

Abstract

Climate Migrants, Resource Scarcity and the Sustainability Issue: The Case of Jungle Mahals Region

**Dr Nirmal Kumar Mahato
Member, CRG
Associate Professor in History &
Deputy Director, Centre for Environmental Studies
Vidyasagar University, Midnapore**

The study seeks to chronicle historically the migration process in the Jungle Mahals region as a corollary of environmental and climatic changes. Environmental migration or climate migrant recently became "hot topic". Though there are some of the empirical studies but hundreds of scholarly articles are produced. In social sciences the discourse is very well known and popular while it has been least discussed by the scholars of humanities. From different approaches the relationship among migration, environment and climate change can be studied. First way of enquiry traces out the effects of environmental or climatic conditions on migration. The second approach involve in exploring relationship between migration and climatic and environmental change and the impact of migration on the environment of the region where it receives the people. A third way of analysis focus on the environmental and climatic impact of migration for the areas from where people left. This study will follow integrative approach involving first and third way of enquiry. Inappropriate agrarian intervention, introduction of monoculture and commercial forestry caused massive forest degradation which decreased soil moisture as well as rainfall and temperature increased. The region became draught prone and resource scarcity appeared as result of depletion of biological resources. In this condition, people were forced to leave another region in search of work and food. Therefore, this paper will engage in explaining the unsustainable environmental policy which led to environmental degradation and consequently the creation of climate migrant.