# A STUDY OF MIGRATION PATTERN IN DISTRICT PAURI GARHWAL, UTTARAKHAND

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*"together we can and we will make a difference"*

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## ABSTRACT

The term 'Migration' describes the flow of people from one location to another, frequently across regional or national borders. Numerous considerations, including social, political, economic, and environmental ones, may be the driving forces behind this shift, which may be voluntary or involuntary. A person may migrate temporarily or permanently, within a country or internationally, voluntarily or under duress, for economic reasons, or as a refugee. Individuals or groups may relocate for a variety of reasons, including to pursue better employment prospects, to flee political persecution or violence, to spend time with family, or simply to live in a higher quality of life. Significant social, economic, and political, outcomes flow from migration, affecting both the migrant communities and the societies they enter and depart. It may significantly affect a community's social and cultural structure in addition to having an effect on the job market, public services, and political structures. There are currently 184 million migrants is 2.3 per cent of the population, including 37 million refugees (World Development Report 2023, Migration, Refugees & Societies). The reasons and effects of migration in the Uttarakhand's states Pauri Garhwal district are the focus of this study. This research paper's primary goals are to examine migration's current state, its causes and effects, and to recommend policies aimed at reducing migration in the Pauri Garhwal. Every aspect of the basis of this research work is secondary data. The district census handbook from 2011 and the Rural Development and Migration Commission report 2023 from the Uttarakhand government were the sources of secondary data. Following data gathering, maps and diagrams were used to examine the data

***Keywords:*** *Domestic, Employment, International, Migration, policies, societies etc.*

## INTRODUCTION

The term 'Migration' describes the flow of people from one location to another, frequently across regional or national borders. Numerous considerations, including social, political, economic, and environmental ones, may be the driving forces behind this shift, which may be voluntary or involuntary. A person may migrate temporarily or permanently, within a country or internationally, voluntarily or under duress, for economic reasons, or as a refugee. Individuals or groups may relocate for a variety of reasons, including to pursue better employment prospects, to flee political persecution or violence, to spend time with family, or simply to live in a higher quality of life. Significant social, economic, and political, outcomes flow from migration, affecting both the migrant communities and the societies they enter and depart. It may significantly affect a community's social and cultural structure in addition to having an effect on the job market, public services, and political structures. Migration, like fertility and mortality, holds a place of prominence in a geographical analysis of population change in any area (Trewartha, 1969). Migration cannot be considered a mere shift of people from one place of residence to another, as it as most fundamental to the understanding of continuously changing space-content and space-relationship of an area (Gosal, 1961). Movement of people as an instrument of cultural diffusion and social integration that results into more meaningful distribution of population. (Bogue 1959).

There are currently 184 million migrants is 2.3 per cent of the population, including 37 million refugees (World Development Report 2023, Migration, Refugees & Societies).
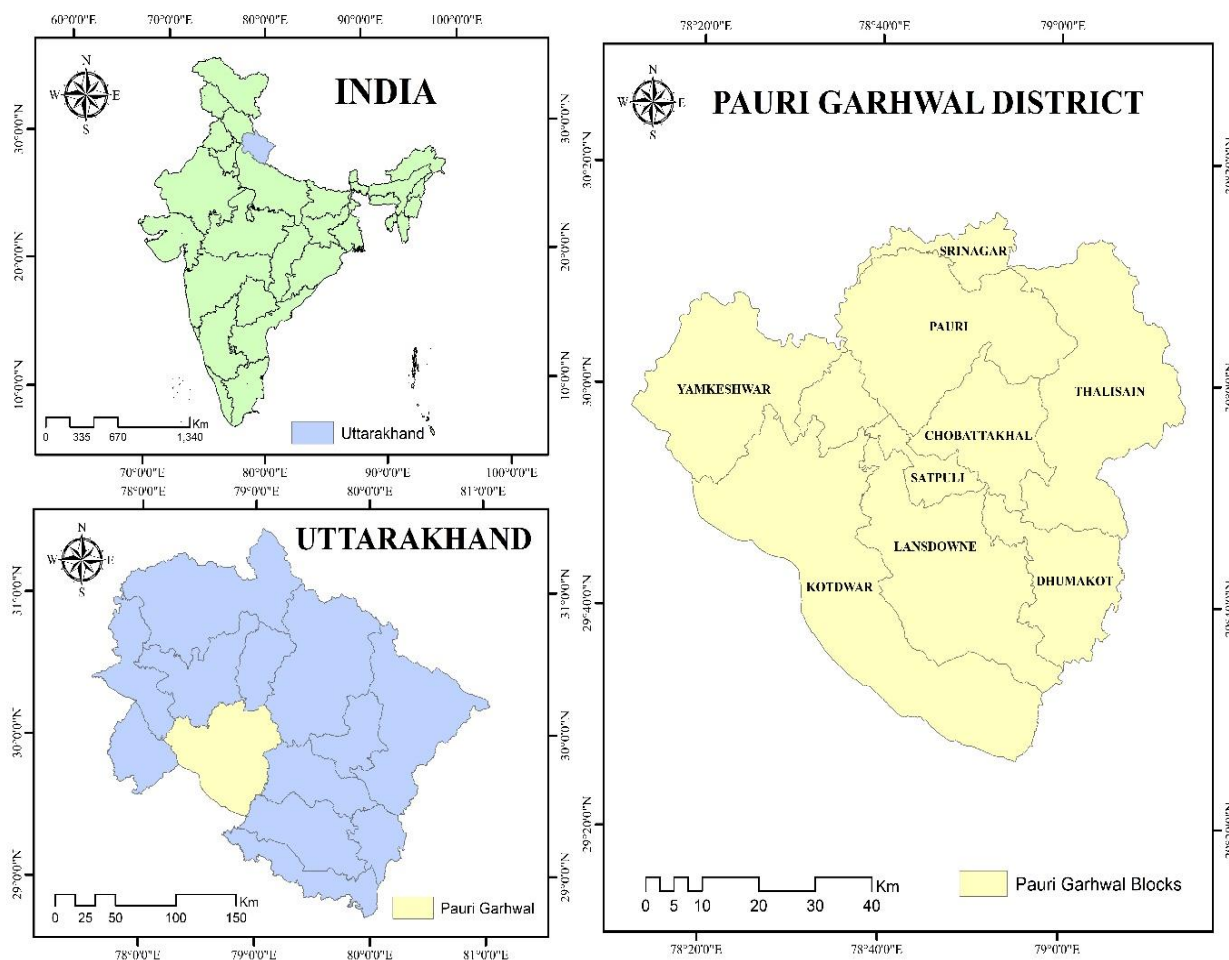
### 2. Study area

The district of Pauri Garhwal in the state of Uttarakhand is 5230 square kilo meters in size and is located between latitudes 29° 45' and 30°15' and longitudes 78° 24' and 79° 23' E. The districts of Chamoli, Rudraprayag, and Tehri Garhwal in the north, Bijnor and Udhamsingh Nagar in the south, Almora and Nainital in the east, and Dehradun and

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Haridwar in the west encircle this district. Administratively, the district is divided into fifteen developmental blocks. With a population of 24,743, Pauri is the headquarters of the Pauri Garhwal district and is situated at a height of 1650 meters.

## STUDY AREA MAP



**Source:** SOI

### 3. Objectives

(1) To analysis the condition of Migration in the study area.

(2) To research the reasons for migration, analysis its effects, and recommend suitable remedies.

### 4. Database and methodology-

In the state of Uttarakhand, the Pauri Garhwal district has seen a significant increase in the number of people moving from rural to urban regions over time. In order to address this issue, a thorough analysis of the causes and consequences of migration in the Tehri district has been conducted in this research article. The entire foundation of this research work is secondary data. The District Census Handbook from 2011 and the Rural Development and Migration Commission report 2023 from the Uttarakhand government were the sources of secondary data. Following data gathering, maps and diagrams have been used to interpret the data.Microsoft Excel was used for data analysis, and Arc-GIS were used for mapping.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Migration in Pauri Garhwal district: Present Status of migration**
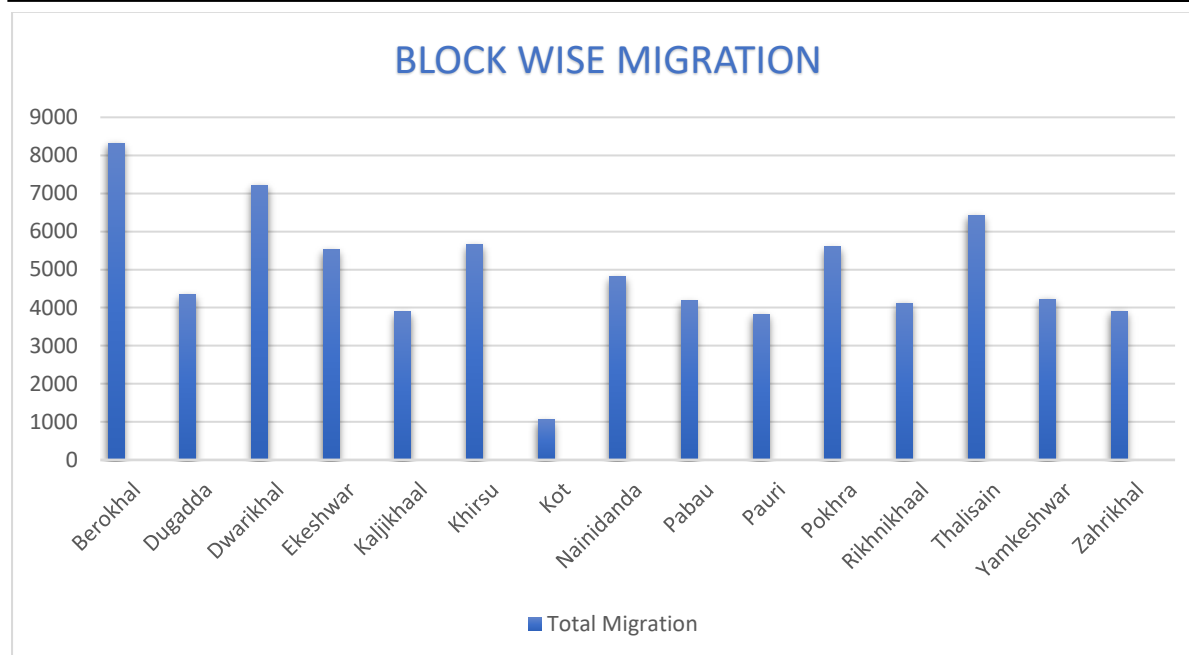
**Fig. 1**: Block Wise Migration
**Source:** Rural Development and Migration Commission Report, Uttarakhand (February 2023)

The Uttarakhand Rural Development and Migration Commission Report 2020 states that throughout the past ten years, 502707 individuals have moved throughout Uttarakhand; 383726 of those individuals were temporary migrants, while 118981 were individuals who moved permanently. A total of 73,072 people migrated in Pauri Garhwal district in the last 10 years in which 47,488 people from 1,025 panchayats migrated temporarily and 25,584 people from 821 panchayats migrated permanently. In Pauri Garhwal district maximum 8,313 people have migrated from Berokhal block and minimum 1,050 people have migrated from the Kot block. A part from this, 4,340 people have migrated from Dugadda block, 7,211 from Dwarikhal block, 5,515 from Ekeshwar block, 3,887 from Kaljikhal block, 5,660 from khirsu block, 4,807 from Nainidanda

**Table-1 Block wise Number of Migrants**

| Block Name | Number of Gram panchayat from which people have temporarily Migrated | Semi-permanent Migrants | Number of Gram panchayat from which people have permanently migrated | Permanent Migrants | Total Migration |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Berokhal | 93 | 4835 | 85 | 3478 | 8313 |
| Dugadda | 58 | 2579 | 48 | 1761 | 4340 |
| Dwarikhal | 79 | 4015 | 68 | 3196 | 7211 |
| Ekeshwar | 80 | 3913 | 66 | 1602 | 5515 |
| Kaljikhaal | 74 | 2468 | 64 | 1419 | 3887 |
| Khirsu | 41 | 3481 | 37 | 2179 | 5660 |
| Kot | 8 | 395 | 21 | 655 | 1050 |
| Nainidanda | 86 | 3398 | 68 | 1409 | 4807 |
| Pabau | 70 | 2655 | 40 | 1526 | 4181 |
| Pauri | 61 | 2454 | 50 | 1374 | 3828 |
| Pokhra | 57 | 3570 | 49 | 2036 | 5606 |
| Rikhnikhal | 66 | 2959 | 43 | 1159 | 4118 |

| Thalisain | 97 | 4755 | 63 | 1671 | 6426 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Yamkeshwar | 82 | 3309 | 53 | 912 | 4221 |
| Zahrikhal | 73 | 2702 | 66 | 1207 | 3909 |
| **Pauri Garhwal District** | **1,025** | **47,488** | **821** | **25,584** | **73,072** |
| **Uttarakhand** | **6,338** | **383,726** | **3,946** | **118,981** | **502,707** |

**Source:** Rural Development and Migration Commission Report, Uttarakhand (February 2023)

Block, 4181 from Pabau block, 3828 from Pauri block, 5606 from Pokhra block, 4118 from Rikhnikhal block, 6426 from Thalisain block, 4221 from Yamkeshwar block and 3909 from Zahrikhal block.

Block wise, maximum 4835 people have temporarily migrated from Berokhal block and minimum 395 people from Kot block. Along with these, 2579 people from Dugadda block, 4015 from Dwarikhal block, 3913 from Ekeshwar block, 2468 from Kaljikhal block, 3481 from Khirsu block, 3398 from Nainidanda block, 2655 from Pabau block, 2454 Pauri block, 3570 from Pokhra block, 2959 from Rikhnikhal block, 4755 from Thalisain block, 3309 from Yamkeshwar block and 2702 from Zahrikhal block have temporally migrated.

Block wise, maximum 3478 people have permanently migrated from Berokhal block and minimum 655 from Kot block. Along with these, 1761 frosssm Dugadda block, 3196 from Dwarikhal block, 1602 from Ekeshwar block, 1419 from Kaljikhal block, 2179 from Khirsu block, 1409 from Nainidanda block, 1526 from Pabau block, 1374 from Pauri block, 2036 from Pokhra block, 1159 from Rikhnikhal block, 1671 from Thalisain block, 912 from Yamkeshwar block and 1207 from Zahrikhal block have migrated permanently. (Table-1)
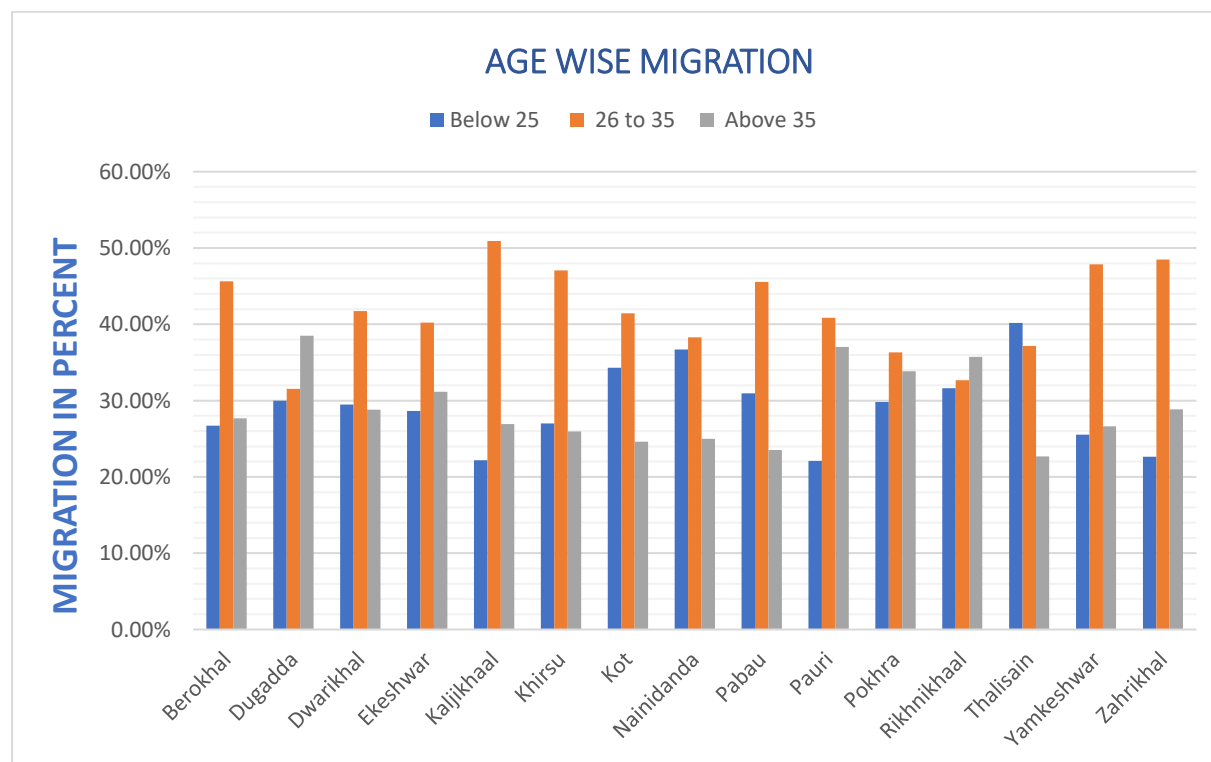


**Fig. 2:** Migration in Different Age Group

**Source:** Rural Development and Migration commission Report, Uttarakhand (February 2023)

### 5. Age wise migration

Youth between the ages of 26 and 35 have migrated from Uttarakhand at the highest move in the last ten years, making up 42.25 per cent of the overall migrant population. Furthermore, 29.09 per cent of individuals in the more than 35 age group and 28.66 of individuals in the under 25 age group moved. Over the past ten years, youth between the ages of 26 to 35 have migrated from Pauri Garhwal district at the highest rate (41.67 per cent of the overall migrant population). Furthermore, 29.10 per cent of individuals in the over 35 age group and 29.23 per cent of individuals in the under 25 age group had moved. A maximum of 40.18 per cent of individuals under 25 have migrated from Thalisain block, and a minimum of 22.10 per cent from Pauri block. Furthermore, the age group between 26 to 35 years old a maximum migration of 50.91 per cent from Kaljikhaal block and a minimum of 31.54 per cent from Dugadda block, while the age group beyond 35 years old saw a maximum migration of 38.48 per cent from Dugadda block and a minimum of 22.68 per cent from Thalisain block.
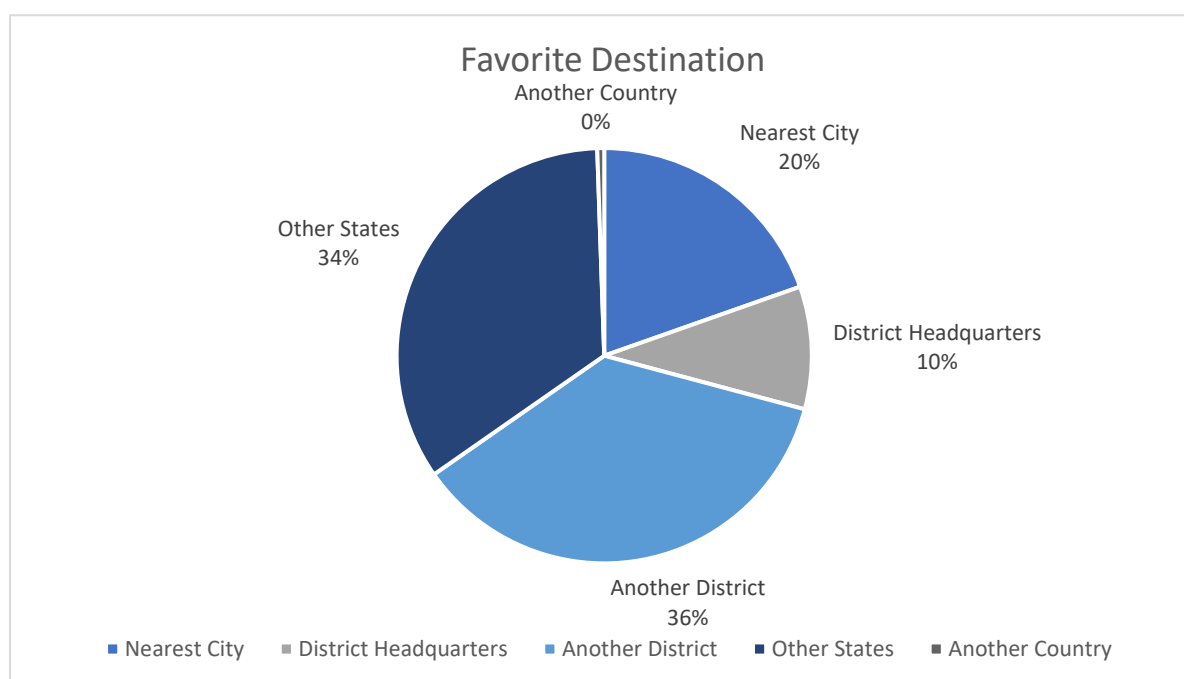


**Fig.. 3:** Favourite Destinations of migrants

**Source**: Rural Development and Migration Commission Report, Uttarakhand (February 2023).

The state of Uttarakhand has the highest rate of district-to-district migration. Of all migration, 35.69 per cent go from one district to another. In addition, 28.72 of the population moves to another state, 19.46 per cent to the closest city, 15.18 per cent to the district headquarters, and 0.96 per cent abroad. The largest percentage of migrants 36.15 per cent of all migrants move from one district to another is found in the Pauri Garhwal district. In addition, to this 34.15 per cent of the population moves to another state, 19.61 per cent to the closest town, 9.55 per cent to the district headquarters, and 0.54 per cent abroad. In Pauri Garhwal district, the least migration to a nearby town is 5.55 per cent in Rikhnikhaal block, and the largest migration is 55.08 per cent in Dugadda block. Aside from this, the least migration to the district headquarters is 3.34 per cent in Rikhnikhaal block and the largest migration is 24.93 per cent in the Pauri block. Rikhnikhaal Block has the highest percentage of migration (51.34 per cent) from one district to another, while Dugadda has the lowest percentage (24.08 per cent). In the case of Pokhra block, the largest migration from the district to other states is 48.40 per cent, while in the case of Zahrikhal block, the minimum is 14.59 per cent. Similarly, in Yamkeshwar block, the maximum migration to another country is 1.40 per cent, while in Thalisain block, the minimum is 0.10 per cent.

### 6. Reduction in rural population

In Uttarakhand, 565 villages saw a 50 per cent decline in population after 2011, and similarly, 50 per cent of the population has moved from 112 such villages in the Pauri Garhwal district, and the highest number of these villages 27 have relocated from Berokhal block. In addition, 50 per cent of the population has relocated from 1 village in Dugadda block, 5 in Dwarikhal block, 12 in Ekeshwar block, 11 in Kaljikhaal block, 4 in Khirsu block, 6 in Kot block, 5 in Nainidanda block, 1 in Pabau block, 3 in Pauri block, 9 in Pokhra block, 16 in Rikhnikhaal block, 7 in Thalisain block, 4 in Yamkeshwar block, and 1 in Zahrikhal block. The primary cause of the 50 per cent population decline in these settlements is the dearth of infrastructure and job opportunities. (Rural Development and Migration Commission Report, Uttarakhand, 2023).

### 7. Reasons of migration in Pauri Garhwal district

In Uttarakhand, there are various reasons for migration: 2.52Per cent of people are influenced by family and relatives; 5.61 Per cent are caused by wild animals damaging agriculture; 15.21Per cent are caused by a lack of education facilities; 3.74Per cent are caused by a lack of infrastructure; 8.83Per cent are caused by a lack of medical facilities; 5.4Per cent are caused by low agricultural productivity; and 8.48Per cent are caused by other factors. Similarly, the Pauri Garhwal district has the highest migration rate (52.58 per cent), which is attributed to unemployment. In addition, 15.78 per cent of people have migrated for lack of education facilities, 11.26 per cent for lack of access to healthcare, 3.03 per cent for lack of infrastructure, 5.35 per cent for low agricultural productivity, 2.53 per cent for influence from family and relatives, 6.27 per cent for wildlife animals destroying agriculture, and 3.21 per cent for other reasons.

### 8. Reasons of Migration in District Pauri Garhwal

**Unemployment and lack of medical facilities**

The majority of migration in the Pauri Garhwal district (52.58 per cent of overall migration) is caused by unemployment. Block wise, the highest migration is 67.11 per cent in Thalisain block and lowest is 41.04 per cent in Kot block as a result of the dearth of job opportunities in Pauri Garhwal district.

In addition to these, the following populations have moved away in pursuit of job: 54.53 per cent from Berokhal, 54.07 per cent from Dugadda, 57.91 per cent from Dwarikhal, 50.72 per cent from Ekeshwar, 52.86 per cent from Kaljikhaal block, 60.62 per cent from Khirsu block, 41.04 per cent from Kot block, 51.38 per cent from Nainidanda block, 45.81 per cent from Pabau block, 54.21 per cent from Pauri block, 42.84 per cent from Pokhra block, 49.03 per cent from Rikhnikhaal block, 67.11 per cent from Thalisain block, 47.32 per cent from Yamkeshwar block, and 43.43 per cent from Zahrikhal block. (Table 2). 11.26 per cent of all migrants have left the Pauri Garhwal district due to a shortage of health facilities, block wise migration is as high as 16.49 per cent in Pokhra block and as low as 6.94 per cent in Pauri block. In addition, 14.64 per cent of people from Berokhal block, 8.66 per cent from Dugadda block, 12.42 per cent from Dwarikhal block, 13.44 per cent from Ekeshwar block, 12.10 per cent from Kaljikhaal block, 12.49 per cent Khirsu block, 13 per cent from Kot block, 8.89 per cent from Nainidanda block, 12.50 per cent from Pabau block, 6.94 per cent Pauri block, 16.49 per cent from Pokhra block, 11.74 per cent from Rikhnikhaal, 8.13 per cent from Thalisain block, 8.06 per cent from Yamkeshwar block, and 10 per cent from Zahrikhal block have moved to different regions in search of better medical services.

**Lack of Educational Facilities and Infrastructural Facilities**

According to the table no. 15.78 per cent of the total migrants have left the Pauri Garhwal district due to a lack of educational facilities. Block wise, the greatest amount of migration has come from Yamkeshwar block (22.47 per cent) and the least amount from Khirsu block (12.13 per cent) as a result of the dearth of educational institutions in the Pauri Garhwal district. In addition to this, in quest of better educational facilities, 12.73 per cent from Berokhal block, 15.05 per cent Dugadda block, 16.75 per cent Dwarikhal block, 19.06 per cent from Ekeshwar block, 15.10 per cent from Kaljikhaal block, 16.75 per cent from Kot block, 15.16 per cent from Nainidanda block, 15.12 per cent from Pabau block, 16 per cent from Pauri block, 16.80 per cent from Pokhra block, 12.48 per cent from Rikhnikhaal block, 13.53 per cent from Thalisain block, and 19.34 per cent from Zahrikhal block have left.

According to the table no. 3.03 per cent of all migrants have left the Pauri Garhwal district because of a lack of infrastructure. Because the Pauri Garhwal district lacks infrastructure, Zahrikhal block has seen the greatest migration at 6.13 per cent, while Khirsu block has had the least amount of migration at 1.15 per cent. Aside from this, 3.89 per cent of the population of Berokhal block, 4.14 per cent of Dugadda block, 3.78 per cent of Dwarikhal block, 1.44 per cent of Ekeshwar block, 1.82 per cent of Kaljikhaal block, 3.32 per cent of Kot block, 5.24 per cent of Nainidanda block, 4.31 per cent of Pabau block, 3.70 per cent of Pauri, 2.22 per cent of Pokhra block, 1.25 per cent of Rikhnikhaal block, 1.58 per cent of Thalisain block, and 2.27 per cent of Yamkeshwar block have moved away in pursuit of improved access to infrastructure.(Table 2).

**Low agriculture productivity and influenced by family members and relatives**

The Pauri Garhwal district has seen 5.35 per cent of all migrants leave due to low agricultural yield. Block wise, the most migration has come from Pabau block at 8.75 per cent and the lowest from Dwarikhal block at 3.02 per cent as a result of the low agricultural output in the Pauri Garhwal district. In addition, because of low agricultural output, 4.79 per cent of people from the Berokhal block, 5.73 per cent from the Dugadda block, 4.84 per cent from the Ekeshwar block, 6.36 per cent from the Kaljikhaal block, 3.64 per cent from the Khirsu block, 6.57 per cent from the Kot block, 7.20 per cent from the Nainidanda block, 4.48 per cent from the Pauri block, 6.58 per cent from the Pokhra block, 5.47 per cent from the Rikhnikhaal block, 3.50 per cent from the Thalisain block, 5.13 per cent from Yamkeshwar block, and 6.02 per cent from the Zahrikhal block have moved to other locations.

2.51 per cent of the population moved out of the Pauri Garhwal district for other reasons as a result of family pressure. Block wise, Pokhra block has seen the most migration at 5.58 per cent and lowest from Dwarikhal block at 0.74 per cent as a result of the impact of their relatives and family members in the Pauri Garhwal district. In addition, due to the influence of their family and relations, 2.35 per cent of individuals from Berokhal, 3.32 per cent from Dugadda block, 4.37 per cent from Ekeshwar block, 2.68 per cent from Kaljikhaal block, 4.64 per

cent from Khirsu block, 3.25 per cent from Kot block, 2.11per cent from Nainidanda block, 1.75 per cent from Pabau block, 5.12 per cent from Pauri block, 1.44 per cent from Rikhnikhaal block, 0.98 per cent from Thalisain block, 1.66 per cent from Yamkeshwar block, and, 2.23 per cent from Zahrikhal block have moved to other areas. (Table-2).

**Damage of Agriculture by wild animals**

6.27 per cent of the population left the Pauri Garhwal district to relocate elsewhere as a result of wild animals damaging their crops. Because wild animals in the Pauri Garhwal district are damaging farmland, block-by-block migration has been lowest from Thalisain block at 2.43 per cent and highest from Yamkeshwar block at 10.76 per cent. In addition, because of wild animals damaging their agriculture, 4.43 per cent of people from Berokhal block, 7.50 per cent from Dugadda block, 4.94 per cent from Dwarikhal block, 5.15 per cent from Ekeshwar block, 7.45 per cent from Kaljikhaal block, 3.95 per cent from Khirsu block, 9.36 per cent from kot block, 7.67 per cent from Nainidanda block, 9.42 per cent from Pabau block, 5.21 per cent from Pauri block, 6.80 per cent from Pokhra block, 4.36 per cent from Rikhnikhaal block, and 9.06 per cent Zahrikhal block have moved to other places. (Table 2). Because of things like marriage, natural disasters, climate change, and other factors, 3.21 per cent of the population of Pauri Garhwal district has moved elsewhere. Owing to all of these factors, the Rikhnikhaal block has seen the highest migration in Pauri Garhwal district (14.25 per cent) while Dwarikhal has had the lowest migration (0.43 per cent). The remaining 2.65 per cent of people from Berokhal block, 1.52 per cent of people from Dugadda block, 0.97 per cent of people from Ekeshwar block , 1.62 per cent of people from Kaljikhaal block, 1.38 per cent of people from Khirsu block, 6.71 per cent of people from Kot block, 2.35 per cent of people from Nainidanda block, 2.33 per cent of people from Pabau block, 4.33 per cent of people from Pauri block, 2.69 per cent of people from Pokhra block, 2.74 per cent of people from Thalisain block, 2.32 per cent of people from Yamkeshwar block,and 3.79 per cent of people from Zahrikhal block have moved away for various reasons, including marriage, climate change, natural disasters, and the building of dams.(Table 2).

### 9. Positive impact of migration

People commonly send money back to their relatives when they leave Pauri Garhwal district to work in other areas or nations. This can raise the level of life and lessen poverty for individuals who choose to stay in the district. There isn't much land, water, or any natural resource in Pauri Garhwal district. In order to make these resources more sustainable for people who stay in the district, out-migration can help to lessen the strain on them. People who relocate to work in other nations or locations outside of Pauri Garhwal district frequently return home with newfound knowledge and abilities. For instance, individuals might pick up new technology abilities, commercial strategies, or farming methods. Families and individuals may be able to elevate their social and economic standing through migration. They can get greater pay and access to healthcare and education by working in other areas or nations, which will ultimately raise their standard of living.

### 10. Negative Impacts of Migration

In Pauri Garhwal district, migration has resulted in a 50Per cent decrease in the population of 112 villages; as a result, these villages will eventually become uninhabited. Migration has resulted in a constant increase in population pressure in the district's urban region, which has raised unemployment and created competition for basic facilities. Population imbalances in the area may result from the young, physically fit people leaving the Pauri Garhwal district. This may result in a declining labor force, an aging population, and a rising dependence ratio. Migration can cause a decline in the district's economic activity because those who migrate elsewhere take their resources, expertise, and skills with them. This may result in a decrease in businesses operating in the area, a downturn in the farming industry, and a slowdown in the region's general economic growth. People who migrate often leave behind their social networks, which can result in a decline in social capital. Reduced trust, a weakening of social support, and a collapse of communal ties might result from this. There may be a brain drain in the Pauri Garhwal district as a result of the talented and educated population leaving. This may result in a labor scarcity in the area, which would make it challenging for nearby companies to locate the talent they require. It may also result in a decline in the standard of healthcare and education that the area offers. Relationships within the family and the community may suffer as a result of migration because people must leave behind loved ones. For individuals left behind, this may result in a decline in their quality of life, social isolation, and a lack of emotional support. The district's agricultural operations have decreased as a result of migration, and as a result, the agricultural area is progressively becoming barren.

## CONCLUSION

The study may have found a number of reasons why people leave the Pauri Garhwal district, including a lack of job prospects, access to healthcare and education, low agricultural output, the devastation of agriculture by natural catastrophes, and social unrest. Furthermore, the research may have looked into the pull factors—such as improved employment opportunities, access to healthcare, and education—that entice people to relocate to different areas. It's possible that the study evaluated how migration has affected the district's social, economic, and environmental aspects. The study may have discovered, for example, that migration has resulted in a decline in social capital, stress on the social and economic infrastructure, and adverse environmental repercussions from abandoned areas. In the last ten years, 73,072 individuals have relocated to the Pauri Garhwal district; of these, 25,584 people from 821 panchayats have moved permanently and 47,488 people from 1,025 panchayats have moved temporarily. 52.58 percent of the Pauri Garhwal District's migration is caused by unemployment. In addition, 15.78 per cent of people moved because of a lack of educational opportunities, 11.26 per cent because of a lack of health facilities, 5.35 per cent because of low agricultural productivity, 6.27 per cent because of wild animals destroying crops, 3.03 per cent because of a lack of infrastructure, 2.53 per cent because of pressure from family and relatives, and 3.21 per cent for other reasons. Over the past ten years, the age group of 26 to 35 years old has migrated from Pauri Garhwal district the most, accounting for 41.67Per cent of the overall migrant population. 36.15 percent of all migrants in the research area move across districts, making up the majority of migrants in the region. 112 villages in the Pauri Garhwal area have seen a 50Per cent decrease in population; as a result, these villages will eventually become empty.

**Suggestion to lessen the Migration**

Enhance the standard of living and lessen the need for individuals to travel in order to get these services, the district should provide better educational and medical facilities. Promote and aid in the growth of small and medium-sized businesses within the area. People will be encouraged to stay in the district and additional job opportunities will result from this. Tehri Garhwal district is well-known for its related and agricultural pursuits. Thus, encouraging and growing these industries through improved market connections, technology advancement, and financing availability may contribute to the creation of more jobs and a rise in salaries. The district's natural beauty, rich cultural history, and abundance of adventure sports opportunities make it a prime destination for tourists. Building tourism-related infrastructure and promoting travel may bring in money and jobs for the area.

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