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OBJECTIVES

HYPOTHESES

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

FINDINGS

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ROLE OF NRI REMITTANCE IN ECONOMIC GROWTH OF KERALA

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ABSTRACT

Workers' remittances have become a major source of external development finance, since three decades. A sharp fall in the rupee during the year coupled with rising income levels helped in boosting remittance flows into the country. In different states of India Kerala receives huge remittances from the West Asia. Contribution of remittance to the economic growth of the state is inevitable. This study focused growth of remittance to the state and its role in the economic growth. Mainly secondary data is used for this purpose and the tools like percentage and compound growth rate are used to analyse the trend of remittance and its role in growth.

KEYWORDS

Remittance, economic growth.

INTRODUCTION

remittance is a transfer of money by a foreign worker to his or her home country or simply sending amount from one country to another. Remittances represent household income from foreign economies, arising mainly from the temporary or permanent movement of people to those economies. It includes cash and non cash items that flow through official channels such as electronic wires, or through informal channels, such as cash or goods carried across borders.

Money sent home by migrants constitutes the second largest financial inflow in the case of many developing countries, according to the World Bank Report, \$401 billion new remittance record went to developing countries with overall global remittances topped \$514 billion in the previous year. Remittances contribute to economic growth and to the livelihoods of people worldwide. Moreover, remittance transfers can also promote access to financial services for the sender and recipient, thereby increasing financial and social inclusion,

According to World Bank estimates, remittances totaled US \$414 billion in 2009, of which US\$316 billion went to developing countries that involved 192 million migrant workers. For some individual recipient countries, remittances can be as high as a third of their GDP. The top recipients in terms of the share of remittances in GDP included many smaller economies such as Tajikistan (45%), Moldova (38%), and Honduras (25%). The top recipients of officially recorded remittances for 2013 are India (with \$71 billion), China (\$60 billion), the Philippines (\$26 billion), Mexico (\$22 billion), Nigeria (\$21 billion), and Egypt (\$20 billion).

India and China alone will represent nearly a third of total remittances to the developing world in 2013. Remittance volumes to developing countries, as a whole, are projected to continue growing strongly over the medium term, averaging an annual growth rate of 9 percent to reach \$540 billion in 2016. Remittances contribute significantly not only to the migrants families left behind, but also to their country's balance of payment. In many developing countries, remittances represent a significant proportion of their gross national product as well as foreign exchange reserve.

Kerala, among most states in India, receive large amounts of money from abroad as workers' remittances. A part of these remittances come to the households and is used for subsistence and other household expenses, and the rest is used for commercial purposes.

According to estimate, the total remittances to the state from its strong nonresident community located mainly in gulf countries and USA are to cross Rs 75000 crores in 2013-14 as against Rs 65000 crores in 2012-13, which was thrice the state's annual budget outlay.

The remittances received by households in Kerala, to be sure, have an impact on the overall economic indicators of the state. 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. Remittances are mainly used for purposes like consumption, repayment of debt and meeting other social obligations.

Among the 14 districts in the state, Malappuram received the largest amount of remittances, i.e., Rs 9,040 crores which works out to Rs. 114,313 per household. In general, the southern districts experienced a decline in their share of remittances and the northern districts experienced an increase.

The prosperity and economic growth of the state have a correlation with the remittances from its non-resident. The stake of remittance in economic development and standard of living has embarked a new paradigm with an enormous rise in the volume of remittance received during the year 2013. The development community needs to consider how to best manage remittance flows and to understanding the impact of remittances on the economy. This article looks at these questions and explores ways to improve on the knowledge and impact of remittances in development.

RESEARCH PROBLEM

Remittance accounts for almost 30- 32 per cent of the state GDP, In spite of the very low industrial and agricultural output and the high density of population, Kerala has been able to maintain a better standard of living than many other States because of the Gulf remittances.

In this situation it is better to know the trend of remittance received by the state and is any relation between remittance and economic growth? At this juncture, there is a need to analyse the trend of remittance received by the state of Kerala and its effect on the Kerala economy.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Remittances are playing an increasingly large role in the economies of many countries by contributing to economic growth and to the livelihoods of less prosperous people. According to World Bank estimates, the developing world is expected to receive \$414 billion in migrant remittances in 2013, an increase of 6.3 percent over the previous year. Globally, the world's 232 million international migrants are expected to remit earnings worth \$550 billion in 2013. For some individual recipient countries, remittances can be as high as a third of their GDP. As per the report of Reserve Bank of India remittances in India increased to 9112.21 USD Million in the second quarter of 2013 from 7845.07 USD Million in the first quarter of 2013. India remittances averaged 7852.36 USD Million from 2010 until 2013, reaching an all time high of 9112.21 USD Million in May of 2013. In Kerala, remittances by NRIs rose 27 per cent between January and September 2013 to \$6.5bn, which is the highest since 2008.

It is the state of Kerala, which receive a large amount of money as remittance when compared to other states of India. The overseas remittances to the state touched an all-time high of Rs 58,150 crore in 2012-13 as against Rs 49,965 crore in 2011-12. Remittance accounts for almost 30- 32 per cent of the state GDP, according to a Kerala migration survey, conducted by the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum (CDS).

In this context the present study analyses the trend of remittance made by non residents to the state and its role in the economic growth of the state.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Many studies have been conducted about the different areas of non residents and remittance received from them. The important among them are presented here.

K.T. Sidheque Aboobacker (1992) ¹ in his PhD thesis —'Impact of Gulf Migration on the Socio-Economic Life of Malappuram District' has attempted to find out the impact of Gulf remittances on the economy of Malappuram district in Kerala. Most of the consequences, especially those taking place in the households of migrants are brought about through remittances and their utilization. Remittances cause social and economic changes.

B.A. Prakash (1999) ² in his edited work "Kerala's Economic Development: Issues and Problems," pointed out that inflow of remittances have helped emigrant households attain higher levels of income, consumption and acquisition of assets. The impact of migration on consumption, savings and investments largely determined by the amount of remittances send by migrants and the utilization pattern of remittances.

Kannan and Hari (2002)³ in — 'Kerala's Gulf Connection: Remittances and their Macro Economic Impact' pointed that remittances to the Kerala economy averaged 21 percentage of the state income in the 1990's. This study also reports that an increase in percapita income as a result of remittances has contributed to an increase in consumption expenditure in Kerala. Although the average per capita consumption in Kerala was below the national average until 1978-79, by1999-2000 consumer expenditure in Kerala exceeded the national average by around 14 percentages

K P Kannan and K S Hari (2002)⁴ — 'Kerala's Gulf Connection Emigration, Remittances and their Macro economic Impact 1972-2000' the liberalization of the Indian economic policies, particularly the foreign exchange rate, benefited Kerala directly. Adding the remittance income to the Net State Domestic Product, a Modified State Income series has been constructed. As a result Kerala's per capita income not only caught up with the average per capita income for India but started exceeding it reaching 49 percent above the national average by the end of the nineties. These tallied with per capita consumer expenditure in Kerala, which was in excess of 41 percent above the national average by the end of the nineties.

K.C. Zachariah and S. Irudaya Rajan, (2008)⁵ in their work "Migration and Development: The Kerala Experience" stated that total remittances to Kerala have showed a steady increase. Between 1998 and 2003 the increase was about Rs. 4.9 thousand crore. The corresponding increase during 2003-07 was Rs. 6.0 thousand crore. There was, thus, a modest acceleration in remittances to Kerala even in the absence of such acceleration in the volume of emigration. Malappuram district was the place of origin of 336,000 emigrants or about 18.2 percent of the total number of emigrants from Kerala.

Abdul Aziz & Mustiary Bgum $(2009)^6$ — 'Gulf Migration, Remittances & Economic Impact' stated that the impact of gulf migration on development is more visible in Kerala state since 50% of the Indian contract workers in gulf countries are from Kerala. 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.

K. C. Zachariah S. Irudaya Rajan (2012)⁷ in their working paper — 'Inflexion in Kerala's Gulf Connection Report on Kerala Migration Survey 2011' observed that Workers'remittances to the Kerala have a major impact on Kerala's economy. Remittances were 31.23 percent of the state's net state domestic product (NSDP). The state's per capita income was Rs. 52,084 (2010), without taking into consideration remittances to the state, but it stood at Rs. 68,375 if remittances were also included.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objective of the study is to know the trend of remittance made by Non Resident Keralites and to analyse its role in the economic growth of the state.

HYPOTHESES

H₀ There is no difference in the amount of remittance received by the state in different years

H₀ Remittance not contribute to the growth of state economy

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND DATA BASE

The present study has been designed as a descriptive and analytical one based on secondary data collected from the repots and publications of World Bank, RBI and the working papers of centre for development studies and bureau of economics and statistics, govt. of Kerala. Percentage, correlation and compound growth rate are the tools used for analyzing the data.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Remittance to India exhibit strong growth over time averaging about 10 per cent a year in constant US Dollar since 1991. Remittances in real dollars declined by 7per cent in 2009 but keeping with the global trend rebounded quickly to register a 9 percent growth rate in 2010. In particular, an increase in domestic interest rate, a decline in international interest rates, and an increase in the Indian stock market index are all associated with an increase in remittances. The trend in the growth rate of remittances is not affected by factors such as economic growth in the source and destination countries, interest rate movements, or even potential risk factors such as political uncertainty. The trend of remittance to India is shown in the following table.

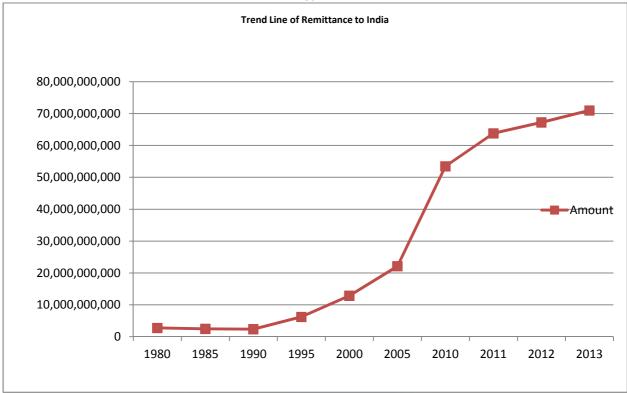


year	Amount	Increase or Decrease	% of increase or decrease
1980	2,756,975,586		
1985	2,469,209,229	-287766357	10.43(-)
1990	2,383,739,990	-373235596	13.53(-)
1995	6,222,996,094	63466020508	125.7
2000	12,883,465,820	10126490234	367.3
2005	22,125,089,480	19368113894	702.5
2010	53,480,000,000	50723024414	1839.8
2011	63,818,000,000	61061024414	2214.8
2012	67,258,000,000	64501024414	2339.5
2013	71,000,000,000	68243024414	2475.3

Source: Website of Reserve Bank of India and World Bank

It is very clear from the table that remittances inflow to India shows an upward trend in the long run. It was 2,756,975,586 in 1980. It increased to 6,222,996,094 in 1995, 12,883,465,820 in 2001, 63,818,000,000 in 2011 and 71,000,000,000 in 2013. A 13.53per cent decrease had been reported in 1990 compared with 1980. But a tremendous, increase, 367.3 percentage was reported in 2000. After that the remittance inflow to India increased rapidly and recorded an all time high of approximately US \$ 71 billion in 2013.it is clearer from the following diagram.





Remittances to the Kerala have a major impact on Kerala's economy. Remittances times the revenue receipt of the Kerala Government, 6.2 times what the state gets from the Centre as revenue were 31.23 percent of the state's net state domestic product (NSDP). The state's per capita income was Rs. 52,084 (2010), without taking into consideration remittances to the state, but it stood at Rs. 68,375 if remittances were also included. The macro economic impact of remittances on Kerala economy in between 1998 and 2011 is given in the following table

TABLE 2: MACRO ECONOMIC IMPACT OF REMITTANCES ON KERALA ECONOMY, 1998-2011

Indicators	1998	2003	2008	2011
Remittances	13652	18465	43288	49695
NSDP	53552	83783	140889	159144
Per Capita Income	16062	25764	41814	52084
Modified NSDP	67204	102248	184185	208839
Revenue Receipt of Government	7198	10634	24936	31181
Transfer from Central Government	1991	2653	7861	7982
Government Non-Plan Expenditure	5855	9908	18934	22546
State Debt	15700	31060	61653	78239
Modified Per Capita Income	2015	731442	54664	67994
Remittances as percent of NSDP (%)	25.5	22.0	30.7	31.2
Remittances as ratio of Revenue Receipt	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.6
Remittances as ratio of Transfer from Centre	6.9	7.0	5.5	6.2
Remittances as ratio of Government Expenditure	2.3	1.9	2.3	2.2
Remittances as ratio of State Debt	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.6

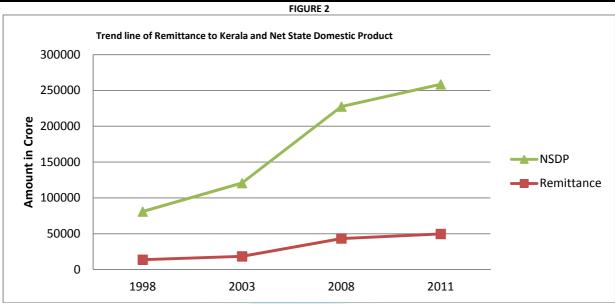
Source: Kerala migration survey, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram

TABLE 3: CORRELATION

Independent variable	Dependent variable	correlation	P value
Remittance	NSDP	0.990	0.010
Remittance	Percapita income	0.983	0.017

^{*.} Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

From the above tables it is very clear that remittance and State Domestic Product and percapita income is highly positively correlated. And the p value at 0.05 level is 0.010, it is less than = 0.05 and the hypothesis remittance not contributed to the state economy is rejected. That means there is a strong relation between amount of remittance received and the net state domestic product and the percapita income of the state. Remittances are 1.6 times the revenue receipt of the Kerala Government, 6.2 times what the state gets from the Centre as revenue transfer. It is more than twice the Government's annual expenditure. It is more than 60 percent of the state's public debt.



Different districts receives different amount in the form of remittances. This contributes to the district domestic poroducts of each district. It is shown in the following table.

TABLE 4: TREND OF DISTRICT WISE REMITTANCES TO KERALA (Rs. in crores)

Sl.No	Districts	2011	2008	2003	Increase/Decrease 2008-2011	Increase/Decrease 2003-2008	Compound Growth rate
1	Thiruvananthapuram	4740	4801	1926	-61	2875	12%
2	Kollam	4423	4477	1813	-54	2664	12%
3	Pathanamthitta	2079	2211	955	-132	1256	10%
4	Alappuzha	2296	1970	1339	326	631	7%
5	Kottayam	2419	2271	580	148	1691	19%
6	Idukki	182	156	39	26	117	21%
7	Ernakulam	6127	2984	1515	3143	1469	19%
8	Thrissur	4293	5961	3235	-1668	2726	4%
9	Palakkad	3293	3448	1149	-155	2299	14%
10	Malappuram	9040	6486	2893	2554	3593	15%
11	Kozhikode	3904	3988	1358	-84	2630	14%
12	Wayanad	578	571	68	7	503	31%
13	Kannur	5145	2800	976	2345	1824	23%
14	Kasaragod	1176	1164	623	13	541	8%
	Total	49695	43288	18469	6407	24819	13%

 $\textbf{\textit{Source}}{:} \ \mathsf{Kerala\ migration\ study, Centre\ for\ Development\ Studies, Thiruvan anthapuram}$

R = .991, p = .000, α =0.01

From 2008 to 2011, the total remittances of the state increased in three years by around 6407 crores. The compound growth rate of the state during the period 2003 and 2011 is 13%. During this period Wayanad achieved a 31 % compound growth, it is very high in compared to other district. Malappuram district placed first in the case of amount of remittances received and percentage of increase. The remittance received by the district was 2893 crore in 2003 and increased to 6486 crore in 2008 and also 9040 crore in 2011. A total of 40% increase is reported in between 2008 and 2011. The Eranakulam district followed Malappuram with an amount of 1515 crore in 2003, 2984 crore in 2008 and 6127 crore in 2011. Eranakulam district shows a rapid growth (105.35%) in the amount of remittance received in between 2008 and 2011. Except Alappuzha, Thrissur and Kasaragode all of the districts of the state achieved a compound annual growth rate of more than 10 % of remittance received in between 2003 and 2011.

Here the hypothesis there is no difference in the amount of remittance received by the state in different years is tested and the p value is 0.000 at 0.01 level of significant. The null hypothesis is rejected and it is conclude that the amount of remittance shows an upward trend from 2003 to 2011.

Compound growth rate of volume of remittance to the state

CARG $(t_0, t_n) = (V(t_n)/V(t_0))^{\frac{1}{n}} - 1$

 T_0 = 2003, T_n =2011, t_n - t_0 =8

=(49695/18469)^{1/8}-1

 $=(2.69)^{0.125}-1$ =1.132-1

=0.13, =<u>13%</u>

Remittance place important role in the development of each district also. An average of more than 25 percent of the DDP (District Domestic Product) filled by foreign remittances. It is very high in the case of Malappuram district.

DISTRICT WISE REMITTANCE TO KERALA IN 2012

Districts	DDP*(in lakhs)	Remittances	Percentage of DDP*	
	(at factor cost)	(in lakhs) 2012		
Thiruvanantha puram	2039737	474000	23.24	
Kollam	1379699	442300	32.06	
Pattanamtitta	769696	207900	27.01	
Alappuzha	1211688	229600	18.95	
Kottayam	1290904	241900	18.74	
Idukki	621518	18200	2.93	
Eranamkulam	2679942	612700	22.86	
Ttrissure	1868740	429300	22.97	
Palakkad	1395852	329300	23.59	
Malappuram	1454271	904000	62.16	
Kozhikkode	1655976	390400	23.58	
Wayanad	348946	57800	16.56	
Kannur	1379615	514500	37.29	
Kasargode	603173	117600	19.50	
Total	18699757	4969500	26.58	

Source: Department of Economics and Statistics, Government of Kerala

Note:- DDP- District Domestic Product

In the year 2012, 26.58 percentage of Gross domestic product was the remittances received from foreign countries itself. Malappuram district contribute 62.16% to its District Domestic Product only in the form of remittances. It shows the key role of foreign remittances for the economy. Idukki district in the state is an exceptional case in the case of contribution of remittances to district domestic product. In Idukki, only 2.93 percent of the DDP filled by remittances. Majority of all other district contribute more than 20% to DDP in the form of remittances.

FINDINGS AND SUGGESTIONS

FINDINGS

Due to inflation and increase income of migrants, Kerala receives a huge amount of foreign currency in the form of remittance. It shows an achievement of 13 percent compound growth rate from 2003 and 2011. A rapid growth of the amount of remittance is shown year after year

An average of 26.16% of state domestic product is filled by remittance from foreign countries. The amount of remittance received and Net State Domestic product is correlated positively. Same time it shows an increase in the percapita income of the state. In Kerala Malappuram is the last district in the case of amount of percapita income. But the district contributes around 62 percent to its District Domestic product through remittance.

SUGGESTIONS

On the basis of above discussions it is clear that remittance occupy a prominent position in the growth and development of state economy, to maintain and to stabilize following suggestions are made

- > Channelize amount of remittance to productive way with an intention to ensure stable growth of economy
- > It is favorable to ensure all the remittances should be received through formal or legal ways. It will help to generate more savings, more investment and more capital formation
- Ensure the safety and security of the migrants in different countries to ensure stable receipt pf remittance from there.

CONCLUSION

Remittance is a major source of income while considering all types of inflows of fund. It contributes to the growth of state economy as well as national economy. Due to the change in exchange rate and inflation of Indian rupee against foreign currencies, a notable increase in the volume of remittance is seen in the previous years. It shows an upward trend and the same time a positive growth in the state domestic product. To ensure stable growth of economy and to promote volume of remittance to state, the concerned authorities must give a keen interest in the field of migration and remittance. It is essential for the wellness of our state.

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