



Impression of Globalization on International Migration

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ABSTRACT

Globalization is the process of growing interdependence between all people of this world. People are linked together economically and socially by trade, investments and governance. These links are spurred by market liberalization, communication and transportation technologies. Migration particularly that of labour across national borders is a by product of globalization. Advances in technology and the flow of information and knowledge have facilitated mobility. Migration of high –skill people are increasing but petition for un-skill people are decreasing. Globalization in the form of Foreign Direct Investment and free trade has created a new trend in migration. In Bangladesh the impact of globalization on migration of un-skill people was very less but high skill migration was accelerated especially to USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. This study analyzes the impact of globalization on international migration with a high light on Bangladeshi migration to Middle East and other developed countries.

Keywords :Migration, globalization, integration, liberalization, Investment, Development, International.

1 Introduction

1.1 Globalization is synonymous to the phenomenon of acceleration. For the past 25 years rapid changes have affected political, economic and social developments. Acceleration is seen in vast technological changes, media revolution, global economic integration and massive changes in production systems and labour markets. All these rapid increases in multinational flow of capital, trade and technology have marked its effects on international migration as well. Global economic restructuring has led not only to disruption in less developed or developing economies, it has also been a factor in unemployment, wage decline or job insecurity in dominant market economies. The globalization of mass communication including internet, TV, film, video and music has reinforced dreams of easy life abroad. These imagined lives reach even to peasants in remote villages.

1.2 The migration of labour is an offspring of globalization. In Bangladesh often the migrant returns to his/her home country with more money than he/she could have made locally. This visual display of wealth becomes an incentive to the migrants' family and friends, and the idolization of the migration process spreads like wildfire. In Bangladesh most of the workers that leave for the Gulf are un-skilled or semi-skilled. The majority are uneducated and from rural areas. Usually the migrants are trapped in an economy that cannot sustain them. Thus for them the grass is really greener on the other side of the fence, and many undergo high risks in order to migrate.

1.3 Globalization in the form of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) accelerated in last 25 years. Increased flows of FDI, trade and effective use of development aid, impact directly and indirectly on migration. FDI contributes directly to a reduction of migration by creating jobs in foreign countries. Indirectly, FDI contributes to economic development by bringing technology and organizational and managerial know-how, and by providing the investing country with access to markets.

1.4 This article will look at the core elements of globalization which propel migration, migration state in all over the world, the job markets in developing countries highlighting various sectors and change of international labour market trends.

2 Globalization

2.1 Globalization is defined as a process of growing interdependence between all people of this planet. People are linked together economically and socially by trade, investments and governance. These links are spurred by market liberalization, communication and transportation technologies. A global economy is an unprecedented phenomenon. In fact, a world economy has existed since the 16th century, based on the development of international trade, FDI and migration. The engine of the world economy is the national state. A global economy has the capacity to work as a unit, in real time, on a planetary scale. Four primary, interrelated factors have driven globalization: increased international trade; the growth of multinational corporations; the internationalization of finance; and the application of new technologies in all these operations.

3 Factors of Migration

3.1 General: Sociologists have long analyzed migration in terms of the "push-pull" model. This model differentiates between push factors that drive people to leave home from pull factors that attract migrants to a new location. Push factors occur within sending states. Pull factors occur within receiving states. Push factors are negative aspects of the sending country, while pull factors are positive aspects of the receiving country. In fact, these differentiating factors are really two sides of the same coin.

3.2 Wage Gaps: Most people migrate, either temporarily or permanently, to take advantage of opportunities in richer countries to earn more money and widen their horizons. The most tempting gaps in income are between industrial and developing countries. "The largest wage gap between two neighbouring countries is between the U S(US) and Mexico. Hourly earnings for US workers are around \$15, and range from a low of \$10 in retail trade to \$19 in construction.

3.3 The Need for Workers: Another reason why people migrate is that many richer countries have jobs available for immigrant workers. To some extent the demand for immigrants fluctuates according to economic cycles. During the period of rapid growth from the 1950s to the mid-1970s many European countries had a huge demand for workers, and brought in immigrants to fill the gaps.

3.4 Development Disruption: Another factor influencing immigration is the disruption caused by economic and social development. Development and modernization break up many of the relationships that hold communities together. Large-scale commercial agriculture in Latin America and the Caribbean Basin, for example, has displaced millions of small producers.

4 Jobs in Developed Countries

4.1 New Jobs: Among the ten major developed countries, the total number of jobs has increased considerably since 1970 only in the United States, Japan and Canada. However, developments were more moderate in Canada than in Japan or the US. Although Japan and the U S have the most advanced technological production systems, Japan managed to create 13.9 million new jobs in 1970-1996 (27 per cent increase), and the U S 48 million new jobs (61 per cent increase).

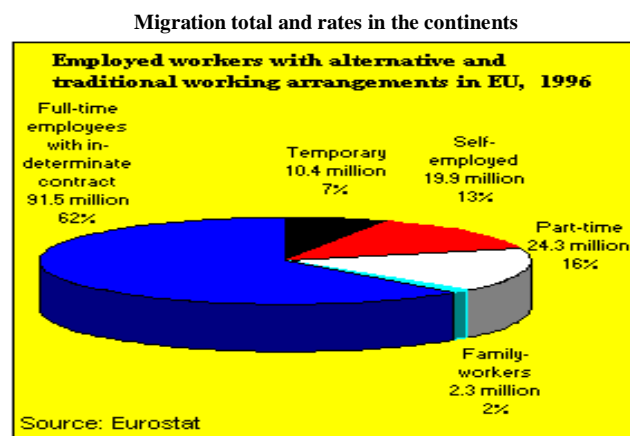
4.2 Jobs in Various Sectors: Developed countries have lost jobs in manufacturing since 1970. In 1970, manufacturing employed 69.7 million people in the 10 major developed economies. In 1992 only 63.7 million had their employment in this sector. In the service sector, meanwhile, employment has grown. In these ten countries, services employed 127.4 million in 1970 and 216 million in 1994.

4.3 Forms of Works: The number and proportion of full-time employees with contracts of undefined duration has decreased constantly in developed countries since the mid-1980s. As labour markets have become more flexible, the forms of work have multiplied. Part-time workers and workers with fixed-term contracts, turn into on-call and self-employed workers..

4.4 New Trend in Labour Relation: The network enterprise is a unit of business operations made up of different companies or segments of companies, as well as of consultants and temporary workers attached to specific projects. Large companies rely on vast networks of suppliers. The development of the network enterprise favours a diversity of contractual arrangements between capital and labour. The number of full time, career-seeking, long-term salaried employees is decreasing, and the system is evolving towards a very diverse pool of workers that become part-timers, on-call workers, temporary workers, self-employed, or high-turnover workers.

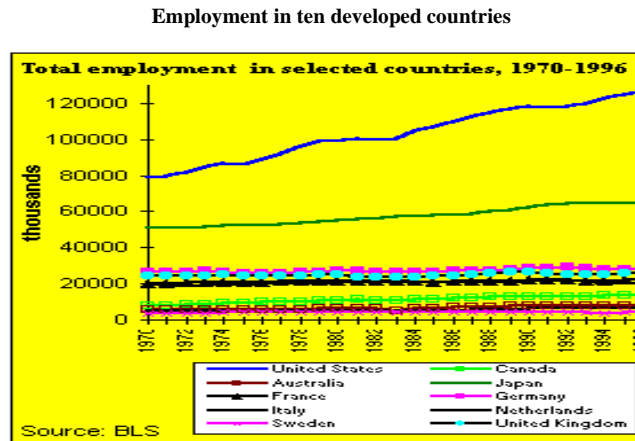
5 International Migration State

5.1 General: The total number of migrants around the world now surpasses 120 million up from the 75 million of 1965, and continues to grow. Between 1995 and 2025, the labour force in low-income countries is set to grow from 1.4 billion to 2.2 billion. Neither trade nor investment at their current levels will be at a sufficient level to absorb this labour force. The net number of migrants in North America and Europe was larger than in other regions over the period 1990-1995. Most immigrants come from Asia, but the immigration rate is highest in Latin America and the Caribbean.



Sources: Eurostat at <http://www.itcilo.it/actrav/actrav-english/telearn/global/ilo/seura>

5.2. Migration in Developed and Developing Countries: The experience of developed and developing countries regarding immigration contrasts strikingly. “The annual growth rate of the international migrant stock in developed countries increased only moderately, passing from an annual 2.3 per cent in 1965-1975 to 2.4 per cent in 1985-1990. However, the total number of migrants in the developing countries increased nine fold over the same time frame, rising from 0.3 per cent to 2.7 per cent. International migration strongly influences overall population change in some countries. In 1996, more persons were added to the population through net international migration than through natural increase in Canada, Croatia, Germany, Italy, Eritrea, Kuwait and Rwanda”.



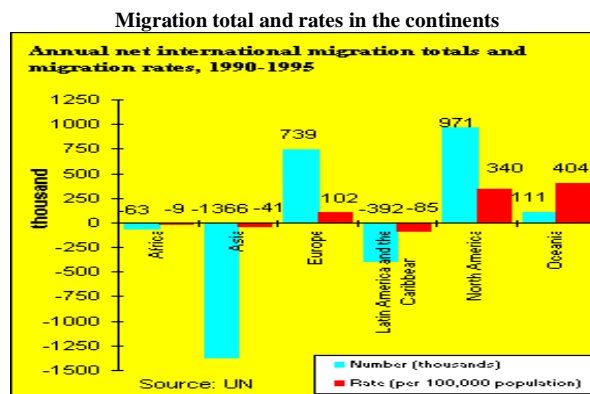
Source: Bureau of Labour Statistics at <http://www.itcilo.it/actrav/actrav-english/telearn/global/ilo/seura>.

5.3 Migration in USA, Canada and Australia: Policy changes in Australia, Canada and the United States, have led to the opening of more doors to people whose skills or know-how are considered in short supply in the labour market and to those who can contribute to the development of science and technology. These include professionals and persons of exceptional ability, and those able to bring in capital. “In the U S, the Immigration Act of 1990 led to a near-tripling of the share of employment-based visas issued each year, from 54,000 to 140,000. In Canada from a level of 115,500 in 1981, the aggregate number of temporary and immigrant workers admitted into the country rose to 347,800 in 1990.”¹ According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), the number of non-immigrant work visas in the U S grew by 4 per cent annually, from 340,000 in 1990 to 413,000 in 1995. If business workers providing temporary services for their country or company were included in the migration figures, the number of working, non-immigrant arrivals would have climbed from 3 million to 3.6 million.

6 Migration and Globalization

6.1 General: Globalization has a direct link to migration. Globalization increases migration of well educated people from developing countries to developed countries. In 1970s, international migration was a topic of secondary concern for many governments. Only a minority of governments had explicit policies with respect to intervening in migration levels. Many more governments now consider migration and its consequences to be significant for their countries.

6.2 Globalization in the Form of FDI and Migration: The United nation Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) / (IOM) study finds that increased flows of FDI and trade, as well as more effective use of development aid, impact directly and indirectly on migration. FDI contributes directly to a reduction of migration by creating jobs in foreign affiliates and, through an array of forward and backward linkages, in the host economies as a whole. Indirectly, FDI contributes to economic development by bringing technology and organizational and managerial know-how, and by providing the investing country with access to markets. FDI can thus generate a sense of hope among potential migrants for a better economic future in countries with insufficient capital but abundant labour.



Source: UNDP data at <http://www.itcilo.it/actrav/actrav-english/telearn/global/ilo/seura>

7 Foreign Direct Investments

7.1 Global Developments: Globalization in the form of FDI accelerated in the middle of the 1980s. Total inflow of FDI was \$349 billion in 1996, and total outflow was \$347 billion. This is compared to inflows of \$10 billion in 1970. Inward FDI stock was \$3.2 trillion and outward stock \$2.8 trillion in 1996. FDI consists of funds invested directly abroad from the headquarters of the multinational corporation, reinvested earnings of a foreign affiliate, and funds borrowed by an affiliate from its parent. The top investing countries in the 1990s have been the US, the U K, France, Germany and Japan.

7.2 Developed and Developing Regions: Until recently, FDI flows have created interdependence between the developed countries, which are the main targets and sources of FDI. Developed countries are those with per capita incomes above \$9,385 (World Bank definition). Although FDI flows into developed countries continue to exceed those into developing countries by far, the gap has been narrowing. "Inflows into developing countries in 1996 rose by 34 per cent, to a record of \$129 billion.

8 Foreign Direct Investment, Trade and Aid: An Alternative to Migration

8.1 General: People from developing countries will increasingly seek to migrate into the developed countries of the west unless the developed countries support development strategies based on FDI, trade liberalization and aid. Push factors of immigration have reinforced since the 1980s in both developing countries and the former socialist countries. Economic migration is rooted in extreme poverty and living standard differentials between countries.

8.2 Destination of Migration: While high-income and middle-income countries are obviously the main destination of migrants, their admittance capacity is increasingly limited due to mounting unemployment and under-employment, modest economic growth and the dislocation of jobs. High-income countries are therefore exposed to a growing pressure of irregular migration, which governments have been trying to deter through vigorous action. However, the costs of managing and controlling migrant inflows are high and their effectiveness limited.

8.3 Economic Management of Migration: A better way to manage economic migration is to generate rapid economic growth in the countries of origin. Broad-based and rapid development will induce potential poverty migrants to stay at home of their own free choice rather than migrate under compulsion. Free and fair trade can generate more employment in the migrant-sending countries. The richer countries, which have more capital, should specialize in the high-tech goods such as cars or machine tools.

8.4 Contribution of FDI and Development Aids: FDI contributes directly to a reduction of migration through job creation in foreign affiliates and, through an array of forward and backward linkages, in host economies as a whole. Indirectly, FDI contributes to economic development by bringing technology and organizational and managerial know-how and providing origin countries access to markets. FDI can thus generate a sense of hope among potential migrants for a better economic future in countries with insufficient capital but abundant labour. Such countries can also increase exports by making a dynamic use of the comparative advantage of their low-cost labour.

9 Migration from Bangladesh

9.1 Prospect in Middle East: The oil boom in the 1970s lured many people to the Middle East. Media and other telecommunications infrastructure helped spread the news that the Gulf was resource rich but labour poor. This raised the hopes of many people of Bangladesh, as they believed they would have a greater chance of economic success if they migrated. Economic success would also mean a chance to move up in the social ladder. Their economic success entices others to leave for the Gulf and is in a sense a chain or dominoes effect.

Inflows of foreign population, 1990-2001

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
<i>Inflow data based on population registers—In Thousands</i>												
Austria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	59	72	66	75
Belgium	51	54	55	53	56	53	52	49	51	58	69	66
Czech Rp.	..	..	..	..	..	6	7	10	8	7	4	11
Denmark	15	18	17	15	16	33	25	20	21	20	23	25
Finland	7	12	10	11	8	7	8	8	8	8	9	11
Germany	842	921	1208	987	774	788	708	615	606	674	649	685
Hungary	37	23	15	16	13	13	13	12	12	15	20	20
Japan	224	258	267	235	238	210	225	275	266	282	346	351
Lux'bourg	9	10	10	9	9	10	9	9	11	12	11	11
Neth'lands.	81	84	83	88	68	67	77	77	82	78	92	95
Norway	16	16	17	22	18	17	17	22	27	32	28	25
Sweden	53	44	40	55	75	36	29	33	36	35	43	44

Switz'land	101	110	112	104	92	88	74	73	75	86	86	100
<i>Inflow data based on other sources</i>												
Australia*	121	122	107	76	70	87	99	86	77	84	92	89
Canada*	214	231	253	256	224	213	226	216	174	190	224	340
France	102	110	117	99	92	77	76	102	138	104	127	141
Greece	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38	..	..	..
Ireland	..	..	..	..	13	14	22	24	21	22	24	28
Italy	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	111	268	272	233
N. Zealand	27	27	26	29	37	47	59	52	39	36	39	62
Portugal	..	..	14	10	6	5	4	3	7	11	16	14
UK	..	..	204	190	194	206	216	237	258	277	380	373
USA*	1,537	1,827	974	904	804	721	916	798	661	647	850	1,064
Notes: * = Permanent inflows												

Source: OECD/SOPEMI (2003). *Trends in international migration*, Paris, OECD.

Outflows of foreign population

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
<i>Outflows based on population registers: In thousands</i>												
Belgium	27	35	28	31	34	33	32	35	36	36	36	25
Denmark	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	7	8	8	8	9
Finland	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	4	2
Germany	466	498	615	710	622	561	559	637	639	556	562	497
Hungary	12	6	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2.
Japan	166	181	205	201	204	194	160	177	188	198	211	232
Lux'bourg	6	6	6	5	5	5	6	6	7	7	7	8
Neth'lands	21	21	23	22	23	22	22	22	21	21	21	20
Norway	10	8	8	11	10	9	10	10	12	13	15	15
Sweden	16	15	13	15	16	15	15	15	14	14	13	13
Switz'land	60	66	80	71	64	68	68	63	59	58	56	53
<i>Outflows based on other sources:</i>												
Australia	..	..	49	45	43	44	45	47	50	47	..	..
N. Zealand	12	12	14	12	11	11	13	15	16	16	..	..
UK	95	102	94	89	82	74	77	94	88	130	..	..

Source: OECD/SOPEMI (Various years). *Trends in international migration*, Paris, OECD.

9.2 Destination of Bangladeshi Migrants: Apart from the two major traditional destinations of Bangladeshi migrants, the Middle East and the UK, the following receiving countries have also recently become popular: USA, Canada, Japan, Germany, South Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, France, Sweden, Taiwan, Brunei, Italy, Pakistan and India. "However, from official estimates for the periods 1977-90, the countries, in the Middle East can be ranked according to their popularity as destinations as follows: Saudi Arabia (37.6 per cent), United Arab Emirates (13.78 per cent), Oman(12.08 per cent), Kuwait(10.92 per cent),Iraq (8.11 per cent), Qatar(7.97 per cent), Libya(3.95 per cent), Bahrain(3.92 per cent).

Destination of Temporary Migration from Bangladesh: 1990-94

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
Middle East and North Africa	101,570	145,360	176,998	174,232	135,633
Bahrain	4,573	3,201	5,831	5,439	4,933
Iran	31	17	50	0	0
Iraq	2,863	0	0	1	0
Jordan	13	2	14	9	2
Kuwait	5,738	36,828	34,366	26,407	14,912
Lebanon	0	0	8	34	382
Libya	570	1,144	1,565	1,803	1,863
Oman	18,987	20,838	25,826	15,985	6,470
Qatar	8,178	3,773	3,234	2,343	624
Saudi Arabia	52,128	71,130	93,093	106,287	91,385
Syria	0	0	0	0	9
United Arab Emirates	8,351	8,001	13,001	15,810	15,051
Yemen	138	426	10	114	2

Note: Figures for 1991 are based on adjusted data available for six months only.

Source: Asian and Pacific Migration Journal, Vol. 4, No. 4, 1995.

9.3 Origination of Migration: Most of these overseas migrants come from two regions of Bangladesh—Sylhet and Chittagong. Though other regions are fast catching up, migrants from Chittagong still dominate the migration flow to the Middle East and over 90 per cent of Bangladeshi immigrants in UK have come from Sylhet. With early immigrants having obtained British citizenship, family immigration still keeps the flow going despite Britain's recent discriminatory attitude towards Bangladeshi immigrants. Besides family reunion, numerous legal manipulations and illegal practices now flourish to circumvent the legal restrictions. Migration to Middle East is quite different. "Beginning in the early 1960s, small number of people, mostly from the district of Chittagong, started to migrate to oil rich Middle East countries. The 1973 oil-boom opened the floodgate to foreign workers in the oil rich countries but Bangladesh followed a somewhat restrictive policy till the end of 1975.

9.4 High Skill Migration Program: Due to lack of job security, uncertain future and law and order situations many skilled people are migrating to Canada, USA, Australia and New Zealand. Those countries also kept door opened for educated and high skilled people to migrate only. Recently UK also opened a program namely High Skill Migration Program in which top managers and highly skilled persons of high-wage can go and settle in UK. There are no official estimates of how many people are migrating each year but the number is approximately ten thousand per year. Each year about twenty thousand students go for higher studies and they finally settle down there. This migration of skilled manpower and move of students for higher education are highly influenced by globalization.

9.5 Types of Bangladeshi Migrants: There are some qualitative differences between these major flows. Migrants to the UK are increasingly likely to be seen as semi-permanent or permanently settled immigrants, whereas migrants to the Middle East are regarded as transient workers and are unlikely to take their families with them. On the other hand migrant of high skill people are educated, professional and permanent immigrants.

9.6 Globalization and Migration in Bangladesh: There is very little physical data to prove that Bangladeshi migration to the Middle East is fuelled by globalization. It is obvious that globalization could facilitate this process. Globalization is equated with new technology and the flow of information and knowledge. Globalization could just serve as a tool to alert the Bangladeshis about prospects in the Middle East. In fact it could be greed or necessity that is the true driving force behind migration. But globalization has made it easy. Upon the return of the migrant, members of his/her community and family are enticed by the visual display of wealth and thus chose to migrate as well. In this sense the Bangladeshi migrants are proponent of globalization. They are causing more and more members of their society to leave for the Middle East or any other countries, increasing the international flow of labour, which is a part of globalization. It is hard to determine the exact nature of the role globalization has had in relation to the migration of Bangladeshi workers to the Middle East.

10 Challenges of International Migration in Globalization Era

10.1 Developed Countries: Unemployment and the loss of jobs in developed countries are quite commonly associated with globalization. The main impacts of globalization are as follows:

- a. Multinationals have exported jobs from developed countries to developing countries through foreign investments and outward production in special economic zones.
- b. Through trade liberalization, governments have encouraged the replacement of domestically produced goods with goods produced abroad.
- c. The increased application of technology, especially in globally operating companies, has reduced the use of and dependence on local labours.
- d. Illegal migration into developed countries has been increased due to advanced network development.

10.2 Increase of High Skill Migration: Earlier due to push and pull factor skilled and un-skilled people used to migrate. But due to globalization service oriented and hi-tech jobs are created more in number. The increase in service sector employment has been the largest in USA and Japan. More over USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand accept only high skilled workers to migrate from developing countries. Thereby in developing countries high- skilled migration is in rise and un-skill migration is in fall.

10.3 Trend of Migration: FDI is increased in developing countries which have created new high-wage jobs within the country. It helps skilled people to get high-wage jobs at home without migrating. In Bangladesh FDI inflow is very less. Therefore, jobs are also created less in comparison to other developing countries.

11 Conclusions

11.1 Globalization is a long term process of change. It has economic, political and cultural dimensions, all of which can have a social impact. The different dimensions of the process are interrelated and mutually reinforcing. Openness to FDI can contribute to growth by stimulating domestic investment, improving efficiency and productivity, or by increasing the knowledge applied to production. Trade openness may facilitate the acquisition of new inputs, less expensive or higher quality intermediate goods and improved technologies that enhance the overall productivity of the economy. Openness to global capital markets has brought greater volatility in domestic financial markets, particularly in countries whose financial systems were weak to begin with and economic policies lacked credibility. Similarly trade liberalization has led in some countries to reduced demand for unskilled labour, lower real wages, job losses and income declines which have often resulted into higher poverty rates.

11.2 Globalization has direct impact on high skill migration of Bangladeshi people to USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. The number of migration of high skill people to developed countries has been increased due to easy communication network and globalization. But there is very little physical data to prove that Bangladeshi migration of un-skill and semi-skill people to the Middle East is fuelled by globalization. It is obvious that globalization could facilitate this process. Globalization is equated with new technology and the flow of information and knowledge. Globalization could serve as a tool to alert the Bangladeshis about the prospects in developed countries. In fact it could be greed or necessity that is the true driving force behind migration. The flow of labour from one country to another is an effect of the process of globalization. Bangladesh can be considered mediocre in this case. Globalization facilitated migration by making it easier to travel and access information.

12 Recommendations

12.1 Globalization has increased high skill migration from developing countries to developed countries. But un-skill and low-wage job seeking people's migration is decreased due to changed migration policy of developed countries. This has created an imbalance in migration process and causing brain drain only in developing countries. Therefore, migration policy of the developed countries should be reviewed so that all types of people as per their professional competence can migrate for better opportunities.

12.2 Free and fair trade is one of the main criteria of globalization, which can generate more employment in the migrant-sending countries. The richer countries, which have more capital, should specialize in the high-tech goods such as cars or machine tools. Meanwhile the poor countries, which have more and cheaper workers, should specialize in the labour-intensive activities such as garments or toys.

12.3 Developed countries should contribute more in the form of FDI in the developing (migrant-sending) countries to create new jobs. FDI are to be equally distributed to all developing countries. Service oriented industries in developing countries can create more jobs easily than manufacture industries. Therefore, developing countries should attract more FDI in service sectors which will create new jobs and reduce skill migration.

12.4 Developed countries not only should make investment in developing countries just by providing capital but by transferring technology, training local people, and creating export sales. This will gradually improve the economic condition in the developing countries.

Thereby it will create more job opportunities for local people which will reduce the illegal migration gradually. Skilled people will also stay back home and earn higher wages.

12.5 In Bangladesh FDI is very negligible and thus creation of new jobs are also very less. But we have surplus unskilled manpower that can be trained and made skilled. Therefore, Bangladesh should take globalization as greatest opportunity for migration of skill and un-skill manpower to abroad till such time we can create new jobs which contribute a lot to remittance. For that matter network to be established across the globe and necessary network infrastructure to developed in the country in line with the developed countries through internet and other communication devices. In this case India can be followed as an example.

12.6 Bangladesh Government should conduct studies on national experiences in migration management in selected sending and receiving countries, in particular the experience of countries that have made the transition from net sending countries to net receiving countries.

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