), and Pakistan and Ukraine (6million, each). Between 2000 and 2015, positive net migration contributed to 42 per cent of the population growth in Northern America and 32 per cent in Oceania. In Europe the size of the population would have fallen between 2000 and 2015 in the absence of positive net migration.<sup>23</sup>

The ratification of United Nations legal instruments related to international migrants and migration remains uneven. As of October 2015, 36 Member States had ratified all five of the United Nations legal instruments related to international migration, while 14 Member States had ratified none of the relevant instruments.

Since the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), the issue of international migration and its relation to development has risen steadily on the agenda of the international community. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development not only includes several migration-related targets, but also encourages countries to disaggregate targets by, inter alia, migratory status.

In today’s increasingly interconnected world, international migration has become a reality that touches nearly all corners of the globe, often making distinctions between countries of origin, transit and destination obsolete. Modern transportation has made it easier, cheaper and faster for people to move. At the same time conflict, poverty, inequality and lack of decent jobs are among the reasons that compel people to leave their homes in search of better futures for themselves and

their families. When supported by appropriate policies, migration can contribute to inclusive and sustainable economic growth and development in both home and host communities.

In 2014, migrants from developing countries sent home an estimated US \$436 billion in remittances; a 4.4 percent increase over the 2013 level (World Bank 2015), far exceeding official development assistance and, excluding China, foreign direct investment. These funds are often used to improve the livelihoods of families and communities through investments in education, health, sanitation, housing and infrastructure. Countries of destination can also benefit from migration. In countries of destination, migrants often fill critical labour shortages, create jobs as entrepreneurs, and contribute in terms of taxes and social security contributions. Migrants, as some of the most dynamic members of society, can also forge new paths in science, medicine and technology and enrich their host communities by promoting cultural diversity. In spite of the many benefits of migration, migrants themselves remain among the most vulnerable members of society. They are often the first to lose their job in the event of an economic downturn, often working for less pay, for longer hours, and in worse conditions than national workers. While for many migration is an empowering experience, others endure human rights violations, abuse and discrimination. Migrants, particularly women and children, are too often victims of human trafficking and the heinous forms of exploitation that human trafficking entails. Further, in many parts of the world, migration remains one of the few options for people, particularly young people, to find decent work, and escape poverty, persecution and violence.<sup>24</sup>

## **2.2 INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION FROM INDIA**

According to the Ministry of External Affairs (2001), New Delhi, the approximate number of Indians settled throughout the world in 133 countries as around 16.9 million of which 51 percent are people of Indian origin.<sup>25</sup>

There are about 10,000 Indians or more in 48 countries and more than a half million persons of Indian descent in 11 countries. Among the migrants of diverse nationalities, overseas Indians constitute a sizeable segment. According to the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA), India has the second largest diaspora in the world (MOIA 2008). Of this, around 0.5 million Indians were reported as stateless population in 11 countries-Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Finland, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Myanmar, Netherlands, Philippines, Switzerland and



Venezuela. The highest number of stateless Indian population is reported in Myanmar with 0.4 million.<sup>26</sup>

Interestingly, around 3.3 million Indians (about 85 percent) live in six countries (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE) in the Middle East.

Six countries in the world reported to have more than 1 million Indians (Malaysia, Myanmar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, the UK and the US). Incidentally the POI contributes minimal remittances to the Indian economy as they stay with their family. They do not transfer cash to the home countries to support their families. This is not true among Indian citizens who work as contract labourers or other professionals in most of the countries in the Gulf region. Among the Gulf countries, Saudi Arabia leads with 1.5 million Indians, followed by the UAE(0.9 million) , Kuwait and Oman (o.3 million each), and Qatar and Bahrain(0.1 million).No breakdown exists by gender at an all-India level.

### **2.3.LABOUR MIGRATION FROM INDIA**

Migration of workers from India to other countries is not a new phenomenon. The MOIA , Government of India, maintain records of individuals who obtain emigration clearance to work abroad. Earlier, the destination of Indian workers was mainly to the US , the UK Canada and other developing countries.

Indian migration to the Gulf has a history of several centuries but it received a fillip only with the discovery of oil fields and the commencement of oil drilling on a commercial basis in this region. The oil price hike in October 1973 marked watershed in the migration process. The massive demand for labour was accounted for by the sudden growth in construction industry as the Gulf countries, which became immensely wealthy overnight, embarked on a frenzy of building a new infrastructure of roads, ports and airports, as well as schools, colleges and administrative blocks, symbols of the new wealth. For the additional labour required, they turned to more distant, non-Arab countries such as India.

The number of workers that emigrated from India as contractual employment workers over the last several years is presented in Table 2.1. The number is very small compared to the total number of emigrants reported earlier because many emigrants do not require emigration

clearance from the Government of India. As per the emigration act 1983, 17 categories of persons have been exempted from emigration clearance and are placed under 'emigration clearance not required' category. The initial flow of contractual labour from India started with a low profile with just 0.16 million in 1985, reached a peak with 0.44 million in 1993, the slowly declined and is currently on an increasing trend with 0.37 million in 2002 and reaching a peak 0.9 million in 2007 and 0.84 in 2008.

**Table 2.1**

**Trends in Labour Emigration from India, 1985-2008**

<b>Year</b>	<b>1985</b>	<b>1986</b>	<b>1987</b>	<b>1988</b>	<b>1989</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>1993</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1996</b>
<b>In million</b>	0.16	0.11	0.13	0.17	0.13	0.14	0.20	0.42	0.44	0.43	0.42	0.42
<b>Year</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
<b>In million</b>	0.42	0.37	0.20	0.24	0.28	0.37	0.47	0.47	0.55	0.68	0.81	0.84

**Source: Compiled from various annual reports of the Ministry of Labour, Government of India and the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India.**

Migration outflows from India into four phases. The first phase covers period between 1985 and 1991, which witnessed the annual volume of emigration ranging between 0.11 million to 0.20 million. The second phase is the first half of 1990's (1992-1997) when the annual outflow of labour was more than 0.40 million. The third phase started after 1998 when a heavy fall in emigration took place in the annual outflow of labour. The last phase is the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century when the annual outflow has been on the increase, reaching close to 0.9 million in 2007.<sup>27</sup>

**Table 2.2**

**Labour Outflows from India by Destination 1988-2008**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Bahrain</b>	<b>Kuwait</b>	<b>Oman</b>	<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	<b>UAE</b>	<b>Others</b>	<b>Total</b>

1988	8,219	9,653	18,696	85,289	34,029	9,348	1,65,234
1989	8,520	5,679	16,574	49,710	28,189	11,786	1,20,458
1990	6,782	1,077	34,267	79,473	11,962	6,300	1,39,861
1991	8,630	7,044	22,333	1,30,928	15,446	7,121	1,91,502
1992	16,458	19,782	49,990	2,65,180	60,493	13,971	4,16,784
1993	15,662	26,981	29,056	2,69,639	77,066	19,974	4,38,338
1994	13,806	24,324	25,142	2,65,875	75,762	20,476	4,25,385
1995	11,235	16,439	22,338	2,56,782	79,674	28,866	4,15,334
1996	16,647	14,580	30,113	2,14,068	1,12,644	26,162	4,14,214
1997	17,944	13,170	29,994	2,14,420	1,10,945	29,951	4,16,424
1998	16,997	22,462	29,774	1,05,239	1,34,740	54,952	3,55,164
1999	14,905	19,149	16,101	27,160	79,269	42,968	1,99,552
2000	15,909	31,082	25,155	59,722	55,099	56,215	2,43,182
2001	16,382	39,751	30,985	78,048	53,673	59,825	2,78,664
2002	20,807	4,859	41,209	99,453	95,034	1,06,301	3,67,663
2003	24,778	54,434	36,816	1,21,431	1,43,804	44,044	4,66,456
2004	22,980	52,064	33,275	1,23,522	1,75,262	10,715	4,74,960
2005	30,060	39,124	40,931	99,879	1,94,412	15,945	5,48,853
2006	37,688	47,449	67,992	1,34,059	2,54,774	14,175	6,76,912
2007	29,966	48,467	95,462	1,95,437	3,12,695	3,550	8,09,453

Source: Compiled from various annual reports of the Ministry of Labour, Government of India and the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India.

Around 95 percent of labour outflows reached six destinations (Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman and Qatar) in the Middle East in 1988. This trend continued till 2002 with 75 percent going to these countries. Singapore and Malaysia may also be added to the recent list of countries to which labour migrated from India. In 2002, 24,399 labourers migrated from India to Singapore and another 10,512 to Malaysia. In 1994, Saudi Arabia led with 65 percent annual labour outflows from India followed by the UAE. Even in absolute numbers, except in 1999, Saudi Arabia attracted a large number of Indian-labourers. This is also true for 2002. The available labour outflow reveals that Gulf countries became an important destination for Indians. (Table 2.2).

## 2.4. LABOUR MIGRATION FROM KERALA

State-wise breakdown of the number of workers granted emigration clearance is available for the years between 1999 to 2013 (Table 2.3). There has been a continuous decline in the number of emigration of workers in almost all states until 1999, followed by a slow increase. Kerala accounts for the largest number of workers, followed by Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. Some of the other states having a sizeable number of labour emigrants are Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab and Rajasthan. One of the reasons for the high labour migration in Kerala is that persons holding secondary level education are exempted from emigration clearance. States such as Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal have the highest number of literates in the country. Until recently, Kerala reported the highest flow of labour migration.

**Table 2.3**

### LABOUR MIGRATION FROM KERALA

Year	Andhra Pradesh	Karnataka	Kerala	Maharashtra	Punjab	Rajasthan	Tamil Nadu	Others
2000	35,578	34,380	1,55,208	35,248	14,212	25,243	70,313	68,156
2001	34,508	32,266	1,54,407	32,178	12,445	27,418	70,525	61,638
2002	30,284	33,496	1,65,629	26,312	11,852	28,374	65,737	53,650

2003	29,995	33,761	1,67,325	25,214	11,751	18,221	64,991	62,956
2004	38,278	40,396	1,56,102	25,146	12,414	28,242	63,672	52,174
2005	30,599	11,535	91,720	24,657	26,786	19,824	69,793	80,160
2006	18,983	5,287	60,455	9,871	15,167	98,09	47,402	32,588
2007	29,999	10,927	69,630	13,346	10,025	10,170	63,878	35,207
2008	37,331	10,095	61,548	22,713	12,422	14,993	61,649	57,913
2009	38,417	14,061	81,950	25,477	19,638	23,254	79,165	85,701
2010	65,971	22,641	92,0446	29,350	24,963	34,693	89,464	0
2011	72,580	19,237	63,512	28,670	25,302	35,108	1,08,964	0
2012	48,498	75,384	1,25,075	29,289	24,088	21,899	1,17,050	24
2013	97,680	24,362	1,20,083	15,356	39,311	50,236	1,55,631	1,909
2014	1,05,044	27,014	1,50,475	21,496	53,942	70,896	1,50,842	924

**Source: Compiled from various annual reports , of the Ministry of Labour, Government of India and the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India.**

United Arab Emirates which attracted 38.7 percent of the Kerala emigrants retained the first position with respect to emigration among all the countries. However, its relative share declined from 41.9 percent in 2008 to 88.7 percent in 2011. On the other hand, Saudi Arabia improved its relative position accommodating 25.2 percent of emigrants from Kerala. The largest number of emigrants is from Malappuram district 4,44,100 or 18.8 percent of the total. Kannur district comes second with 2,90,000 emigrants or 12.4 per cent of the total. Trivandrum district and Trissur district comes third and fourth respectively. Wayanad and Idukki district comes last, as the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> in the order. Muslim-dominated Malappuram district was the origin of the

largest number of emigrants in 2014 ; it also had the highest number of emigrants in the previous years. It is been retaining its number one position in all the migration surveys.

Kuwait and Qatar are the other Gulf countries that have improved their relative share of Kerala emigrants. Among the countries outside the Gulf region, the principle ones are the USA and the UK. While the relative share of Kerala emigrants in UK increased, that of USA decreased.

## **2.5. IMPACT OF LABOUR MIGRATION**

Based on its nature and characteristics, international labour migration maybe classified in to traditional type and contract type. In the traditional type of migration, people from developing countries migrate to developed countries in order to avail of better jobs, opportunities and living conditions and to settle there. On the other hand, in contract migration return is an essential part of the migration process. Here workers are hired for contractual jobs for a definite time period and are expected to return after the expiry of the contract period. Usually, during the period of staying abroad, the migrants leave their families behind in their home countries. In order to support their families, the emigrants send remittances on a regular basis. The economic impacts of the contract migration are thus substantial in the domestic economies of the labour exporting countries. The areas which witness substantial impacts are the labour markets, balance of payments, savings, investments, distribution of income and regional development.

Among the total migrants from India, majority has chosen the gulf countries as their destination. Therefore, Gulf countries are the important destinations for Indians to seek better job opportunities. Indians working in the Middle East mostly in UAE and Saudi Arabia- amount to only one percent of the country's total labour force-through their remittances have considerably impacted the regional economies of poorer Indian states like Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh in addition to Kerala (Steve, 2005).

According to Reserve Bank of India, Indians worldwide remit about US\$ 15 billion a year contributing about 3% of the gross national product. The contribution of remittances to Kerala economy is more significant compared to its contribution to the overall Indian economy. Compared to Indian economy whose share in remittances from all countries is about 3% of the Gross Domestic Product, the share of Kerala is 22% of Net State Domestic Product. The importance of remittances in Kerala economy can also be noticed from other comparisons. The

remittances were 1.74 times the revenue receipts of the state, 1.8 times of the annual expenditure of the Kerala Government and 7 times of what the state received from the Central Government. The remittances were sufficient to wipe out 60% of the states debt in 2003. The remittances in 2003 were 15 times the export earnings from cashew and 18 times that from marine products. The effect of remittances on Kerala's per capita annual income in 2003 was an increase of Rs.5,678 (Zachariah and Irudaya 2004). The Kerala's per capita income reached 49 percent above the national average in 1999-2000 (Kannan and Hari 2002).

The impact of gulf migration on development is more visible in Kerala State since 50 percent of the Indian contract workers in gulf countries are from Kerala (Nair 1998; ILO 1988). The contribution of gulf migration to development can be seen in various areas like housing, transportation, town planning, educational and religious institutions, amenities and other infrastructural facilities. The main impact of migration is on housing sector. After 1970s, Kerala has witnessed the construction of palatial houses due to the remittances sent by the migrant workers from gulf countries. According to Kerala Migration Study conducted by Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, an index of the value of the house of an emigrant was 7.05 compared to 4.3 of a non-migrant. Same time 87 percent of migrant houses are electrified compared to 66 percent of the non-migrant (Zachariah et al. 2002). The housing revolution in Kerala has increased the land prices along with prices of construction materials and wages of construction workers which had adverse effect on poor households. The best example for contribution of gulf migration to development is the construction of two international airports in Kerala namely Calicut and Cochin by the initiation and association of gulf migrants. The development can also be noticed in the commercial sector. The growth in number of commercial complexes, jewellery outlets, hotels and hospitals during 1980s and 1990s with international standards proves the contribution of gulf migration to the development.

Gulf migration provides four lakhs jobs for Indians every year. The major impact of the labour market is the reduction of unemployment through migration of unemployed workforce (Paul and Subash 2005). The attractive wages and living standards in gulf countries attracted semi-skilled and un-skilled workforce from India to Middle East. This trend reduced the unemployment rate in some parts of India. The Kerala Migration study of 1998 notes that the unemployment rates in Kerala state has reduced by about 3 percent as a consequence of migration (Zakaria et al. 2002).

However, this reduction in unemployment is insignificant when compared to unemployment rate in India. The total migrant in Middle East constitute only one per cent of total workforce in India. But, at the same time it has major impact on labour market in some parts of the country. The migration has created certain problems in labour market in Kerala. The migration of semiskilled and un-skilled workers has increased demand for certain categories of workers within Kerala. The Kerala's labour market experienced considerable shortage for semi-skilled labourers such as carpenters, welders, plumbers, drivers, electrician, motor mechanics and other craftsmen (Nair 1986). There are three reasons for this change (Prakash 1998): first, the majority of migrants migrated to gulf are construction workers including workers like, electrician, carpenters, masons etc. Second, migrants use their remittances mainly for constructing new houses, repairing houses, improving land etc. creating more demand for construction workers. Third, reluctance of young people to engage manual work due to increase in education level or increase in standard of living through the earnings of parents working in gulf countries. The shortage of construction and other workforce in Kerala resulted in-migration of workers from Tamil Nadu and Karnataka to Kerala. Another impact of gulf migration in the labour market was the increase in vocational education and training. A number of institutions have been opened in Kerala to provide the need based training to the gulf migrants. This includes construction related courses, motor operations, machine operations, welding, computer education, catering, technician, para-medical courses etc. (Paul and Subah 2005). The return migration is another feature of gulf migration. The short-term employment contracts and low wages force the migrants to return to their home country and seek employment in the domestic labour market. Many return migrants resist accepting low paid jobs in the domestic market. As a result, many return migrants started their own business enterprises which have created jobs for unemployed youth in the domestic labour market. Return migrants also migrate to other states in India searching for new business opportunities.

Another change that occurred in the labour market was the introduction of vocational education and training for skills. In order to migrate to the Gulf, unemployed youth began to join courses that helped them acquire skills required for jobs in the Middle East. A number of vocational courses were started by private agencies to train young people. The courses started include construction-related courses, motor operation, machine operation, welding, computer operations,



catering, tailoring and paramedical courses. This has resulted in a qualitative change in the vocational education system in Kerala.

The impact of migration on consumption, savings and investment are largely determined by the amount of remittances sent by migrants and the utilization pattern of remittances. The income of the migrant households is much higher than the non-migrant households. Due to higher incomes, the monthly expenditure was also higher in the case of migrant households compared to non-migrant households. Migrant households incurred higher expenditure on food, clothing, education, fuel, light, travel, entertainment, medical expenses, etc. The households also spent on marriages, other ceremonies and on durable goods.

The migrant households have higher incomes, better consumption levels and asset position compared to non-migrant households. They invest the major share of their savings on the land and houses. Their investment is also done in building, gold, insurance, consumer durables, vehicles etc.

The impacts on poverty and income distribution may be classified into direct and indirect. Direct impact is on the migrant households which receive remittances. Indirect impacts include all those spillover effects such as increase in wages , employment opportunities and increase in the price of land , consumer items and services .Direct and indirect impacts have affected the welfare of the migrant and non-migrant households differently.

The majority of the migrants were poor at the time of migration. Once they started receiving remittances from abroad they attained substantial increases in the level of their incomes. A large number of low income households were pushed up to higher income levels due to the receipt of remittances. The impact will be great as seven districts of Kerala had a large concentration of migration. Large inflow of remittances resulted in a spurt in construction activities and employment. Large employment opportunities were generated in tertiary activities like transport, communications, trade, commerce, education, health services and banking. There was an increase in the wage rate of all categories of casual workers. Thus, receipt of remittances by the poor households, generation of employment in the construction and in the tertiary sector and the increase in the wage rates have resulted in the increase in the income levels of the poor people in Kerala.

The Kerala Migration Survey-2014 has found that flow of Keralites to abroad still continues mainly because of the state's inability to provide suitable jobs for the increasing number of educated youths and the glamour associated with Gulf migration was still strong among the state's youth. The increase in migration in the latest survey was contrary to the force at in the previous survey in 2011 that migration would decline within three to four years.

Kerala is not able to create jobs suitable for an increasing larger number of youngsters with a secondary or higher level of education. As long as the employment conditions in India does not improve, more of the Kerala youngsters could be expected to try their luck abroad.

Besides, the glamour associated with Gulf migration is still very strong among the Kerala youngsters. This is an important positive factor in their decision to emigrate instead of working in the state.

The number of Kerala emigrants as estimated by the migration survey in 2014 is 23.63lakhs. The corresponding number was 22.81 lakhs in 2011, 21.93 lakhs in 2008, 18.38 lakhs in 2003 and 13.62 lakhs in 1998. These numbers indicate that emigration from Kerala has been increasing since 1998. Between 2011 and 2014, the total number of emigrants from Kerala increased by about 81,000.

The report said remittances to Kerala have continued to grow ever since Keralities started migrating to the Gulf region.

In the total population of Kerala, Muslim population is only about 26.5 percent and Muslim households are only 21.8 per cent of the total households in the state. According to both per capita-wise and household-wise, Muslims in Kerala receive a much higher share of the remittances that come to Kerala. While more than half of the Muslim households have either an emigrant or return emigrant, less than a fifth of the Hindu households have an emigrant or return emigrant.

Along with the increase in migration, the number of in turn emigrants has also increased. The number of return emigrants to Kerala in 2014 was 12.48 lakhs, which is about 52 percent of the number of emigrants. The corresponding numbers were 11.50 lakhs in 2011.

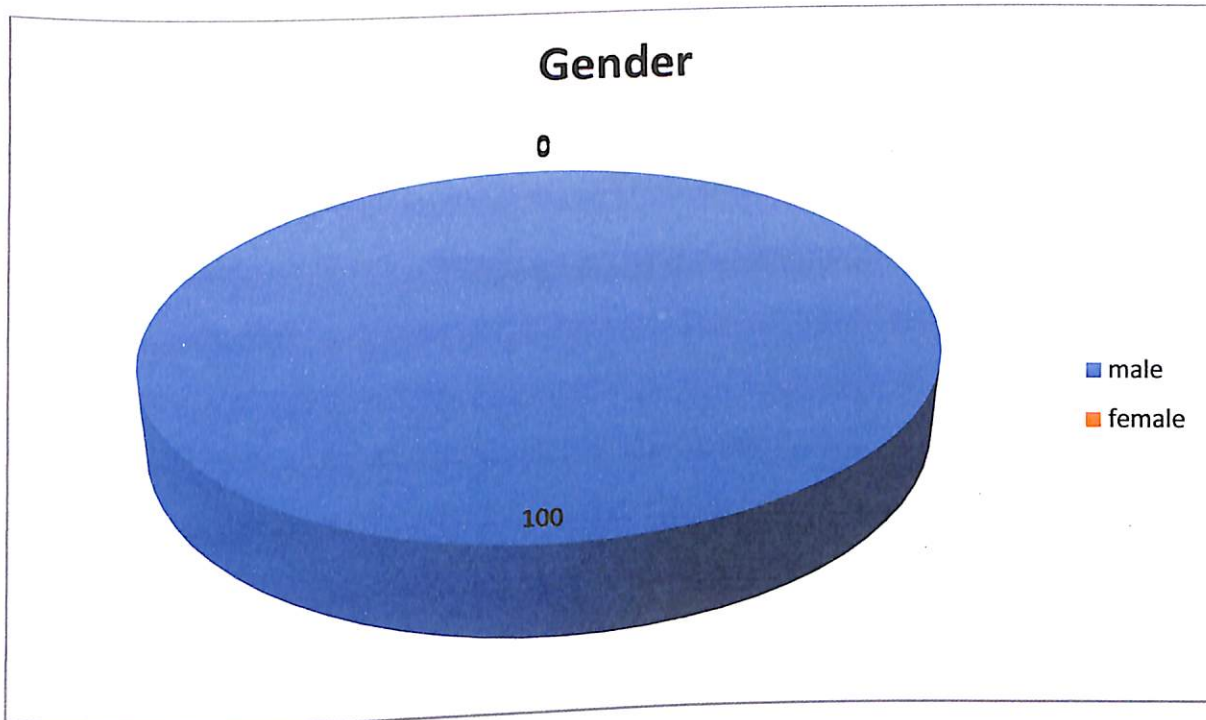
Inflow of large amount of Gulf remittances and its spending has resulted in unprecedented economic changes since mid-1970's in poor and industrially backward economy of Kerala. The Gulf migration has helped the migrant households to attain higher levels of income, consumption and acquisition of assets, resulting in overall reduction of poverty in Kerala. But, on the other hand , the Gulf remittances have also pushed up prices of land , construction material , consumer goods and charges on health , education and transport adversely affecting non-migrant households belonging to poor, middle class and fixed income groups.

## **Chapter III**

# **Analysis of Socio-economic background of Gulf migrated labour**

**Figure 3.1**

**Distribution on the basis of gender**



**Source: Primary Data**

The chart reveals that out of the total number of 50 respondents 100% belongs to the category of male and 0% comprises female category.

**Table 3.1**

**Age group of the population**

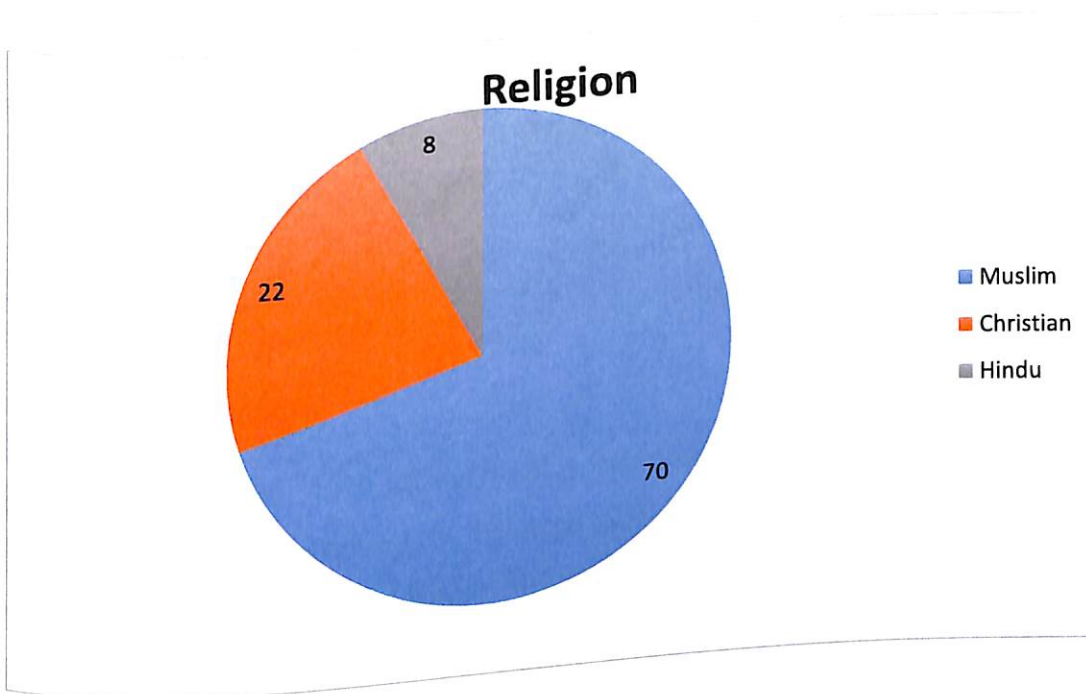
<b>Age</b>	<b>Total No .of Respondents</b>	<b>Per cent</b>
20-30	12	24
30-40	27	54
40-50	6	12
50-60	5	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Primary Data**

The table 3.1. reveals that out of the total respondents ,24% belongs to the age group of 20-30 and 54% belongs to the age group of 30-40 and 12% belongs to the age group of 40-50 and the rest 10% belongs to the age group of 50-60. This shows that majority of the population migrated to Gulf for work belongs to the middle age group.

Figure 3.2

Religion of the Respondents

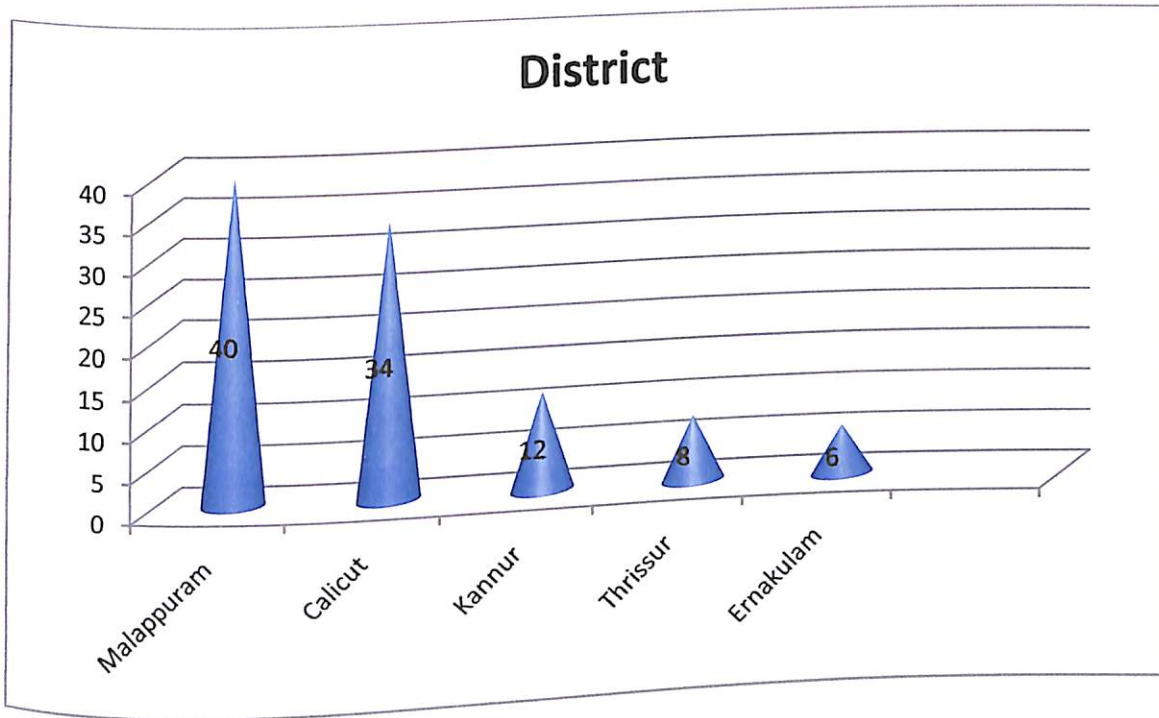


Source: Primary Data

Figure 3.2 reveals that out of the total number of respondents, 70% belongs to the Muslims community, 22% are Christian and 8% are Hindus. This is also supported by the secondary data that the largest number of emigrants is from Malappuram district 4,44,100 or 18.8 percent of the total. Muslim-dominated Malappuram district was the origin of the largest number of emigrants in 2014 ; it also had the highest number of emigrants in the previous years. It is been retaining its number one position in all the migration surveys.

Figure 3.3

District wise comparison of the Respondents



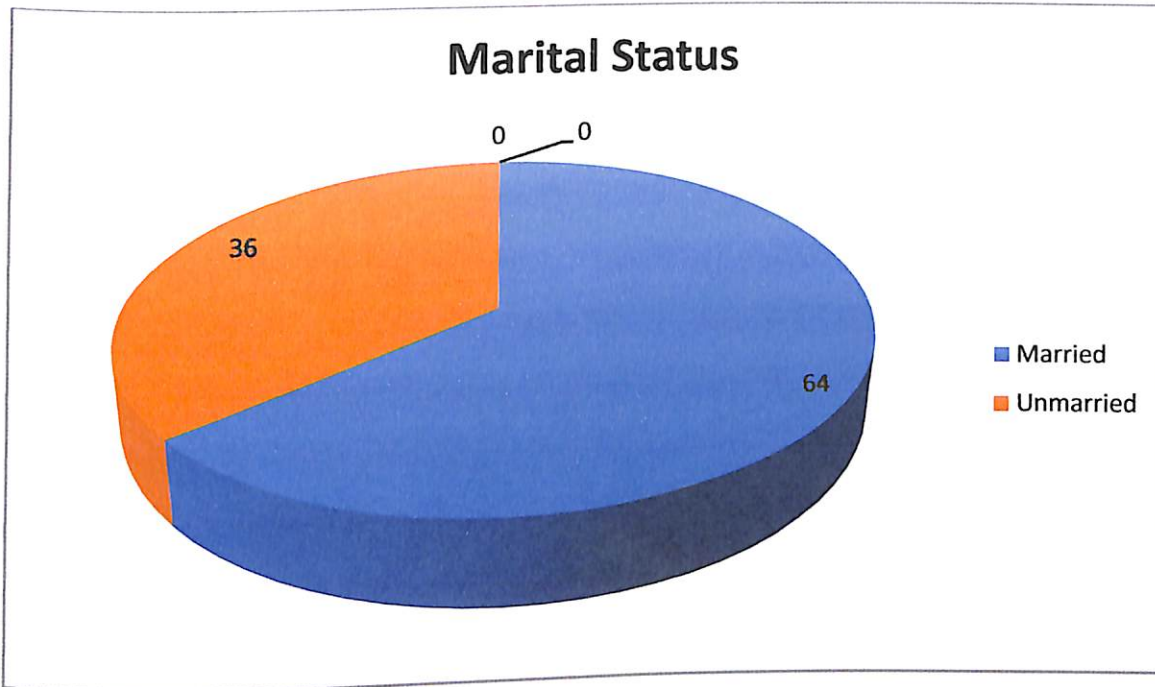
Source: Primary Data

Figure 3.3 reveals that ,40% of the total respondents belongs to Malappuram district, 34% belongs to the Calicut district , 12% belongs to the Kannur district, 8% belongs to the Thrissur district and 6% belongs to the Ernakulam district. Secondary data also shows that the largest number of emigrants is from Malappuram district. Kannur district comes second with. Trivandrum district and Trissur district comes third and fourth respectively. Wayanad and Idukki district comes last, as the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> in the order.



**Figure 3.4**

**Marital Status**



**Source: Primary Data**

Figure 3.4 reveals that out of the total respondents, 64% are married and 36% are unmarried.

**Table3.2**

**Number of family members of the respondents**

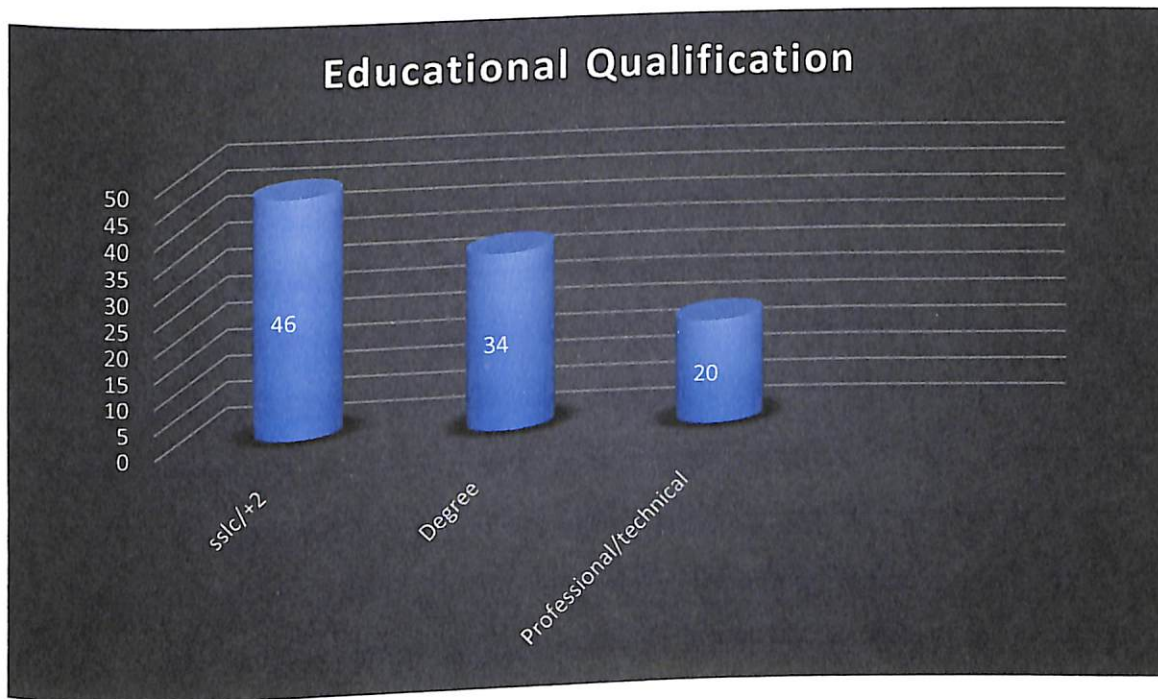
Number of Family Members	Total No .of Respondents	Per cent
4	12	24
5	22	44
6	10	20
Above 6	6	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Primary Data**

The above table (3.2) shows that ,24% of the respondents have a family of 4 members, 44% have a family of 5 members , 20% have a family of 6 members and the remaining 12% have a family of members above .

**Figure 3.5**

**Educational Qualification**

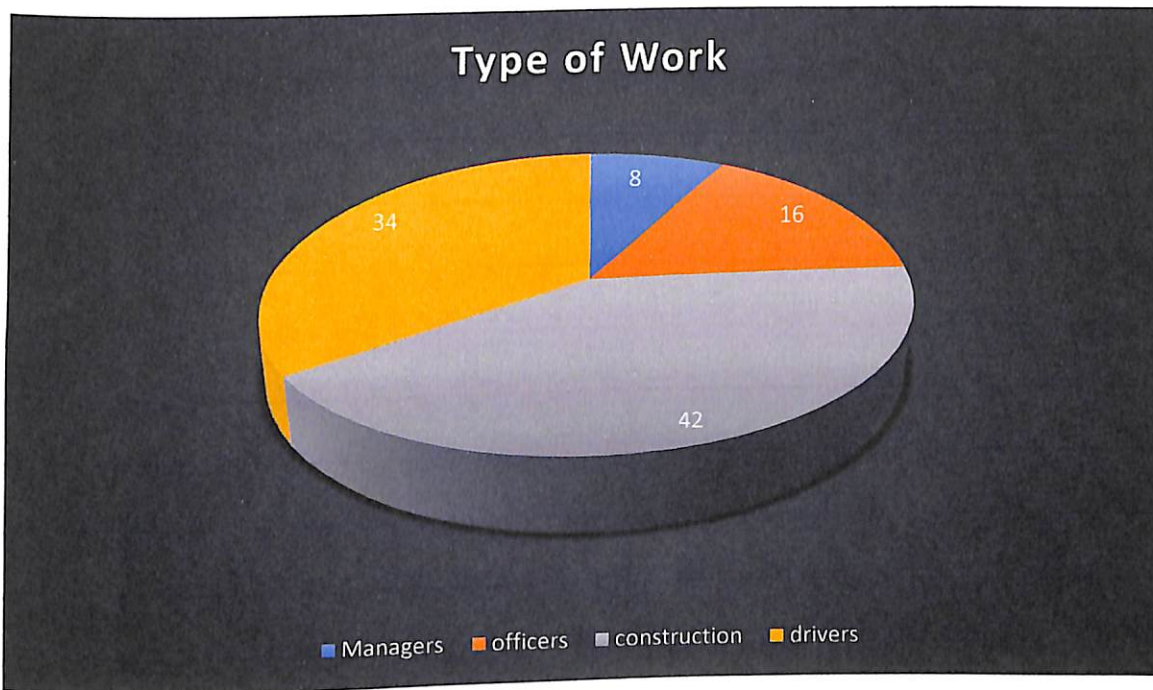


**Source: Primary Data**

Figure 3.5 shows that out of the total respondents of 50, 46% have only SSLC/Secondary education, 34% are graduates and 20% are professionals or technically qualified.

**Figure 3.6**

**Type of work done by the Respondents**



**Source: Primary Data**

Figure 3.6 reveals that out of the total respondents of 50, 8% are the managers, 16% are officers , 42 % are construction workers at site and the remaining 34% are drivers of vehicles of various machine.

**Figure 3.7**

**Work Satisfaction of the Respondents**



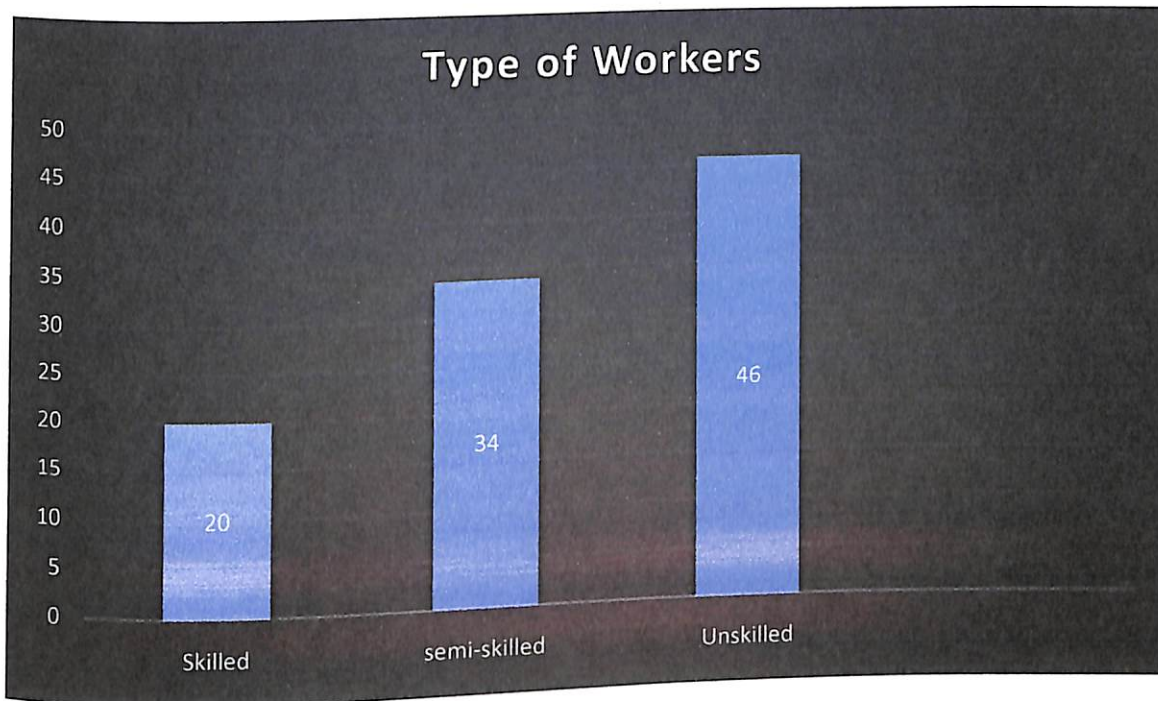
**Source: Primary Data**

Figure 3.7 reveals that out of the total number of 50 respondents, 76% are satisfied on their work and the remaining 24% are not satisfied on their work.



**Figure 3.8**

**Type of Workers**



**Source: Primary Data**

Figure 3.8 reveals that out of the total respondents of 50 numbers, 20% are skilled workers, 34% are semi-skilled workers and 46% are unskilled workers. This shows that majority of the respondents working abroad doing unskilled works. Secondary data also shows that the migration of semiskilled and un-skilled workers has increased demand for certain categories of workers within Kerala. The Kerala's labour market experienced considerable shortage for semi-skilled labourers such as carpenters, welders, plumbers, drivers, electrician, motor mechanics and other craftsmen etc. and the main reason for this migration is due to the oil boom of 1973 in Persian Gulf motivated the oil exporting countries in the region to come out with development plans constrained by labour shortages. This new labour market attracted both skilled and unskilled labour from the countries like India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh and South East Asian countries. The poverty, unemployment, low wages and poor standards of living in India caused many Indians to migrate to Gulf to en cash the new opportunities.

**Table 3.3****Number of working years**

<b>Number of Years abroad</b>	<b>Total No. of Respondents</b>	<b>Per cent</b>
0-10	12	24
10-20	27	54
20-30	6	12
30-40	5	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Primary Data**

Table 3.3 shows that out of the total respondents, 24% are working abroad for 0-10 years, 54% for 10-20 years, 12% are working for 20-30 years and the remaining 10% are working for 20-40 years.

**Table 3.4****Number of working hours(Daily)**

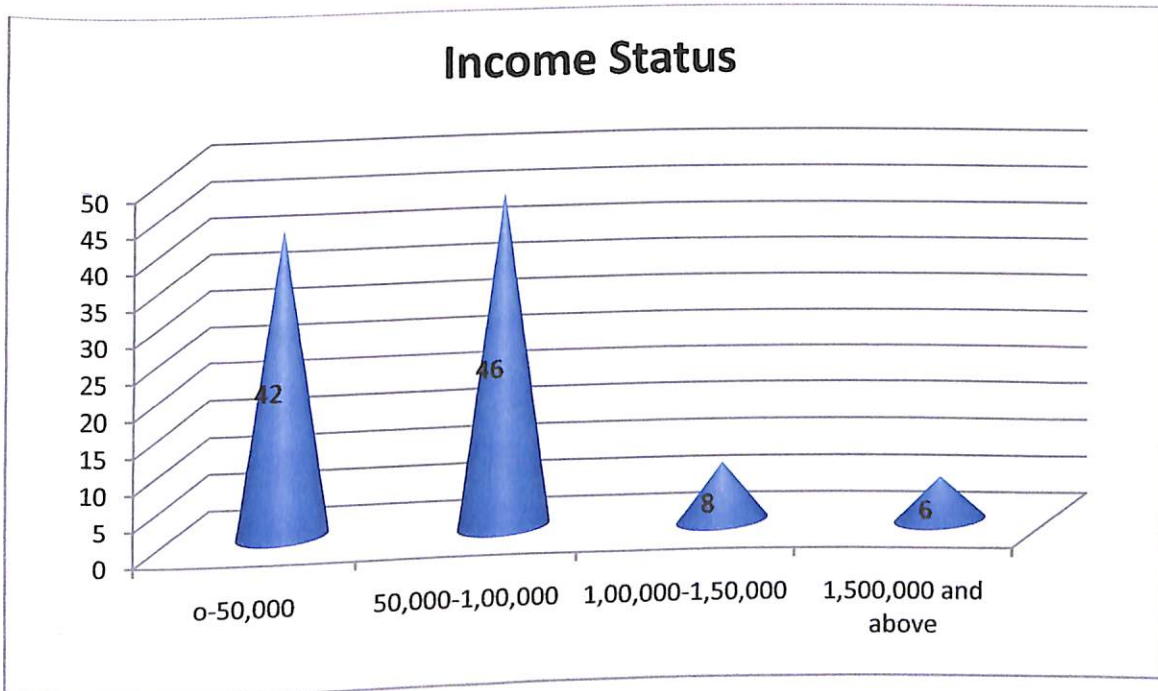
<b>Number of working hours</b>	<b>Total No. of Respondents</b>	<b>Per cent</b>
4-8	10	20
8-12	17	34
12-16	23	46
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Primary Data**

The above table (3.4) reveals that out of the total number of respondents, 20% works for 4-8 hours in a day, 34% works for 8-12 hours and 46% works for 12-16 hours a day. According to ILO, the hours of work of persons shall not exceed forty-eight hours in the week and eight hours in the day. But this shows that majority of the respondents work over time.

**Figure 3.9**

**Income**



**Source: Primary Data**

Figure 3.9 reveals that out of the total number of 50 respondents, 42% earns Rs. 50,000 per month, 46% earns between Rs.50,000 -1,00,000.8% earns an income between Rs.1,00,000 to 1,50,000 and the remaining 4% earns an income of Rs.1,50,000 and above.

**Table 3.5**

**Number of earning members in the family**

<b>Number of earning members</b>	<b>Total No. of Respondents</b>	<b>Per cent</b>
1	32	64
2	14	28
3	2	4
4	2	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Primary Data**

The above table (3.5) reveals that out of the total respondents, 64% of the family has a single earning member, 28% of the families has two income earners, 4% has three earning members and 4% has four earning members.



**Table 3.6****Monthly Expenditure**

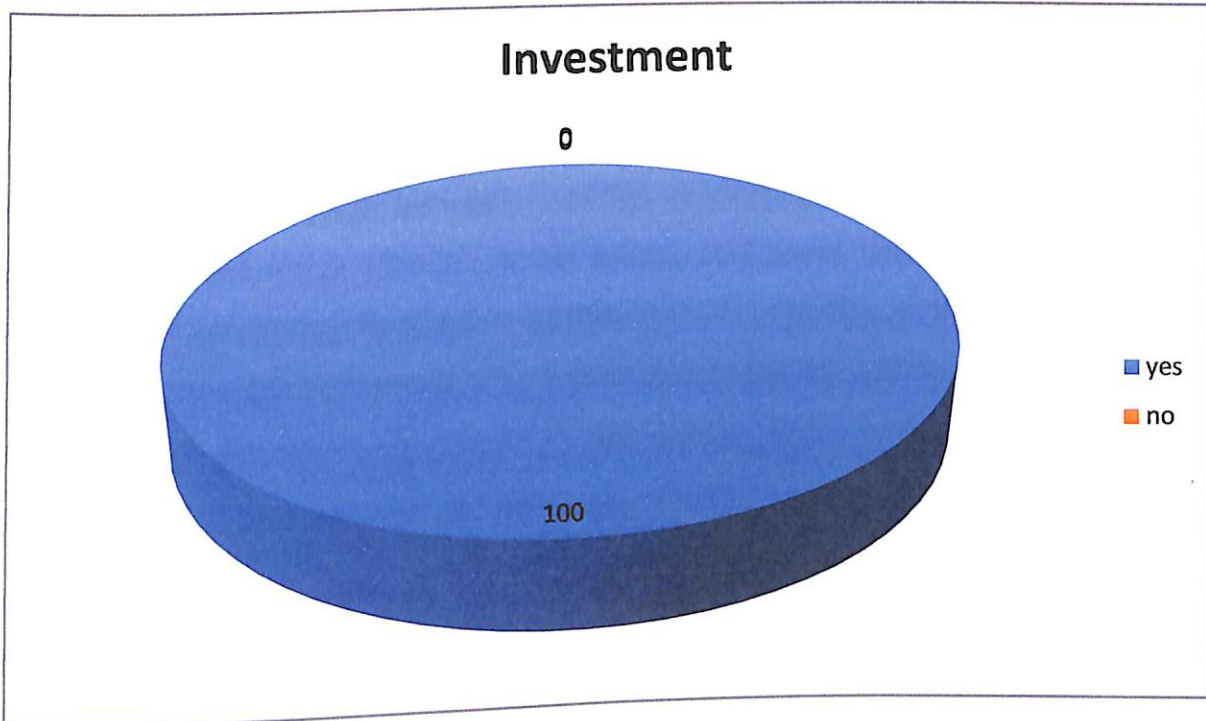
Monthly Expenditure (% of income)	Total No. of Respondents	Per cent
10-20	1	2
20-30	4	8
30-40	6	12
40-50	14	28
50-60	17	34
60-70	5	10
70-80	2	4
80-90	1	2
90-100	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Primary Data**

Table 3.6 reveals that out of the total respondents, 2% spend between 10-20 % of their income on expenditure. 8% of the respondents spend 20-30% of their income, 12% spend 30-40% of their income on expenditures, 28% spend 40-50% of their income on expenditure, 34% of the respondents spend 50-60% of their income on expenditure, 10% of the respondents spend 60-70% of their income on expenditure, 4% of the respondents use 70-80% of their income on expenditure, 2% uses 80-90% of their income on expenditure rest they save. And no one spends their entire income on consumption and proves Keynes Psychological law of consumption function holds true in this case.

**Figure 3.10**

**Investment made by the respondents**



**Source: Primary Data**

Figure 3.10 reveals that 100% of the respondents has made investment out of their income.

**Table 3.7**

**Major type of Investment**

Type of investment	Total No. of Respondents	Per cent
Land	18	36
Gold	4	8
Insurance	3	6

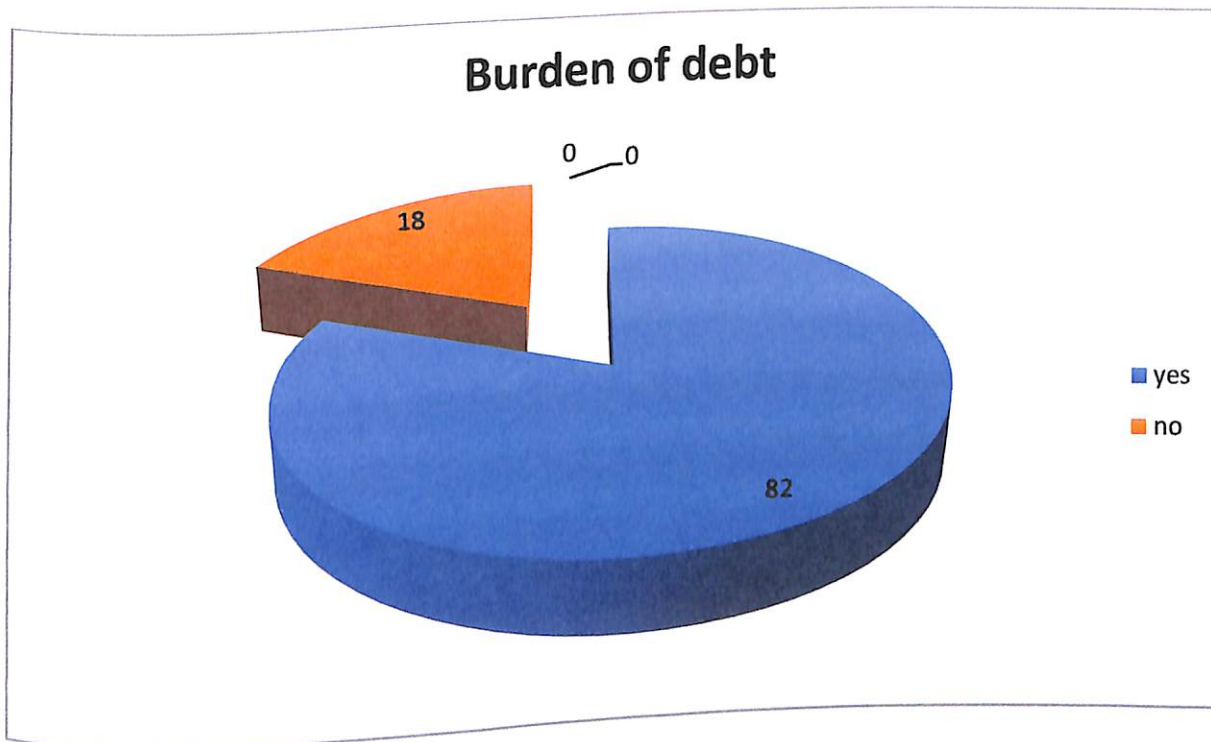
Building	19	38
Equity	6	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Primary Data**

The table 3.7 reveals that out of the total respondents, 36% invests their savings on land, 8% invests in Gold, 6% invests in insurance policies, the 38% use their savings for investing on buildings and the remaining 12% invests on equity. This shows that the majority of migrants migrated to gulf are semiskilled and un-skilled workers including construction workers and drivers etc. and they use their remittances mainly for constructing new houses, repairing houses, improving land etc.

**Figure 3.11**

**Burden of Debt of the Respondents**

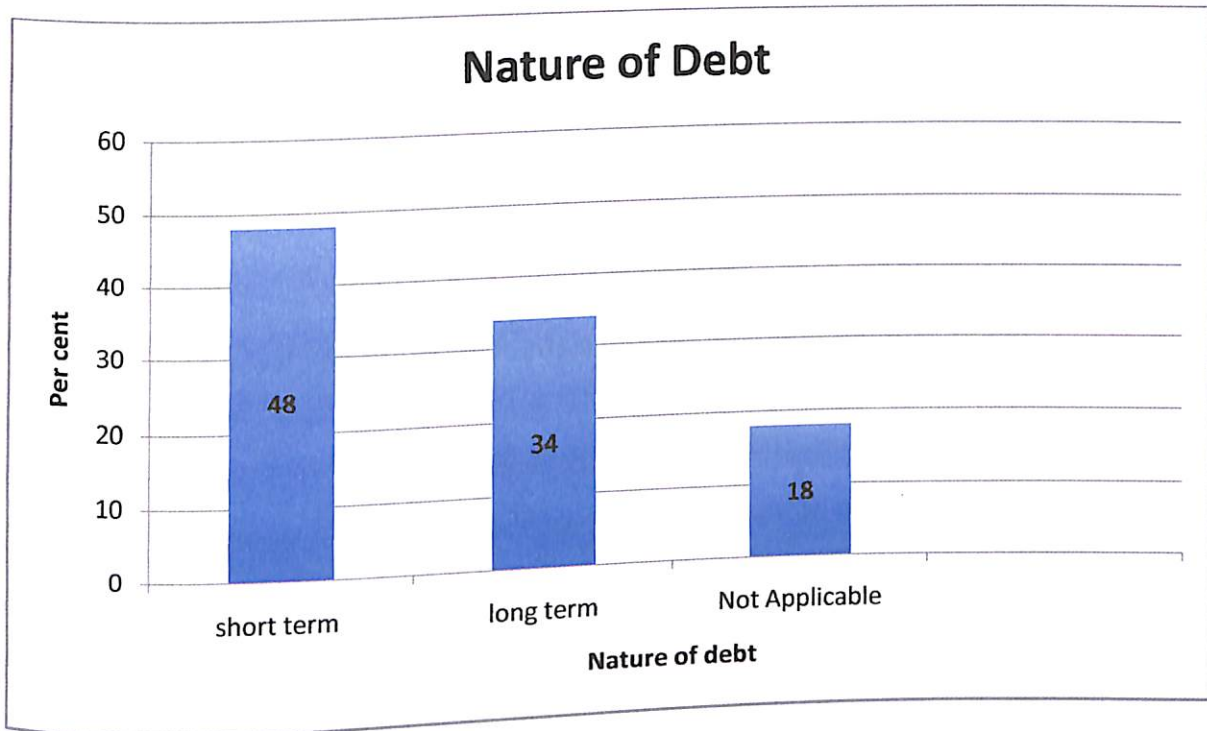


**Source: Primary Data**

The above table (3.11) reveals that out of the total respondents ,82% incurs a debt where as 18% are free from the burden of debt.

**Figure 3.12**

**Nature of Debt of the population**



**Source: Primary Data**

Figure (3.12) shows that out of the total number of respondents, 48% face short term debt and 34% face long term debt.

**Table 3.8**

**Accommodation Facility of the Respondents**

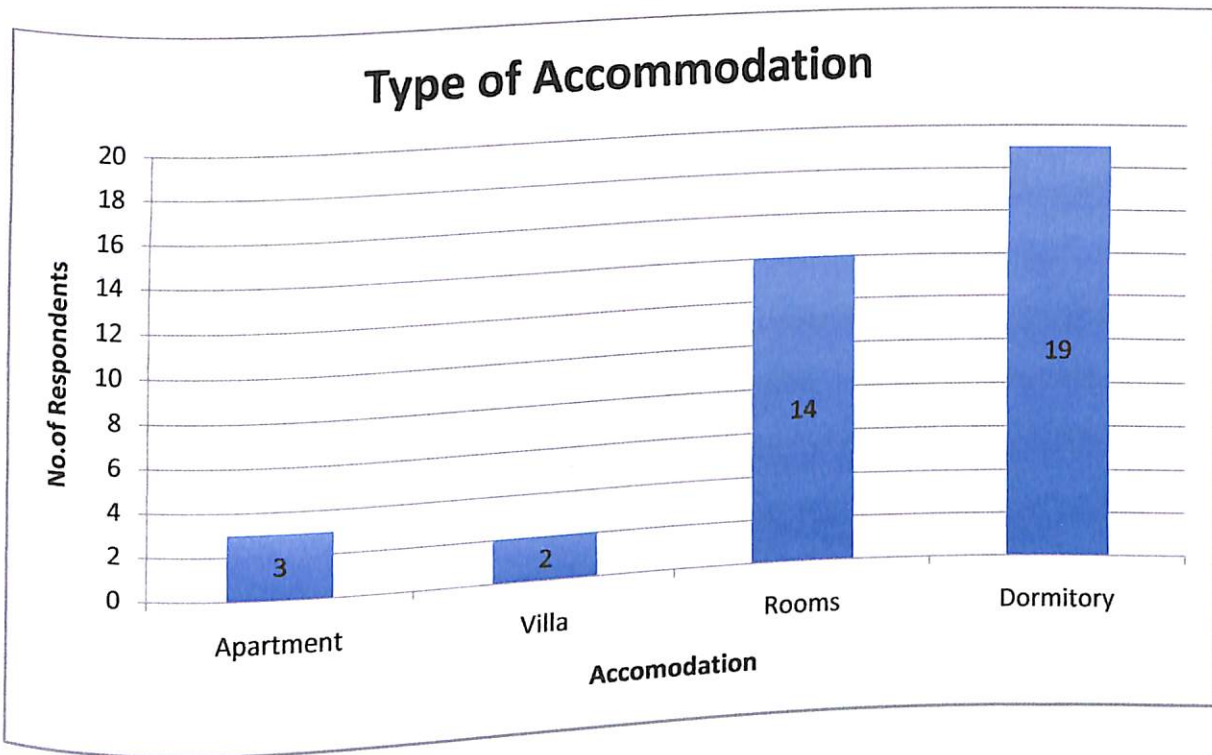
Accommodation facility	Total No.of Respondents	Per cent
Yes	38	76
No	12	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Primary Data**

Table 3.8 reveals that out of the total number of 50 respondents, 76% are provided with the accommodation facilities by the sponsors and the remaining 24% are not provided with any accommodation facilities by the sponsors.

**Figure 3.13**

**Type of accommodation provided for the respondents**



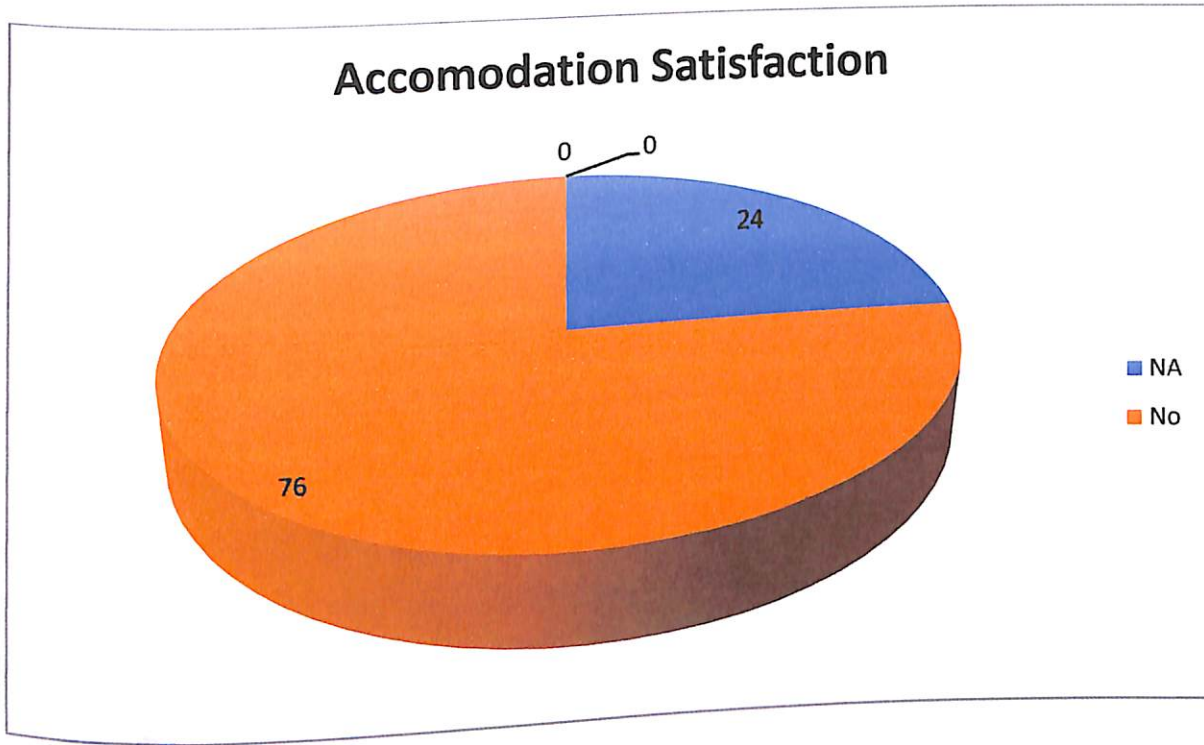
**Source: Primary Data**

The above figure (3.13) shows that out of the total respondents, 3 of them are provided with apartments for their accommodation, 2 are provided with villas, 14 are provided with rooms and the remaining 19 are provided with dormitories.



Figure 3.14

Level of Satisfaction-Accommodation

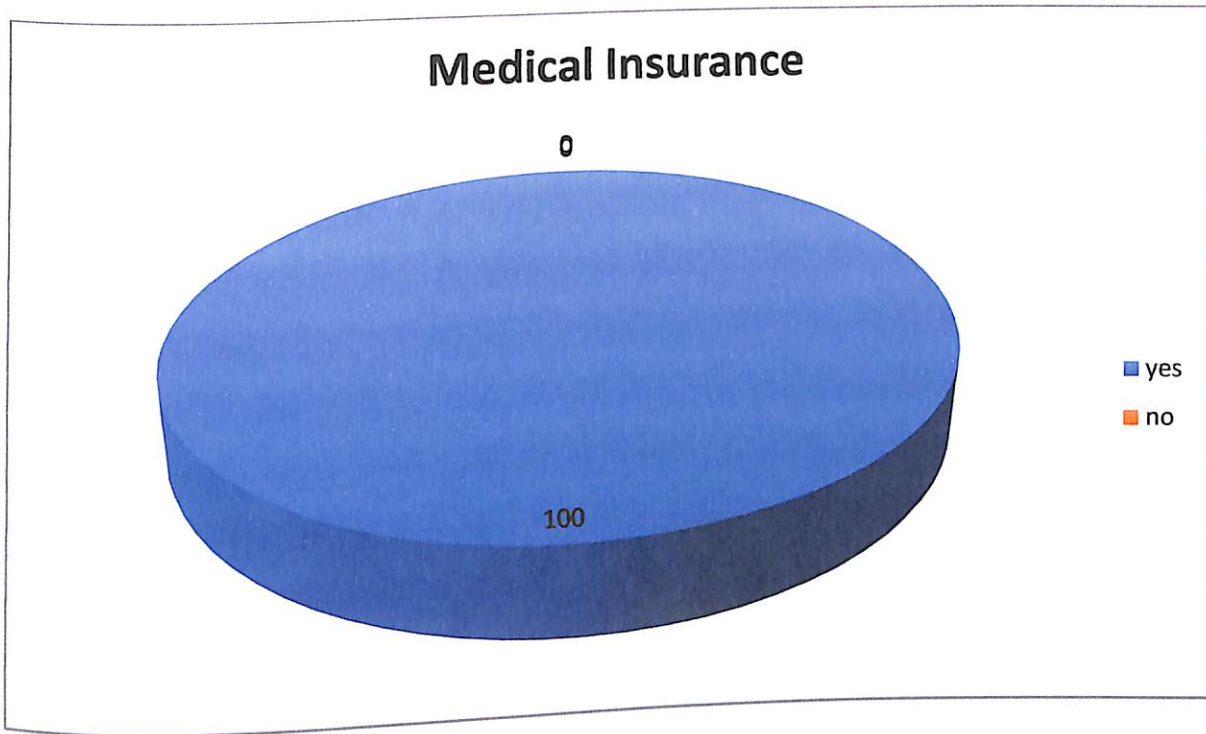


Source: Primary Data

Figure 3.14 shows that out of the total respondents, 76% are not satisfied with the accommodation facilities provided by the sponsors and for the remaining 24% it is not applicable because for them accommodation facilities are not provided by the sponsors.

**Figure 3.15**

**Medical Insurance**



**Source: Primary Data**

The figure 3.15 reveals that out of the total number of respondents, 100% are provided with medical insurance by the company.

**Table 3.9**

**Emoluments from the company to the respondents**

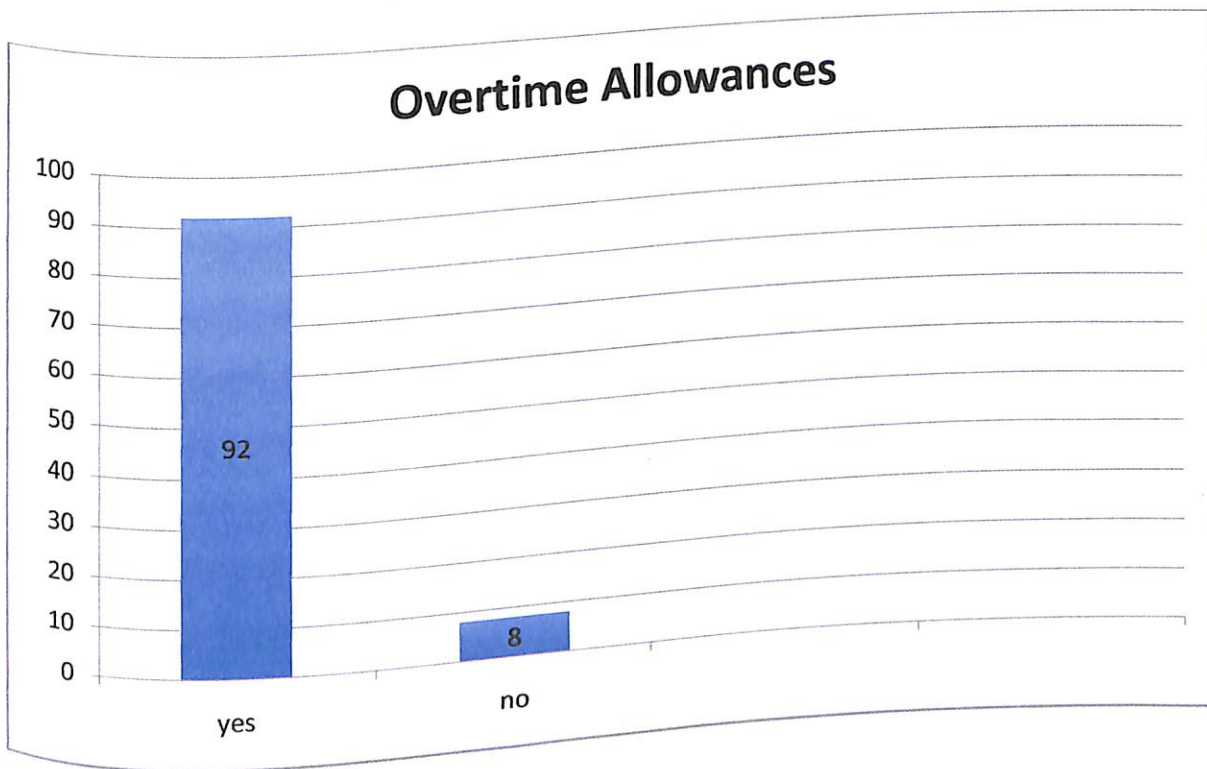
<b>Emoluments from the company</b>	<b>Total No. of Respondents</b>	<b>Per cent</b>
Yes	50	100
No	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Primary Data**

Table 3.9 reveals that out of the total number respondents, 100 % of the population receives emoluments from the company.

**Figure 3.16**

**Overtime allowance to the respondents**



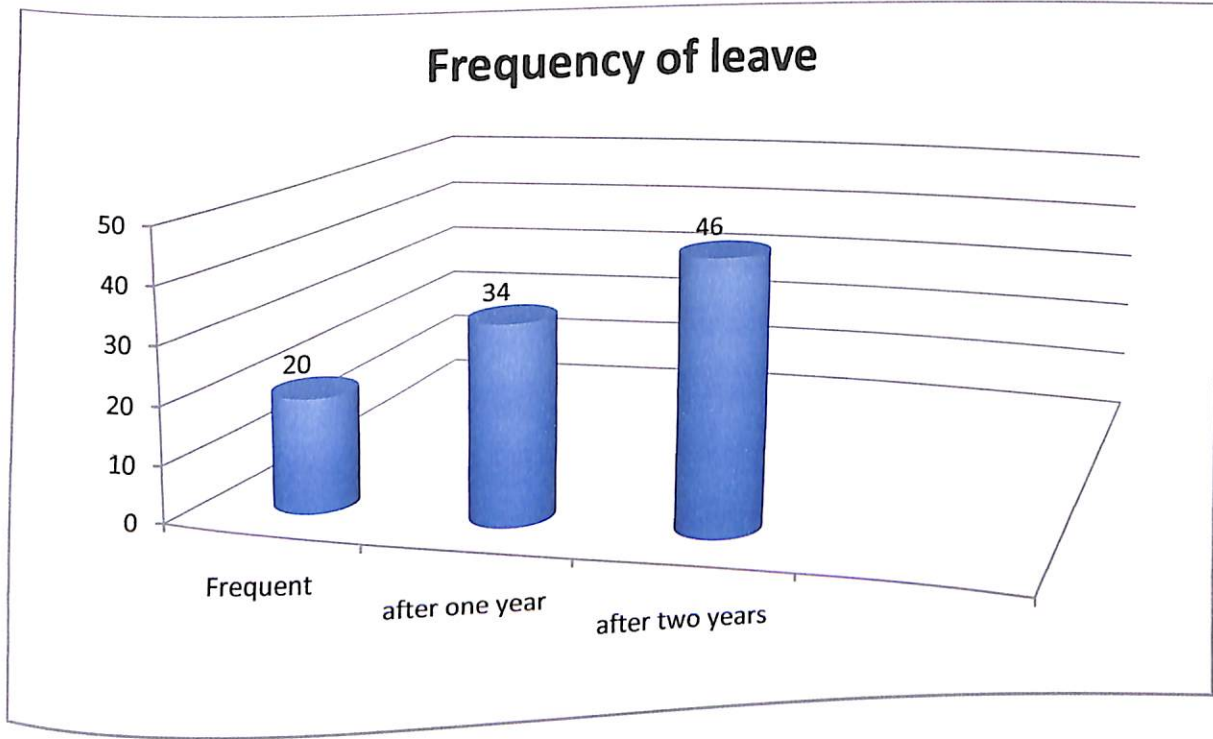
**Source: Primary Data**



Figure 3.16 shows that out of the total number of respondents, 92 % receives overtime allowances from the company and 8% do not receive any overtime allowances.

**Figure 3.17**

**Frequency of leave**

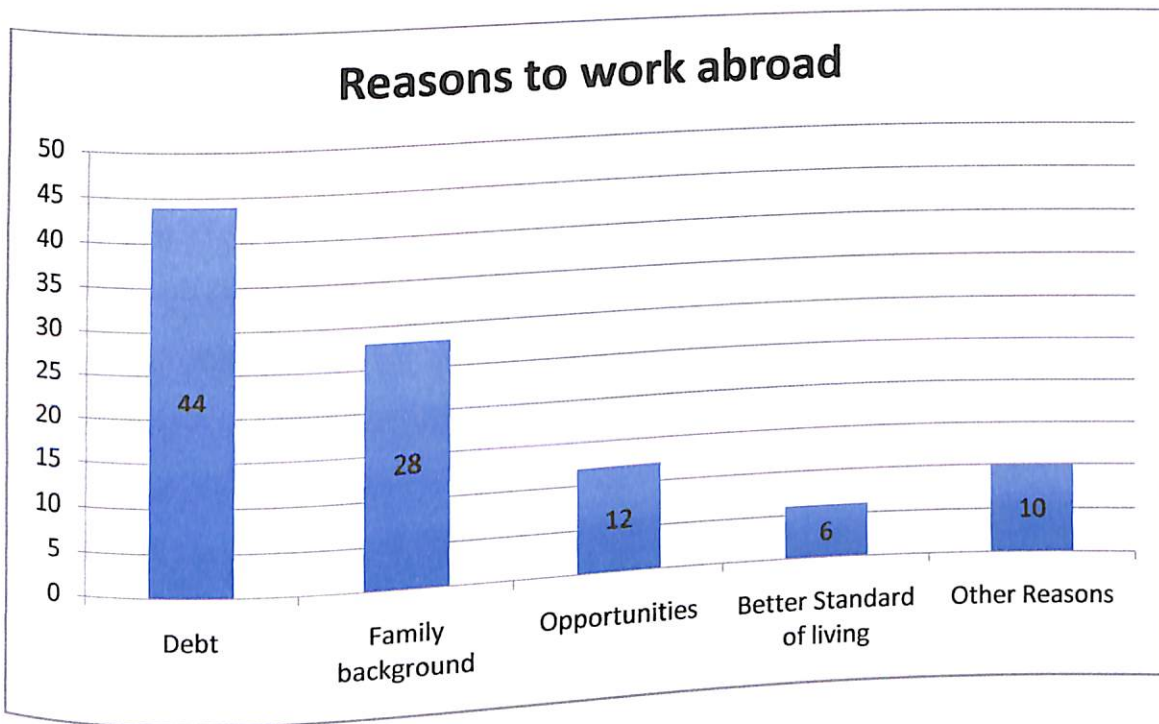


**Source: Primary Data**

Figure 3.17 reveals that out of the total number of respondents, 20% gets frequent leaves , 34% gets leave in every 1year and the remaining 46% gets leave in 2 years.

**Figure 3.18**

**Reasons for working abroad**

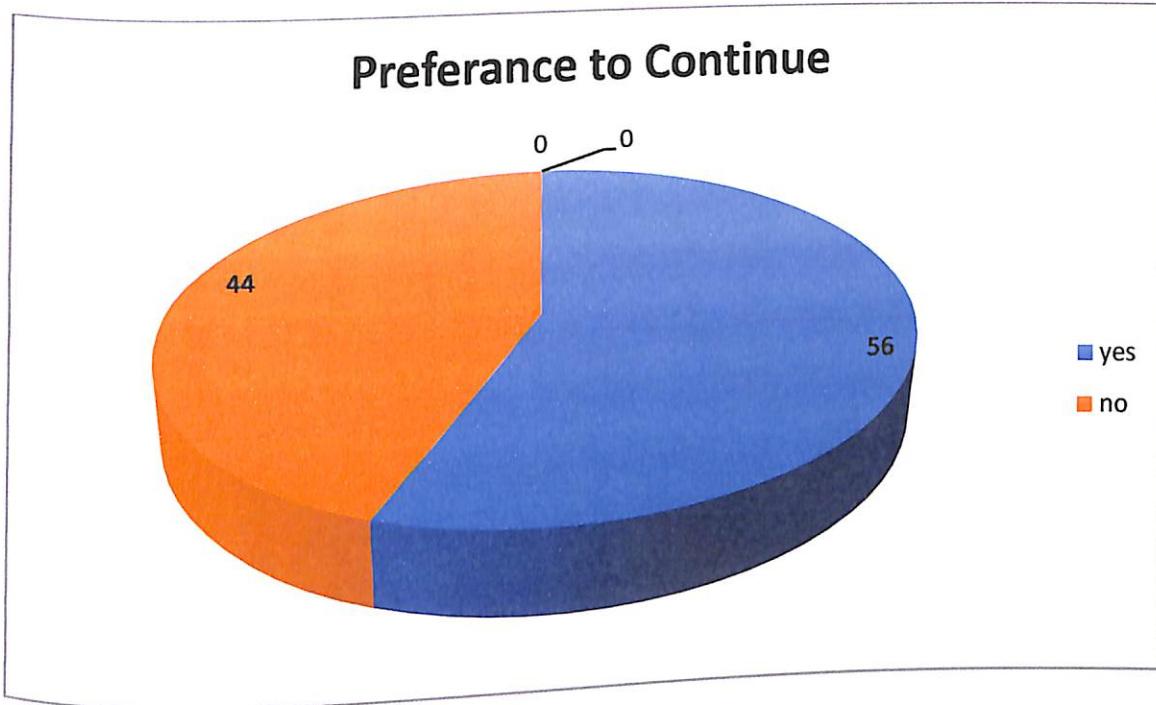


**Source: Primary Data**

The above figure 3.18 reveals that out of the total number of 50 respondents, 44% are working abroad due to their indebtedness, 29% work abroad due to their family background, 12% move abroad due to better opportunities in the middle east, 6% move abroad to gain better standard of living and the remaining 10% moved due to other reasons.

**Figure 3.19**

**Preference to continue abroad**



**Source: Primary Data.**

Figure 3.19 shows that 56% of the respondents wish to continue abroad while 44% not preferring to work abroad.

## **Chapter IV**

# **Findings, Recommendations and Conclusions**

## FINDINGS

- Migration outflows from India into four phases. The first phase covers period between 1985 and 1991, which witnessed the annual volume of emigration ranging between 0.11 million to 0.20 million. The second phase is the first half of 1990's (1992-1997) when the annual outflow of labour was more than 0.40 million. The third phase started after 1998 when a heavy fall in emigration took place in the annual outflow of labour. The last phase is the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century when the annual outflow has been on the increase, reaching close to 0.9 million in 2007.
- Around 95 per cent of labour outflows reached six destinations (Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman and Qatar) in the Middle East in 1988. This trend continued till 2002 with 75 percent going to these countries. Singapore and Malaysia may also be added to the recent list of countries to which labour migrated from India. In 2002, 24,399 labourers migrated from India to Singapore and another 10,512 to Malaysia. In 1994, Saudi Arabia led with 65 percent annual labour outflows from India followed by the UAE. Even in absolute numbers, except in 1999, Saudi Arabia attracted a large number of Indian-labourers. This is also true for 2002. The available labour outflow reveals that Gulf countries became an important destination for Indians. (Table 2.2).
- State-wise breakdown of the number of workers granted emigration clearance is available for the years between 1999 to 2013 (Table 2.3). There has been a continuous decline in the number of emigration of workers in almost all states until 1999, followed by a slow increase. Kerala accounts for the largest number of workers, followed by Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. Some of the other states having a sizeable number of labour emigrants are Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab and Rajasthan. One of the reasons for the high labour migration in Kerala is that persons holding secondary level education are exempted from emigration clearance. States such as Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal have the highest number of literates in the country. Until recently, Kerala reported the highest flow of labour migration.
- United Arab Emirates which attracted 38.7 per cent of the Kerala emigrants retained the first position with respect to emigration among all the countries. However, its relative share declined from 41.9 percent in 2008 to 38.7 percent in 2011. On the other hand, Saudi Arabia improved its relative position accommodating 25.2 percent of emigrants from Kerala. The largest number of emigrants is from Malappuram district 4,44,100 or 18.8 percent of the total. Kannur district comes second with 2,90,000 emigrants or 12.4 per cent of the total. Trivandrum district and Trissur district comes third and fourth respectively. Wayanad and Idukki district comes last, as the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> in the order. Muslim-dominated Malappuram district was the origin of the largest

number of emigrants in 2014 ; it also had the highest number of emigrants in the previous years. It is been retaining its number one position in all the migration surveys.

- Hundred percent of the migrant workers are male, so that it can be concluded that majority of the migrant workers are males.
- Study reveals that 70 per cent of the respondents belongs to the Muslims community, 22 per cent are Christian and 8% are Hindus. (Figure 3.2 )This is also supported by the secondary data that the largest number of emigrants is from Malappuram district 4,44,100 or 18.8 percent of the total. Muslim-dominated Malappuram district was the origin of the largest number of emigrants in 2014; it also had the highest number of emigrants in the previous years. It is been retaining its number one position in all the migration surveys.
- Study found that 40 per cent of the total respondents belongs to Malappuram district, 34 per cent belongs to the Calicut district , 12per cent belongs to the Kannur district, 8 per cent belongs to the Thrissur district and 6per cent belongs to the Ernakulam district.( Figure 3.3) Secondary data also shows that the largest number of emigrants is from Malappuram district. Kannur district comes second with. Trivandrum district and Trissur district comes third and fourth respectively. Wayanad and Idukki district comes last, as the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> in the order.
- The study found that 20 per cent are skilled workers, 34per cent are semi-skilled workers and 46per cent are unskilled workers. (Figure 3.8)This shows that majority of the respondents working abroad doing unskilled works. Secondary data also shows that the migration of semiskilled and un-skilled workers has increased demand for certain categories of workers within Kerala. The Kerala's labour market experienced considerable shortage for semi-skilled labourers such as carpenters, welders, plumbers, drivers, electrician, motor mechanics and other craftsmen etc. and the main reason for this migration is due to the oil boom of 1973 in Persian Gulf motivated the oil exporting countries in the region to come out with development plans constrained by labour shortages. This new labour market attracted both skilled and unskilled labour from the countries like India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh and South East Asian countries. The poverty, unemployment, low wages and poor standards of living in India caused many Indians to migrate to Gulf to en cash the new opportunities.

- The study found that 20 per cent works for 4-8 hours in a day, 34 per cent works for 8-12 hours and 46 per cent works for 12-16 hours a day. According to ILO, the hours of work of persons shall not exceed forty-eight hours in the week and eight hours in the day. But this shows that majority of the respondents work over time( Table 3.4)
- Eighty eight percent of the population are not satisfied by the accommodation facilities provided by the sponsors, this shows that the social conditions of the gulf migrants are not up to the standard.
- It is seen in the data that forty six percent of the population earn Indian Rupees on an average between fifty thousand and one lakh and forty two percent earn between Indian Rupees Fifty thousand.
- The data shows that forty four percent of the migrant workers moved due to their indebtedness and poor family background.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. One of the main reason for the people of Kerala to migrate to other regions especially to the Middle East is the lack of opportunities here. In order to reduce this trend, the government should ensure adequate opportunities to the growing population.
2. Reason for the low income for migrated labour is due to their lack of skill to do work. There should be sufficient institutions for providing both theoretical as well as technical know-how to the people.

## **CONCLUSION**

Unemployment rates in Kerala state has reduced by about 3 percent as a consequence of migration. The impact of migration and the remittances it brought to the state can be seen in various areas like housing, transportation, town planning, educational and religious institutions, amenities and other infrastructural facilities. The housing facilities enjoyed by the migrants are more luxurious compared to non-migrants. Migration of people to Gulf countries totally changed the socio-economic conditions of certain regions in Kerala. To conclude the emigration to Gulf countries totally changed the socio-economic conditions of certain regions in Kerala.

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# **Appendix**



## END NOTES

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## Questionnaire

### GULF LABOUR MIGRATION -A STUDY WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO KERALA

1. Name
2. Gender
3. Age
4. Religion
5. District
6. Marital status
7. Number of family members?
8. Educational qualification
9. Nature of job?
10. Are you satisfied with the works?
11. Occupational specialization
12. How many hours do you work a day?
13. How long are you been to the middle east?
14. Your monthly income?
15. Number of earning members in your family?
16. Your monthly expenditure?
17. Do you have any investments in the home country?

Yes	no
-----	----

18. If yes, which type of investments do you have?

Land	Gold	insurance
Buildings	Equity	Any other

19. Do you have any debt?
20. If yes, what is the nature of your debt?



Short term	Long term
------------	-----------

21. Does your company provide accommodation facilities?

Yes	No
-----	----

22. If yes, what kind of accommodation do you have

Apartment	Villa
Room	Dormitory

23. Are you satisfied with the accommodation facilities?

24. Does your company provide any medical insurance?

Yes	No
-----	----

25. Do you get any emoluments from your company?

Yes	no
-----	----

26. Do you get overtime allowance?

27. You have sufficient recreational facilities in this country?

Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
----------------	-------	---------	----------	-------------------

28. Are you satisfied with the overall benefit from your company?

29. How often do you get leave?

30. Does your company provide annual air tickets?

31. What are the reasons that encouraged you to departure to gulf?

32. What are the problems faced by you in your job?

33. You believe localization move is threating your present job? (How far do you agree with this statement)

Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly disagree	Disagree
----------------	-------	---------	-------------------	----------

34. Suggestions if any?

..... Thank You.....