

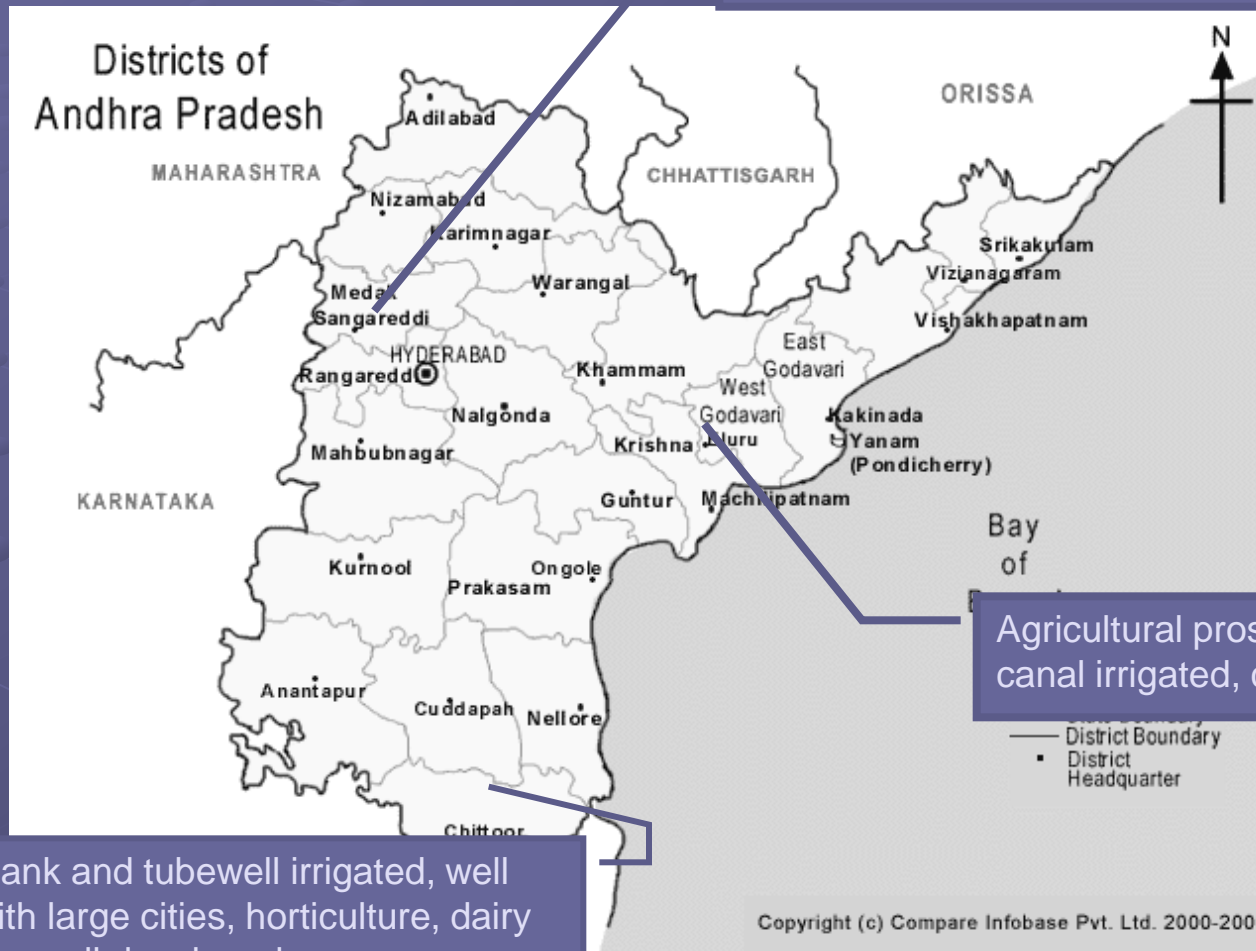


MIGRATION OF LABOUR IN ANDHRA PRADESH: DISTRESS, ACCUMULATION AND POLICY LESSONS

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Semi-arid, socially backward,
mainly tank irrigated or rainfed



Agricultural prosperous, diversified,
canal irrigated, cash crops,

Semi-arid, tank and tubewell irrigated, well
connected with large cities, horticulture, dairy
well developed



Mainstream View of Migration in India

- Mainly rural-urban
- A symptom of rural distress driven by push factors
- A process that should be contained or reversed because it leads to economic and social instability
- Hardly any understanding of internal migration in terms of:
 - The Magnitude (no panel data NSS, Census mainly on permanent migration)
 - Complexity (who goes, when, why, for what, on what terms)
 - Drivers (no work in village, better wages, to escape caste system, to bring back money to invest locally....)
 - Impact (education, women's work, incomes, access to pro poor programmes)



Findings from the Livelihood Options Project

- Migration is a routine livelihood strategy and not simply a response to shocks – corroborated by case studies from all over India
- Migration can lead to the accumulation of wealth, particularly where there are marketable skills or established employment relationships;
- Processes of social exclusion prevent people from moving from low-return and insecure migration to more rewarding types (segmented labour market)
- Accumulative outmigration can occur from poor areas and distress/short term coping migration can occur from well-endowed areas.



The Magnitude of Migration

<i>Village</i>	Working individuals migrating	Households with at least one member migrating
1. Remote dry	66%	78%
2. Semi-arid, connected to cities	24%	33%
3. Canal Irrigated	11%	15%
4. Canal Irrigated Diversified	8%	10%
5. Semiarid near town	4%	9%
6. Industrialised near Hyderabad	3%	4%



Income breakdown

<i>Village</i>	<i>Annual Per capita Income (overall)</i>	<i>Returns from migration per HH Rs</i>	<i>%</i>
Remote dry	2326	4300	55.1
Semi-arid, connected to cities	4137	1700	22.7
Canal Irrigated	5045	500	6.9
Canal Irrigated Diversified	7433	200	2.2
Semiarid near town	4238	500	10.2
Industrialised near Hyderabad	4497	700	11.1



Factors determining migration

- Assets – a minimum level necessary, but beyond that more land and livestock associated with lower likelihood of migrating
- Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes are several times more likely to migrate than upper castes
- The likelihood of migrating correlates positively with the size of family...
-and very strongly with the ratio of working to non-working members in the household.
- Roughly 57% of migrants are men but there are all kinds of configurations – men only, couples, families.

Different Migration Streams (AP)



Village	Caste	Assets	Work and Destination	Contract and employer	Coping/Accumulative and returns
VP, Chittoor	BC	Skills, Labour	Earthwork all over South India	Through mestri with Forest Dept, telecom companies, Gram Panchayat, FFW	Accumulative – Rs 110 per day
MD, Medak	BC & ST	Skills, Labour bullocks and cart	Sugarcane cutting	Direct with farmer	Accumulative – Rs 100 per day
KO and KA, Krishna	SC&BC	Labour	Cash crop harvesting	Through mestri with farmer	Coping – Rs 70 per day, mestri takes a cut
MD, Medak	SC&BC	Labour	Construction work in nearby towns and cities	Freelance or through mestri with construction company	Coping – Rs 70 per day, mestri takes a cut



Policy Lessons/Recommendations

- The role of migrant labour in the economy should be recognised; particularly the links between rural and urban development
- Migrants should be provided with support to ease their hardships – address gaps in existing laws – protect rights and regulate employers
- Collection and provision of information about rights and employment options important to reduce exploitation
- Access to entitlements for essential services



- Policies should accommodate the existing patterns of movement rather than attempt to change them; represent a functioning labour market
- New institutions or mainstreaming in existing – costs
- Identity cards?



Improve the understanding of migration

- Through extensive data collection on migration to gain a better idea of the magnitude of the problem
- Understand diversity – the different kinds of combinations that exist – r-r, women
- Impacts in source and destination
- Understand the special requirements of migrants in terms of health education, transport housing voting