

*Ph.D. Summary*

**AN ENQUIRY INTO RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION TO GUWAHATI CITY:  
RELEVANCE OF THE HARRIS-TODARO MODEL**

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## ***OBJECTIVES :***

- **To estimate the magnitude of rural-urban migration into Guwahati city and also examine the profile of the migrants.**
- **To test the relevance of the Harris-Todaro model in the context of rural-urban migration into Guwahati.**
- **To determine factors affecting rural-urban migration into Guwahati.**
- **To assess the socio-economic impact of rural-urban migration on the economy of Guwahati.**

# HYPOTHESIS:

*Rural-urban migration into Guwahati is not affected by expected urban-rural wage differentials.*

# RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

- *What induces in-migration to Guwahati city despite its high incidence of unemployment?*
- *Is the dynamic growth experienced by Guwahati's informal sector significantly attributable to the large scale rural-urban migration?*

# METHODOLOGY

**Scope and coverage:**

***intra-state and inter-state rural-urban  
migration into Guwahati city***

# Data Source:

- Secondary Data.

Census reports, NSSO reports, Government reports.

- Primary Data:

- ✓ *Rural-urban wage differentials*

- ✓ *Migration ratio*

- ✓ *WFPR & LFPR*

- ✓ *Socio-economic & demographic parameters*

## Sampling design:

- A **multi-stage sampling design** is used.
- A sample of 1000 post 2001 migrants into Guwahati was selected from the labour-force from the existing 60 wards in Guwahati on the basis of **random sampling**.

## Result of regression :

(to identify and estimate the relationship between the migration ratio and differential in urban expected wage rate and rural wage).

	Model-A	Model-B	Model-C
<i>R</i>	.072	.071	.271
<i>R</i> <sup>2</sup>	.005	.005	.073
<i>F</i>	.072 (.792)	.090 (.767)	.951 (.349)
<i>b</i> <sub>1</sub>	-00001.412	000003.130	000006.245
<i>t</i>	-.269 (.792)	.301 (.767)	.975 (.349)

Note: Figures in bracket indicate the p-value of the test parameters

The Harris-Todaro model is inadequate to explain rural-urban migration into Guwahati as differential in expected urban wage and rural wage rate is found to be an insignificant factor affecting the rural-urban migration rate into the city.

## Result of regression (to identify and estimate the relationship between the migration ratio and different socio-economic and demographic factors).

Model	R <sup>2</sup>	F	Sig.	Variables entered	B	t	Sig.	VIF
Model-1	.643	2.887	.088	(Constant)	-.122	-.492	.636	
				Literacy rate at the place of origin	-.001	-.491	.636	1.663
				Density of population at the place of origin	.000	1.834	.104	2.325
				% of agricultural labourers to agricultural workers	.000	-.118	.909	1.800
				Distance from Guwahati	.000	-1.020	.338	1.835
				Per Capita gross district domestic product	9.889E-6	2.428	.041	1.508
Model-2	.643	4.049	.038	(Constant)	-.137	-.673	.518	
				Literacy rate at the place of origin	-.001	-.518	.617	1.350
				Density of population at the place of origin	.000	1.962	.081	2.219
				Distance from Guwahati	.000	-1.082	.307	1.732
				Per Capita gross district domestic product	9.902E-6	2.578	.030	1.507
Model-3	.632	5.729	.015	(Constant)	-.213	-1.580	.145	
				Density of population at the place of origin	.001	2.233	.050	2.090
				Distance from Guwahati	.000	-1.042	.322	1.672
				Per Capita gross district domestic product	9.263E-6	2.645	.025	1.352
Model-4	.592	7.987	.007	(Constant)	-.313	-3.292	.007	
				Density of population at the place of origin	.001	3.709	.003	1.259
				Per Capita gross district domestic product	1.022E-5	3.010	.012	1.259



Results:								
Model	R <sup>2</sup>	F	Sig.	Variables entered	B	t	Sig.	VIF
Model-4	.592	7.987	.007	(Constant)	-.313	-3.292	.007	
				Density of population at the place of origin	.001	3.709	.003	1.259
				Per Capita gross district domestic product	1.022E-5	3.010	.012	1.259

Hence, we reject the implicit null hypothesis of the model that density of population and per capita gross district domestic product do not individually affect the migration ratio and hence accept the alternative hypothesis endorsing the contention that these two predictors independently do have an impact on the migration ratio of Guwahati. The authenticity of the result is further strengthened by the absence of colinearity as evidenced by values assumed by the VIF parameters against the various regression coefficients.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS :

### *Relevance of the Harris-Todaro model:*

- The Harris-Todaro model is inadequate to explain rural-urban migration into Guwahati as expected urban-rural income differential is found to be insignificant as a factor determining the migration rate.
- A greater rural population density can act as a push factor in inducing migration into Guwahati.
- Per capita gross district domestic product has been established to have a positive impact on Guwahati's migration rate.

### Impact of Migration:

- Migration induced by a search for better livelihood in the urban areas makes a significant impact on the total volume of migration.
- Significant contribution of informal sector to the total volume of employment in Guwahati city.

contd.

## Measures:

- Future growth of the city must be rationally planned and unchecked in-migration regulated if the city is to be protected from the inevitable decline and decay.
- A sustained effort must be made to induce development of the rural sector.
- The ad-hoc policies related to urbanization and migration need to be replaced by a consistent, logical and a systematic strategy which can sustained over a long period of time.
- Greater public investment in rural socio-economic infrastructure.
- The establishment of *Satellite Township* would lead to a significant reduction in the burden of such agglomerations.