

## **Youth Migration, Urban Informality and Vulnerable Employment: An Empirical Study of Construction Labourers in Pune City**

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*The urban informal sector provides substantial employment opportunities and functions as a magnet attracting rural youth from different parts of the country. It is the last resort of livelihood for millions of young, rural semi and unskilled labourers and it influences their decision of migration. Hence, it is essential to investigate the work and employment conditions at the destination cities. The units of analysis in the present study are young male and female populace who are engaged as informal labourers in the construction industry in Pune city. This Mixed-Method study intends to understand and explore not only various minute aspects of vulnerabilities related to work and employment faced by migrant youth, but also the status of social security welfare measures.*

### **I Introduction**

It was believed that globalisation and economic reforms would bring better things in terms of employment, and the formal sector will play a significant role in the development process and will create many 'decent employment' opportunities. The formal sector was supposed to cater to and function for poverty alleviation and to promote occupational mobility among working people, especially the labourers from rural areas. Many scholars believed that the informal sector is a 'transitory phase' that would disappear as development will occur in various countries. However, India experienced the rapid growth of the informal sector and informal employment during the post-liberalization period. The model which believed that decent employment would increase as an impact of globalization, seems to fail in India. Now the informal sector is the main component of the Indian economy which occupies almost 92 per cent of the total employment. Among urban informal sector, internal migrants occupy a large and substantial portion. UNESCO (2013) mentioned that in Asia, Africa and Latin America, around 40 per cent of urban growth results from internal migration from rural to urban areas and among internal migrants 30 per cent are youth in the age of 15-29 years. The young rural labourers, migrating towards cities in search of livelihood sources is the significant populace contributing to the economic growth of those destination places, which

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