

MIGRATION OF STUDENTS- A STUDY ON CHALLENGES FACING BY STUDENTS WHILE TAKING DECISION TO STUDY ABROAD

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ABSTRACT

Student migration is the movement of students to study abroad. The internationalization of higher education increased dramatically during the period of globalization and it has become market driven activity. India is the world's second largest student sending country after China with the number of Indian students abroad having increased four times in the last 14 years. With the rapid rise of international education more and more students are seeking higher education in foreign countries and many international students now consider overseas study a stepping-stone to permanent residency within a country. Going abroad has now become trend for the youngsters mainly in India. Everyone who has gone out of India to study abroad describe the entire experience as life-changing. Studying abroad, outside India, not just gives you access to quality education but also changes the way you look at things, handle difficult situations and tackle problems.

This article addresses obstacles confronting by students within the home countries. The challenges are categorized into pre-departure. The findings will reveal pre-departure challenges, such as obtaining accurate information, understanding the admission procedure, and preparing documents for visa acquisition. Students face language barriers, financial issues, and cultural adjustment when they are in the host countries. The article also explores the current trend of migration of Indian students to other counties.

KEYWORDS: *Education, Migration, Obstacles, Pre-Departure*

Article History

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INTRODUCTION

A large number of years individuals have been moving looking for food, endurance, and colonizing new domains, getting away from combat areas or political disturbance, and searching for new and all the more fulfilling and exciting chances. Migration is a worldwide wonder. Migration is one of that marvel's that happens normally and significantly affects the structural and the financial attributes of the population that moves. Movement happens because of a few variables. Relocation is either permanent or temporary of the individual or family bunches from one segment to other.

Student migration is the movement of students who concentrate outside their nation of birth or citizenship for a time of a year or more. "A universally versatile student is a person who has actually crossed a worldwide outskirts between two nations with the goal to partake in instructive exercises in an objective nation, where the objective nation is unique in relation to their nation of root." (UNESCO, 2015). Given the ongoing interest for internationalization and globalization of our reality, a cross-outskirts student mobility around the globe has followed (P. G. Altbach and J. Knight, 2007). The main six nations facilitating about half of

global understudies are the USA, UK, Australia, Germany, France and Canada. Other well known objections for global understudies are Russian Federation, Japan, Spain and New Zealand. As of late, a few Asian nations, for example, Singapore, Hong Kong, South Korea, and Malaysia are likewise drawing in impressive number of worldwide students.

In excess of 5,000,000 students were studying outside their nations of origin in 2017 (Neghina, 2017). The expansion in worldwide students studying abroad isn't at all incidental. They represent to a high-accomplishing and energetic gathering (Russell, Rosenthal, and Thomson, 2010) and they incredibly add to the economies of the nation that has them. Educational cost, migration, and tax collection arrangements of the host nation are gigantic variables influencing the monetary advantages made by global understudies. Because of the expanding number of worldwide understudies and their immediate money saving advantage relationship to have organizations and host nations, a significant exertion and commitment to draw in them has risen.

There are a few advantages related with getting schooling in a nation with solid training framework and great learning society. Nonetheless, worldwide understudies face different difficulties while getting training abroad. A portion of these difficulties are: diverse showing styles, low language capability, divergent scholarly desires and appraisal when contrasted with home nations, new day to day environments (social stuns), individual misgivings, budgetary difficulty, individual wellbeing issues, new neighborhood medical services framework, trouble in adjusting to various climate and food, social and social detachment, and partition from loved ones.

The craze to settle abroad study visa has grown tremendously among the youth of Punjab. The earlier student would go abroad to pursue post-graduation degrees but even class 12 pass outs prefer studying in foreign universities. Students are also fascinated by modern lifestyle in other countries. Migration to foreign countries has become a status symbol in some villages. Majority of students from Punjab is considering study as stepping stone to permanent residency in advance countries (Gurjinder Kaur, 2019). Migration to foreign countries has become a status symbol in some villages. Majority of students from Punjab is considering study as stepping stone to permanent residency in advance countries. In Punjab, it is a mad rush for studying abroad. Punjab state has been one of the pioneer states of India for outmigration. Punjab has been one of the leading states of free emigration from India. While India has seen an overall increase of 22 per cent in the visa applications during the last two years, Punjab is far ahead of any other states with a 66 per cent growth in the number of visa applicants. (Preetinder Grewal, 2019).

Majority of previous studies that investigate the adjustment difficulties of international students were mainly conducted in North America, Europe, and Australia. At present, the mobility of international students to other regions, particularly Asian countries, is gaining momentum. It would be interesting to study how students' adjustment difficulties in these countries differ from developed countries. Therefore, the objectives of this study are to investigate students' challenges who are ready for studying abroad to other countries.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Many students from developing economies move to developed nations, to study in the schools and colleges of developed nations. Global students mobility is a significant medium that permits high-skilled immigrants to go to the developed nations (Suter and Jandl, 2006; Borjas, 2009; Mok, 2010). Insights throughout the long term show that students from India are going abroad in huge numbers. It has been reliably on the ascent for a couple of years. Anyway the ongoing pattern shows an adjustment in the quantity of Indian students flying abroad for advanced education.

Going abroad has now become trend for the youngsters mainly in India. Students go abroad for their higher education and majority of them stays there and don't come back. The reason for not coming back can be influenced by many factors like: the living standard in the foreign countries, the method of education, the earnings etc. This paper shows the statistical data of the students going abroad from India for higher education as well as the students coming to India for further education and its comparison with the past years (Kaur Harkirat & Aggrawal Rashmi, 2019). Poonam Kakkad & T.P. Madhu Nair. (2015) investigated the factors that influence students' decision on studying abroad with a focus on what benefits are associated with an international education that are important for students. The study also found the barriers that students perceive while making a decision about studying overseas. The paper identified motivational and constraining factors that influence students' decision with regards to the same. For most international students, entering universities and colleges can be an overwhelming life and cultural transition.

In spite of the many benefits associated with studying overseas, international students face several challenges which can broadly be categorized into academic, socio-cultural, and psychological challenges (Alsahafi and Seong- Chul, 2017; Banjong, 2015; Mesidor, 2016; Wu et al., 2015). These challenges can directly or indirectly affect students' academic performance, mental and physical health, level of happiness in a new social environment, and their perceptions of the host country. International students go through an acculturation process which may not be very smooth. For most international students, entering US universities and colleges can be an overwhelming life and cultural transition. Many studies explored the challenges and hurdles experienced by international students attending institutions of higher education in the US. These difficulties include, but are not limited to, language difficulties, difficulties adjusting to the academic culture, misunderstanding, and complications in communication with faculty and peers; stress, anxiety, feeling of isolation, social experiences, culture shock, financial hardships, lack of appropriate accommodation, isolation and loneliness, and any adaption in their daily life. (G. Bradley 2000, E. A. Erichsen and D. U. Bolliger 2011, J. J. Lee and C. Rice 2007, I. G. Msengi 2007, X. Zheng 2010)

In a study conducted among 900 international students in Australia, Russell et al. (2010) found that 41% of international students experience substantial levels of stress. This stress could be from homesickness, cultural shock, or perceived discrimination. Yi et al. (2003) conducted a study in a major university in Texas on the utilization of counseling services by international students. Most past investigations on global students change issues have been led in North America, Europe and Australia where over half of the worldwide understudies exude from Asia (OECD, 2013).

Despite the fact that difficulties were talked about seriously in the writing, more examinations are expected to look at these difficulties, in any case, in various settings. This investigation expects to realize the difficulties looking by Punjab's students from pre flight.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The quantitative methodology adopted for this research which brought out the concept of Migration of Students- A Study on Challenges Facing by Students while Taking Decision to study abroad.

The study surveyed students who are trying to migrate other countries for study. In this examination, a survey conducted to gather information. As per the respondents, males (n=76) and females (n=74) associated with this review.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

This study directed to study the challenges facing by students of Amritsar city who are showing their interest to migrate to other countries for higher study.

SCOPE OF STUDY

The study would be conducted at Majha region of Punjab to know the current pattern of migration of students who study abroad. This study would be helpful in knowing how students' migration as per the season leads to change in the society. This study would explore students' expectations education in foreign countries. The findings of this study will be useful to academic institutions hosting international students, education planners, curriculum designers, faculty teaching to international students, staff of international student offices, and university counseling services

Information Analysis & Interpretation

Figures shows total of 150 students from Amritsar area participated in the questionnaire survey, of which 49 % were female and 51 % male. Nearly all of the respondents belonged to the age group of 18-20 years. Majority of the students are interested to study various countries such as USA, Canada, Australia, UK and New Zealand. The results of this study are presented under the following theme: challenges for studying overseas and study- and language-related problems facing by the students from pre departure. The comments by participants in the focus group are presented along with the percentage method. The following aspect deduced from table 1 & 2 which explained that 150 people surveyed. Among of them 149 people responded actively. Based upon the analysis of data 45.6 % male students & 37 % of females students are interesting to study abroad. This clear indicates that a mad rush of Punjab students towards international education. 78 % of all students are going for IELTS examination, 19 % for PTE, with less than 1 % mixed with others. Over 38 % of students experience more level and 61.72 % low level homesickness. Now, students are suffering from financial challenges. Canada is the highest choice stating a desire to study there. Australia is the next most popular followed by UK, New Zealand and USA. It has been cleared from the survey that most preferred country by students is Canada. Above analysis shows that 45 % of students reckon they are confronting with financial problems. Furthermore, there are numbers of visa frauds cases for inducing students to study abroad. Half of respondents clears that they have no such history of falsehood by visa consultants.

Table 1: Number of Reactions from the Respondents

| Opinion Poll | N | |
|---|---------|--------|
| | Present | Absent |
| Are you interested to study abroad? | 149 | 1 |
| Are you taking coaching of various language test? | 149 | 1 |
| Do you have fear of homesickness? | 149 | 1 |
| Do you have financial problem? | 149 | 1 |
| Have you hunted by any fraud? | 149 | 1 |

Note: Figures in column refers to numbers of respondents who were active during survey.

Source: Primary Field Survey (October-2020)

Table 2: Cross Examination of the Respondents as Indicated by their Reactions.

| Questions | | No | Yes | No | Yes | |
|--|------------|-------------|------------|----------|-----------|-----|
| Are you interested to study abroad? | Count | 11(females) | 64(f) | 5(males) | 68(males) | 149 |
| | Percentage | 6.71 | 36.91 | 3.36 | 45.64 | 149 |
| Are you taking coaching of various language tests? | Count | 1 (ACT) | 117(IELTS) | 2(TOFEL) | 29(PTE) | 149 |
| | Percentage | .006 | 78.53 | .13 | 19.46 | 149 |
| Do you have fear of homesickness? | Count | 92 | 57 | | | 149 |
| | Percentage | 61.72 | 38.25 | | | 149 |
| Do you have financial problem? | Count | 81 | 68 | | | 149 |
| | Percentage | 54.36 | 45.63 | | | 149 |
| Have you hunted by any fraud? | Count | 85 | 54 | | | 149 |
| | Percentage | 57.04 | 36.98 | | | 149 |

Note: Figures in round brackets refers to column wise and in square brackets refers to row wise percentages.

Source: Primary Field Survey (October 2020)

CONCLUSIONS

The international student market is growing at a rapid pace and several countries are now entering into this business. To become an attractive education destination for international students, host academic institutions need to fully comprehend the challenges faced by these students and how to help them adjust quickly in a new environment. International education has now become trend in most of the countries like US, Australia, Canada etc. They contribute a lot to the host country's economy and generate lots of work. The foreign countries should also take into consideration the students perspectives.

While studying the student emigration from Punjab the study identified students. They constitute an important part in migration. The majority of students 88 per cent were males. The findings of this study suggest that numbers of students are migrating in search of education due to several factors. International students going to a country with similar social and cultural characteristics are likely to face adjustment problems. Since India is a multi-cultural country, international students from the region, particularly from India to other countries face adjustment problems. These challenges also motivate international students to develop strategies to solve problems. When they become autonomous learners, they develop new learning strategies to deal with difficulties. The adjustment and adaption takes time and effort, and it needs a lot of support from different aspects.

LIMITATION AND FUTURE RESEARCH

The findings of the present study should be carefully interpreted because this study focused on a particular group of home country students at a specific area. Thus, the findings beyond this group of students are limited. Due to the time and word limit, this study did not further report other variables, such as motivation, cultural background, personality, and attitude and border restriction due to epidemic. Future studies should consider looking at other variables closely for these groups.

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