

Growth, Demography, and Diaspora: Assessing the Role of Migration in India's Transformation in the 21st Century

By

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Session on:

Migration from India.

Second Meeting of the Task Force on International
Migration,

Initiative for Policy Dialogue (IPD) at Columbia
University

Organised at:

Mexico City,

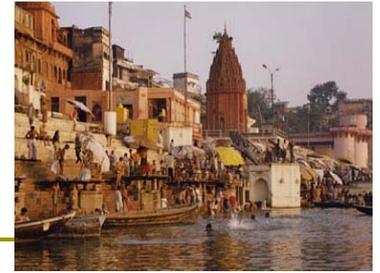
15-16 January, 2009

India on the move...?



- Towards a “Superpower”?

Stereotypes, Fiction, Euphoria?



- ❑ MDGs: 2015, India Vision: 2020
- ❑ *The River of Gods: 2047*
100 years after freedom
- ❑ The World Economic Forum, 2006

An alphabetical primer of index



- C for Cultural
- D for Demographic
- E for Economic
- F for Financial
- M for Military
- N for Nuclear
- P for Political

Two reasons to rejoice: From Davos to Delhi Durbar!



- Transition from 'Hindu Rate' of Growth to Goldman Sachs'
- The magic *mantra* of 'Demographic Dividend'

Despair ... on growth?

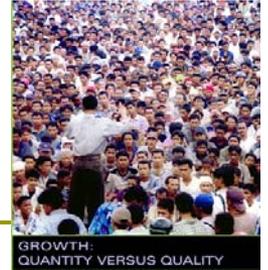


The Growth Report
Strategies for Sustained Growth
and Inclusive Development

COMMISSION ON GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

- Given India's prospective achievements, it is little wonder that the venue of the South Asia launch of the *Growth Commission Report*, was chosen to be New Delhi, in May 2008.
- But, given India's big failures, the report did not list it among the 13 countries that experienced sustained and inclusive growth of 7 percent average or more, over the last quarter of a century.

Holes in the Demographic Dividend



□ Numbers in the population

Vs

□ Quality of human resource

Skepticism... on human capital in demography?



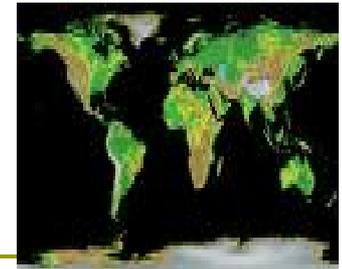
National Knowledge Commission Report, 2007 said:

- "Given the demographic reality of a young India, expansion, inclusion and excellence in higher education can drive economic development and social progress.
- Indeed, what we do in the sphere of higher education now can transform economy and society in India by 2025."

Transition from “3D” to “3-D”



- Overpopulation, and Brain Drain for Underdevelopment
to
- Demographic, and Diasporic Dividends for Development

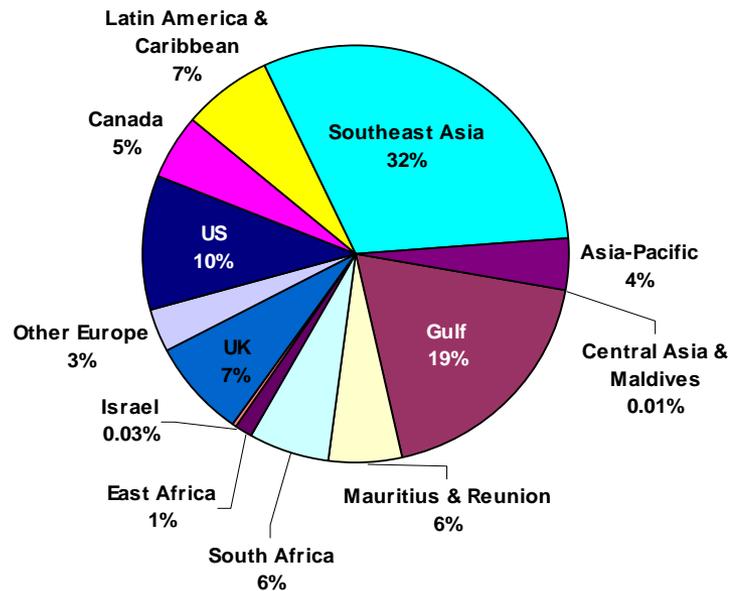


Some Indian Facts:

Regional distribution of 20 million-stock of Indian migrants at the end of the 20th Century:

2% of India's 1 billion population
Roughly half NRIs, and half foreign PIOs.

Figure 1: Percentage Distribution of NRIs and PIOs by Region



Some Indian Facts: Of Stocks and Flows

- Now estimated 25 million.
- Flow: half a million PIOs growth, and half a million NRIs being added every year.

Destination America!

Indian skilled migration is focused on the US

Flow of Indian* Immigrants admitted in the US:

Numbers (A), Percentages (B), and Percentage Shares amongst Global Immigrants (C)

Pre 9/11 Years	1999 (INS data regime)			2000 (INS data regime)			2001 (INS data regime)		
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
All Immigrants	30237	100.0	4.7	42046	100.0	4.9	70290	100.0	6.6
With Occupations	8016	26.5	5.7	3724	32.7	7.2	27073	38.5	11.3
Ecec/Adm/Mngrl	1112	3.7	7.1	1644	3.9	7.9	3062	4.3	11.1
Profssnl/Techncl	3492	11.6	9.4	8632	20.6	14.7	19935	28.4	23.8
Post 9/11 Years**	2002 (DHS data regime)			2003(DHS data regime)			2004(DHS data regime)		
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
All Immigrants	71105	100.0	6.7	50372	100.0	7.1	70116	100.0	7.4
With Occupations	42885	60.3	34.5	20560	40.8	25.0	38443	54.8	24.7
Ecec/Adm/Mngrl	Global number: 29277			Global number: 22295			Global number: 31689		
Profssnl/Techncl	Global number: 79370			Global number: 46495			Global number: 73862		

Source: Author, using US INS and US DHS *Statistical Yearbooks*, various years.

Notes: * By country of birth. **County-wise occupational break-up of immigrant data not available in DHS regime.

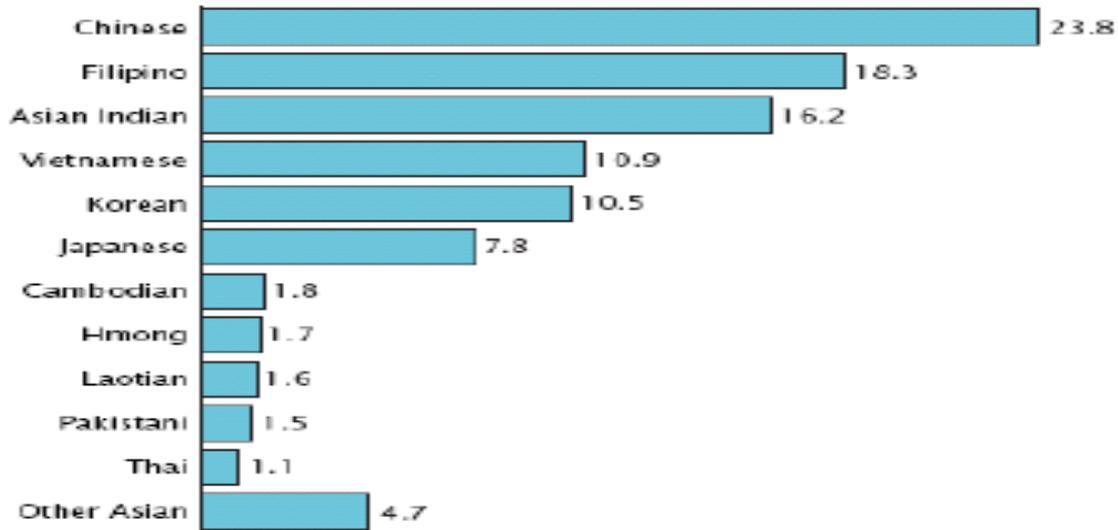
Some Indian Facts:

Relative Size of Asian Population in the US :



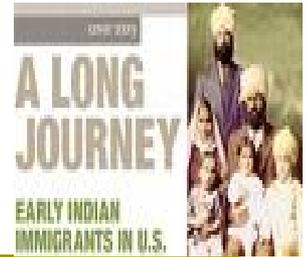
Asian Population by Detailed Group: 2000

(Percent distribution. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 special tabulation.

Economic integration of Indian diaspora in the U.S.:

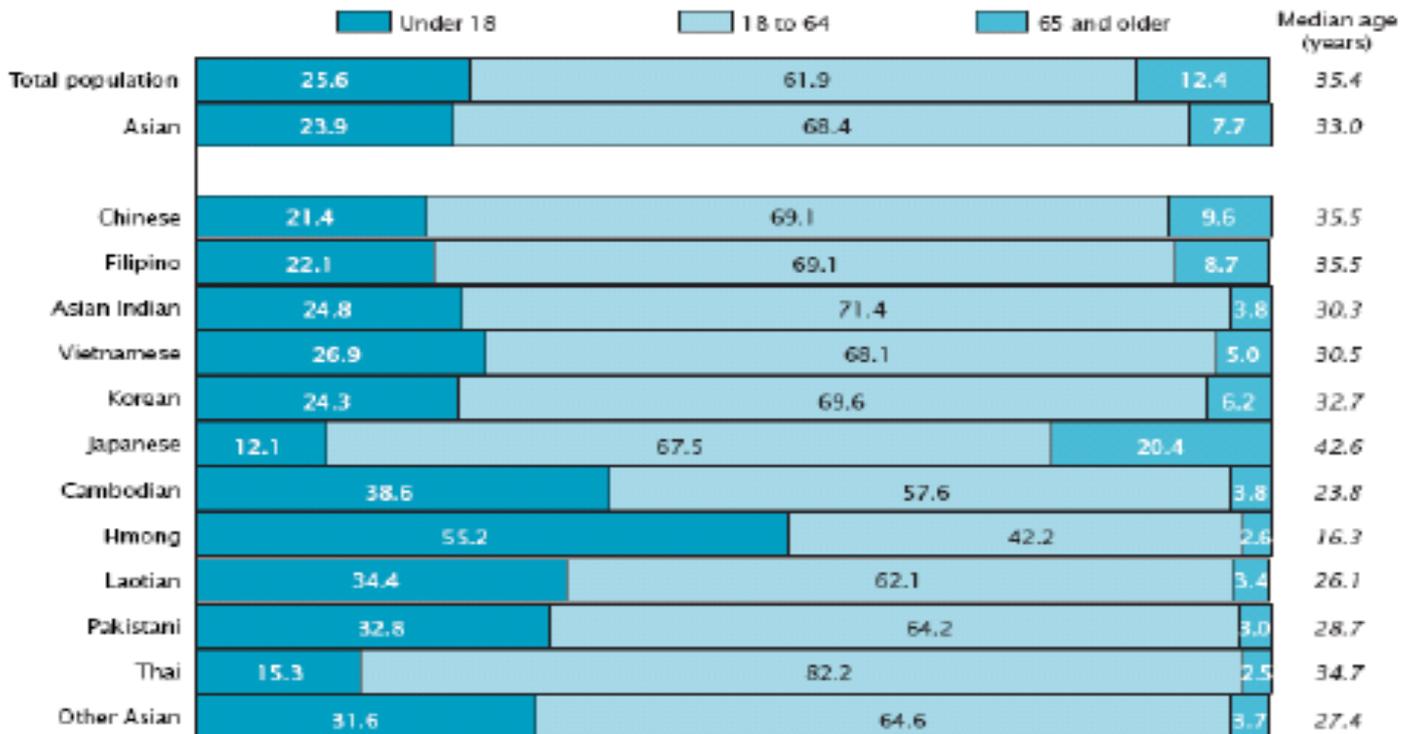


- Education-Occupation-Income Profiles of the Indian diaspora show Indian immigrants' high economic integration in the twentieth-century US economy from 1970s onwards, leading to their high social and economic capabilities....

a. Average Age as an index of Indian diaspora capabilities

Selected Age Groups and Median Age: 2000

(Percent distribution. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)

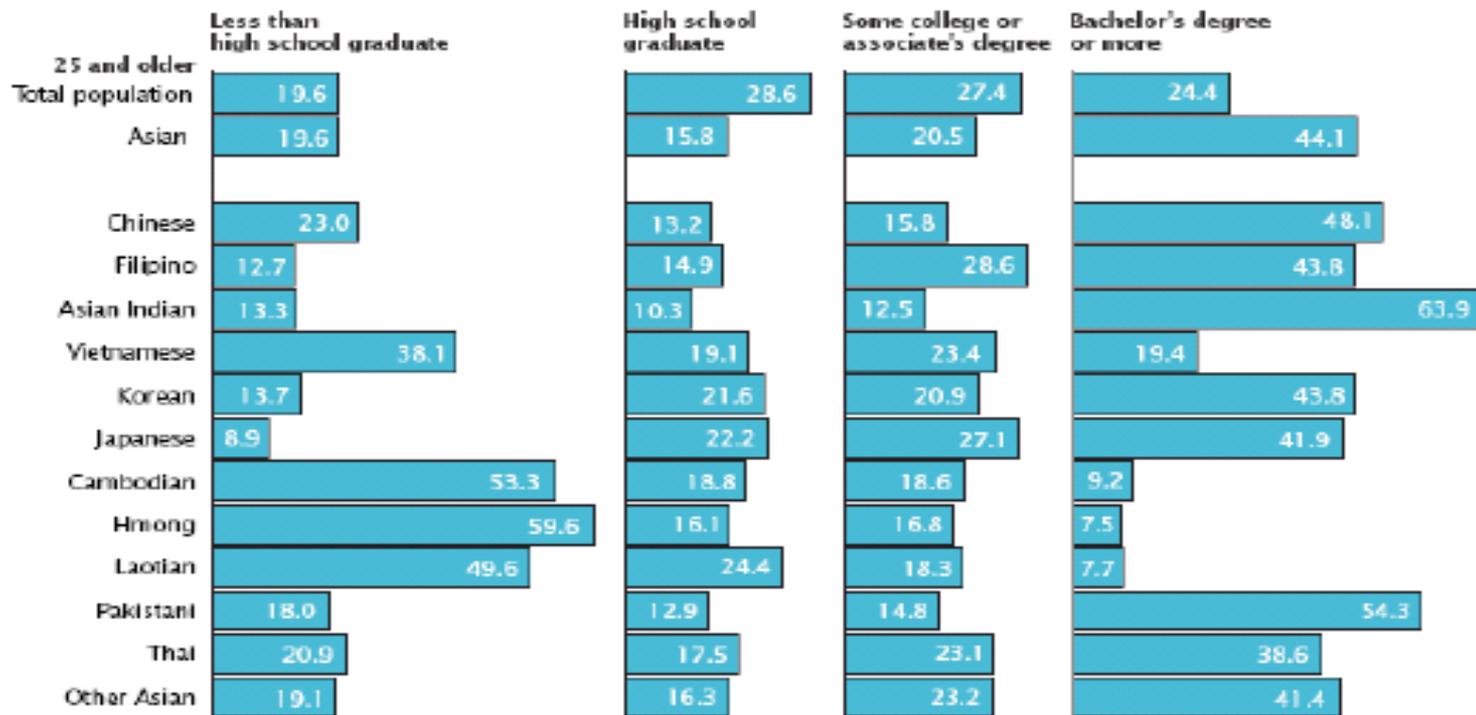


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 special tabulation.

b. Educational Profile as an index of Indian diaspora capabilities:

Educational Attainment: 2000

(Percent distribution of population 25 and older. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)

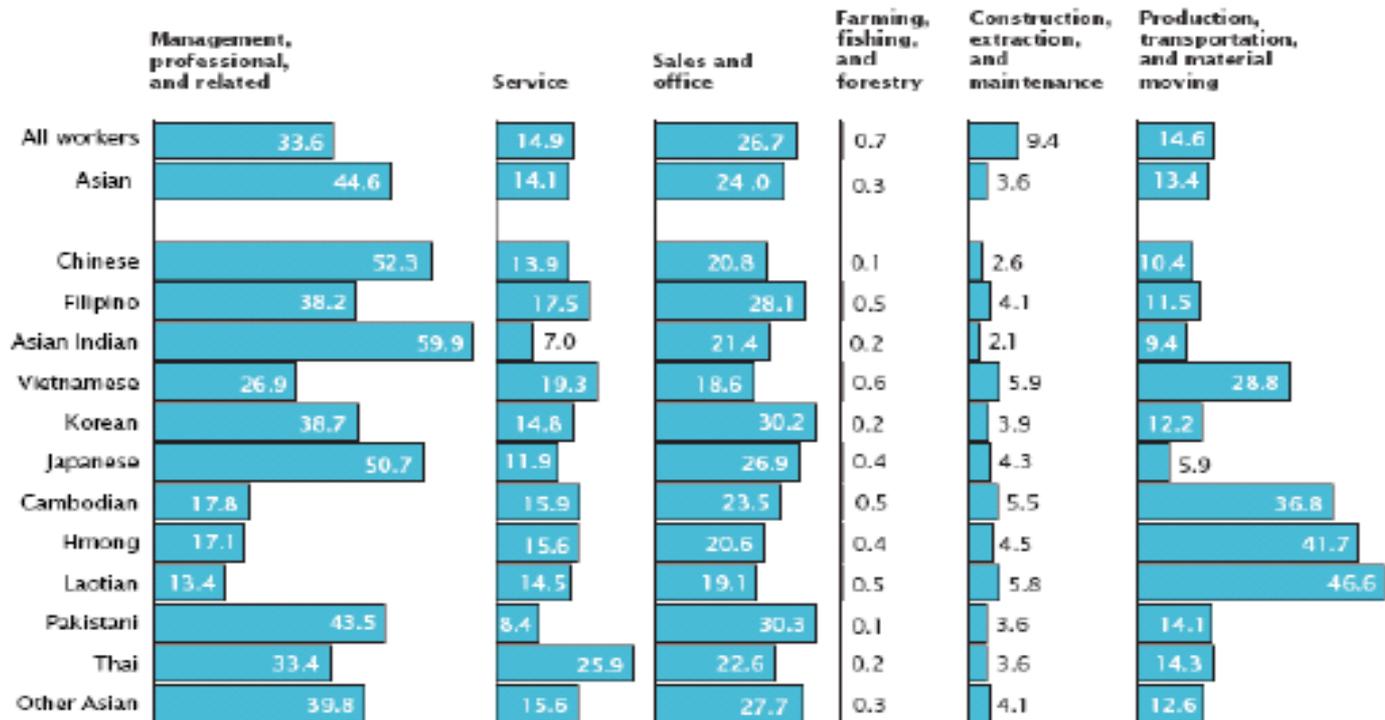


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 special tabulation.

c. Occupational Profile as the Indian diaspora capabilities:

Occupation: 2000

(Percent distribution of employed civilian population 16 and older. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf4.pdf)

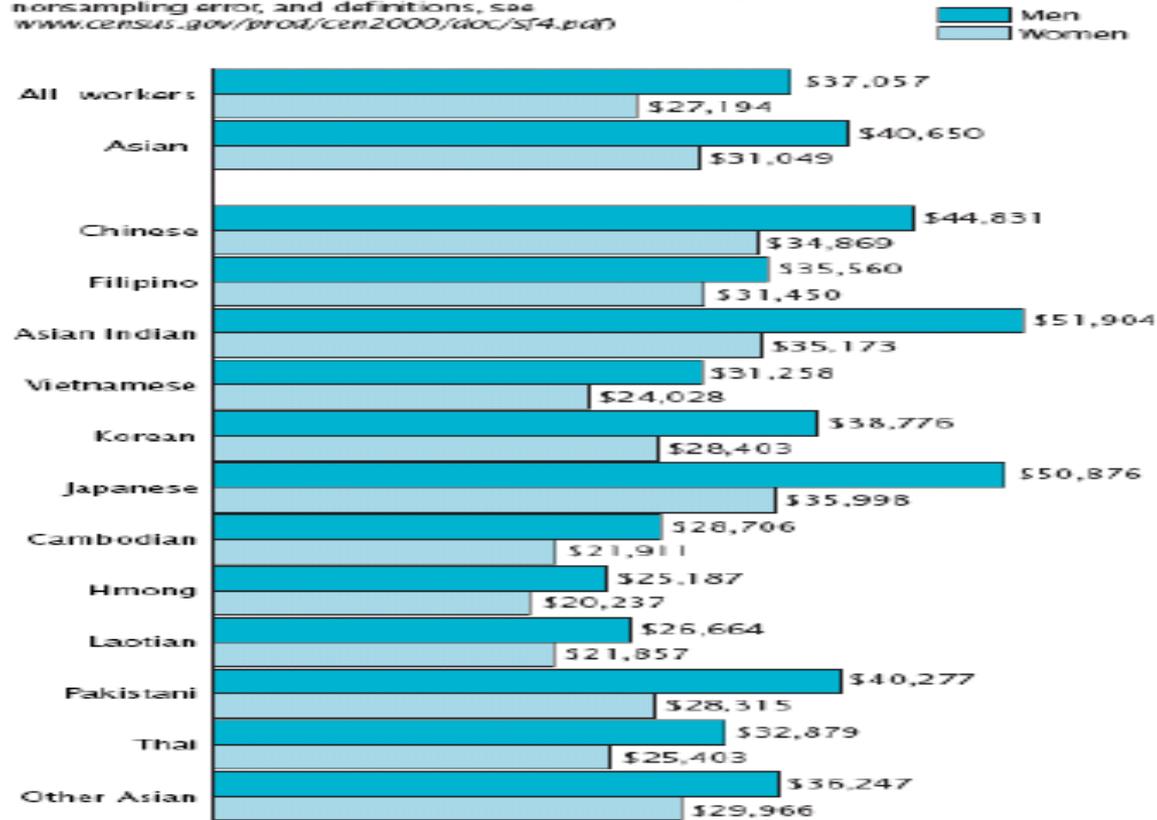


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 special tabulation.

d. Income Profile of the Indian diaspora as an index of capabilities.

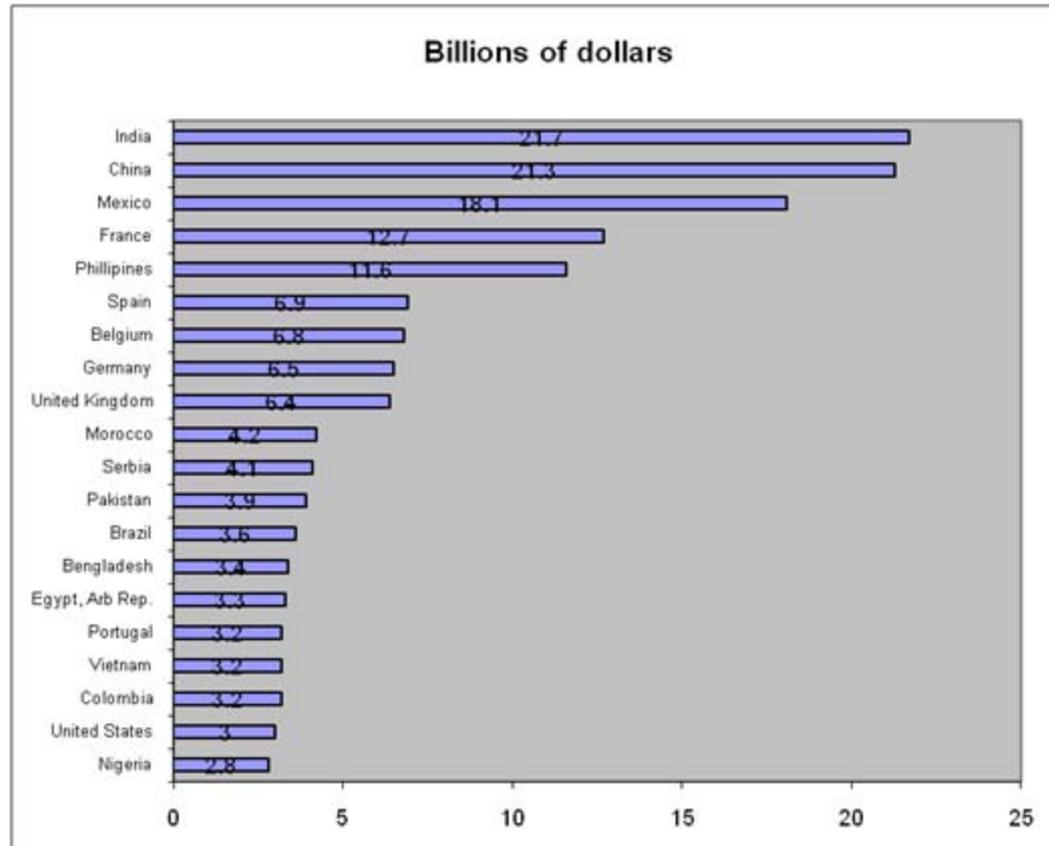
Median Earnings by Sex: 1999

(For employed, full-time, year-round workers 16 and older. Data based on sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/s\[4\].pdf](http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/s[4].pdf))



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 special tabulation.

India tops 20 remittance-recipient countries since 2004:



India's policy stance has “come full circle”:



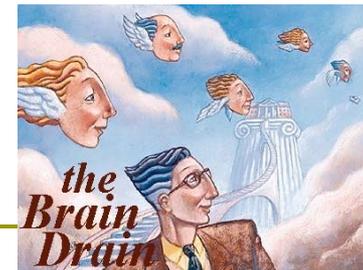
- The Indian Trajectory of Experiences:
 - Pre-Independence notion of ‘motherland’ and ‘country of birth’ – Gandhi’s legacy as an ‘Indian abroad’, Nehru’s ‘motherland’;
 - Post-Partition notion of ‘territorial affinity’ and ‘desertion of the motherland’;
 - Post-colonial neutrality of NAM;
 - Self-reliance, non-interventionist regime of Nehru-Indira;
 - Paradigm shift in 1977
 - Brain Drain as Brain Bank in the Rajiv Gandhi regime
 - HLC Report, and policy ‘coming full circle’

Whither Diasporic Dividend?



- Services, Software and IT skills of Knowledge Workers:
 - PIOs as Dual Citizens abroad
 - BPO and Return Migration home

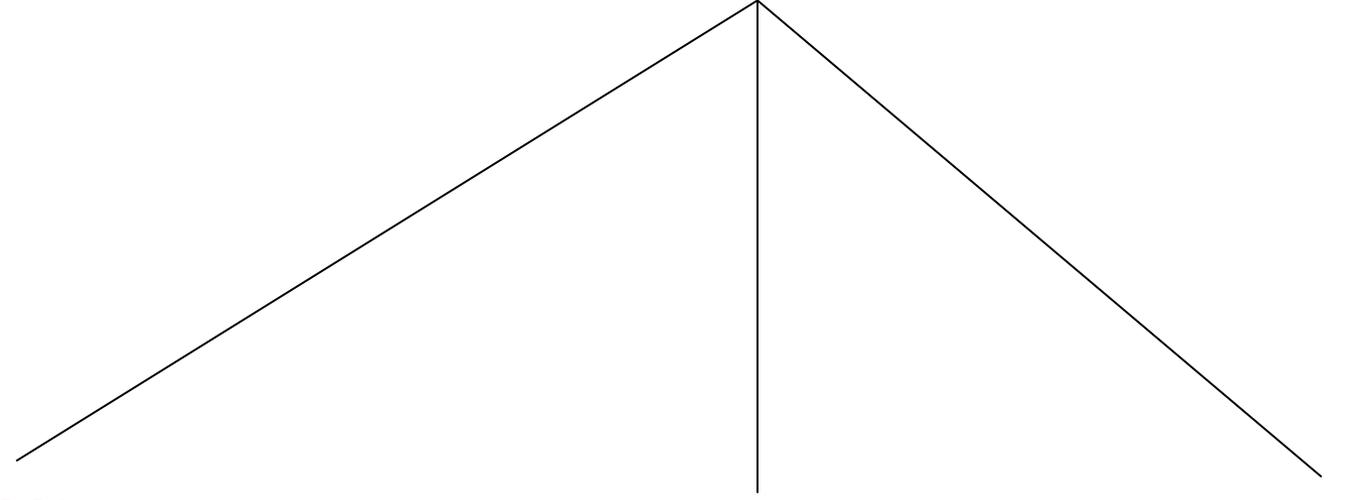
Return Migration Vs. Re-migration



- The Trinity of Re-migration
 - Age
 - $wAge$
 - $vintAge$

Dynamic Conflicts of Interests in Migration:

Involving Long-term Effects on Development & Well-being



Age:

**Primacy of
Temporary
Migration, and
AST**

wAge:

**Lower wages-bill,
and Silent Backwash
of Remittances**

vintAge:

**Primacy of
Student
Migration,
and Embodied
Knowledge**

There is a novel international context of partnership, setting a “double challenge” for public policy:

- ❑ First, to recognize and convince its diaspora, of the strategic importance of migration as both a challenge and an opportunity for participating in the **development of India**, not merely its growth.
- ❑ Second, to rethink the development process with a transnational perspective that incorporates the cooperation and collaboration of destination countries in bringing about a **regime of stability** in migration policy.

A New Tool for Policy Coherence?



- One useful policy tool in bilateral and multilateral fora (UN, GFMD) is:
“equitable adversary analysis”

whereby the contribution to social and economic development in countries of origin would be assessed from the point of view of the stakeholders in countries of destination and vice versa.

The Changing Paradigms for Policy are:

- Developing countries' perspective:

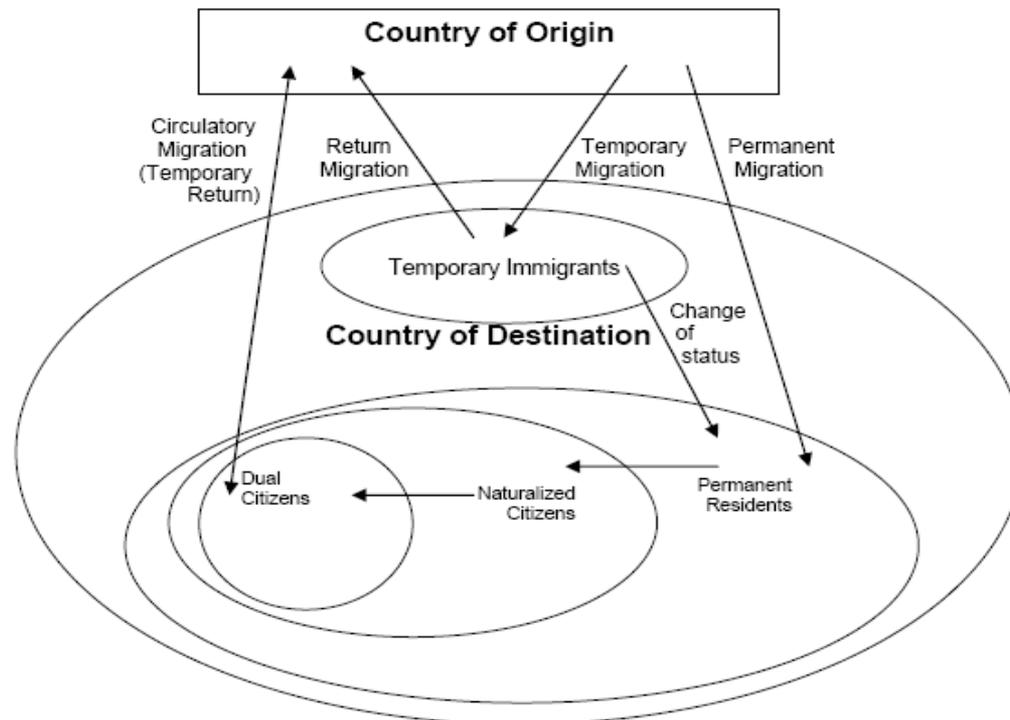
in India: "Brain Drain", to "Brain Bank" to, "Brain Gain"

- Developed countries' perspective:

in the EU: "Fortress Europe" and anti-BPO, to "Blue Card"

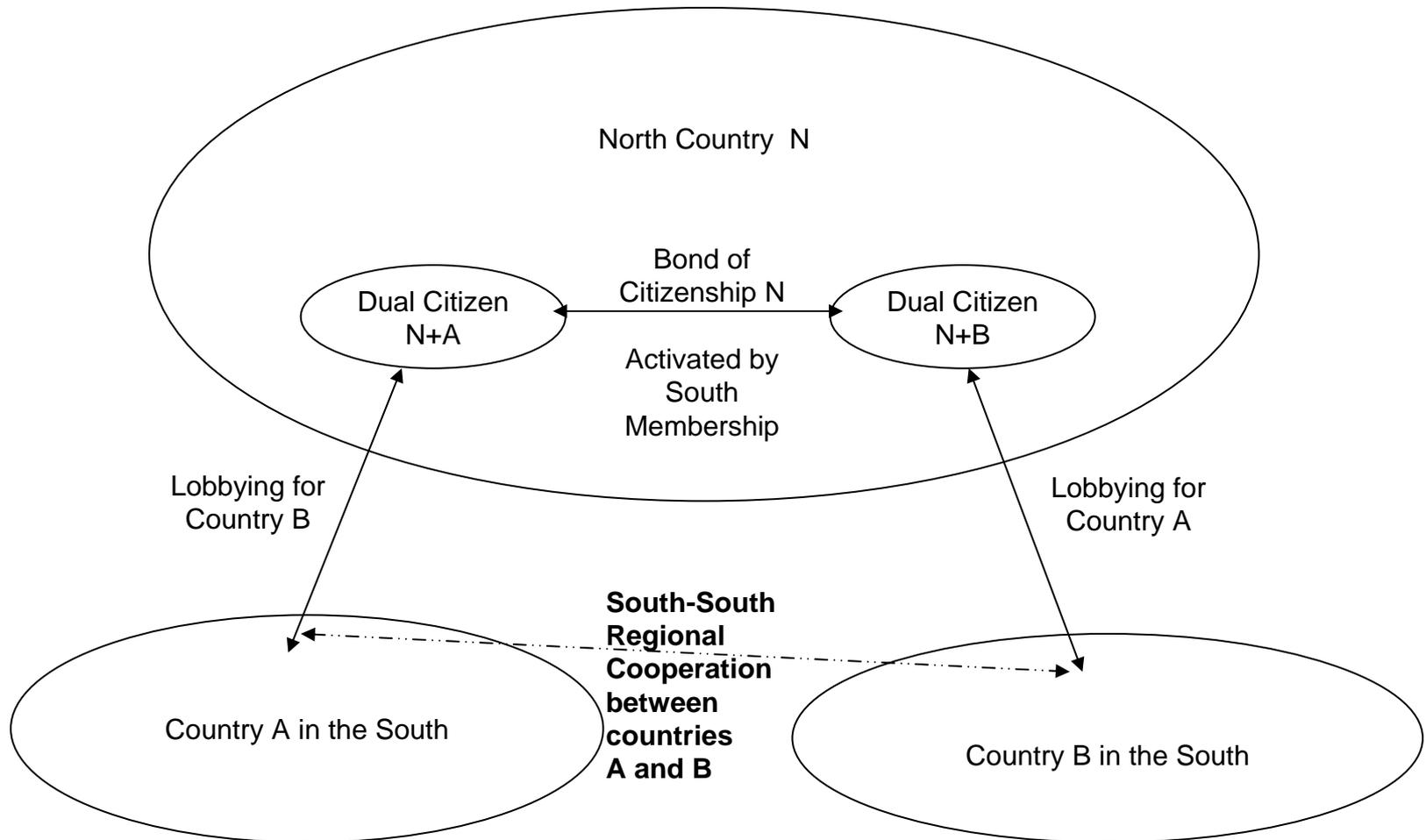
Emerging Institution of Dual and Multiple Citizenship: Permanent Migration to Temporary *Return* (*contra* Temporary Migration)

The Cycle of Migration for Development, by
Dual Citizenship-induced Circulatory Migration and Temporary Return



Source: Conceived and drawn by the author.

Migration can be an Engine of Regional Cooperation among developing countries



Or else...



- The puzzle of
Growth, Demography and Diaspora
sans
Development and Well-being

would continue to remain and intrigue us as pieces of jigsaw that the opportunities in migration failed to bring together!

Thank You



GHANDU

