Chapter 7

Epilogue

Migration is shift from a place of residence to another place for some length of time or permanently including different types of voluntary movements. It has great impact on economic, social, cultural and psychological life of people, both at place of emigration as well as of migration (Kaur, 2003). In India the labour migration is mostly influenced by social structures and pattern of development. A recent Human Development Report estimated that the number of internal migrants is about four times the total number of international migrants (UNDP 2009). Internal migration, especially in large countries such as India and China, can be across very substantial distances. In turn, the distance over which migration occurs can be shorter compared to internal ones, and can become as important (or more important) for poor people, especially when pre-existing social networks are strong, or when incomes are higher compared to those in the areas of origin. Furthermore, the establishment of social networks, the assurance of migration finance loans, or delayed payment systems, may encourage poor people to pursue short-term international contract labour. With these views keeping in background the study was conducted in 3 villages namely Chengerkuthi Khalisamari, Chhoto Khalisamari, Jatamari of Khalisamari gram panchyat of Shitalchuchi block, Coochbehar district on the topic entitled "Determining the differentials and determinants

of migration process in the rural areas of West Bengal" with the specific objective

- To study the socio-economic attributes of the migrant households in the study area.

- To identify the differential limits of migrants in terms of their selectivity, determinants of migration and destination of migrants with respect to their socio-economic attributes.

- To assess the migration rate in the study area with respect to their socio-economic attributes.

- To develop a policy implication for migration in the rural areas.

For obtaining the basic situational and background information of the respondents for planning and information of the main project the pilot study was conducted prior to the finalization of the research topic .Preparation of a draft interview schedule was done after a pilot study and after necessary changes and modification final interview schedule was prepared.

State, district, block, gram panchyate were selected purposively but village and respondents were selected by simple random sampling method. Data collection was conducted with the help of the structured interview schedule. The background information of different respondents is collected on the basis of identified discriminating variables such as age, occupation, education, land holding, house, material possession, family size, family type, mass media exposure etc. In the second part of the study some open end question were also asked to the same respondents to collect some relevant information to meet as well as satisfy the needs of the objectives. Total sample for the study was 100 respondents and their families. For participatory rural appraisal (PRA) one heterogeneous group was formed. For time trend analysis some old aged

respondent also selected. The responses were scored, quantified, categorized and tabulated using statistical methods like percentage, mean and standard deviation, frequencies, correlation, regression, factor analysis and paired t test and participatory rural appraisal (PRA) tools as matrix ranking, time trend analysis.

The major findings of the study are given below

Socio-Economic Profile of Selected Respondent

The study observed that 94 percent migrants took decision for migration from there locality at young age. At the time of survey 56 percent of the respondent belongs to medium age group. It is evident that 75 percent of the respondent belongs to Hindu community and 25 percent belongs to Muslim community whereas majority (44 percent) respondent belongs to schedule caste community. The study indicated those maximum respondents are i.e. 66 percent respondents having secondary education. The study reveals that 41 percent of total respondent family belongs to comparatively low educational status group. It is represents that 62 percent of total respondent are married and 53 percent migrant belongs to joint family. The attributes level of respondent indicates that 59 percent migrant belongs to large family (more than 5 numbers of family members) and majority (59 percent) migrant belongs to large family (more than 5). The study reveals that majority (55 percent) respondent have land up to 5 bigha. It is also found that majority (42 percent) respondent have pucca house. The attribute of social participation shows that 68 percent of respondent have membership in one organization and 49 percent belongs to comparatively medium material possession followed by 26 percent belongs to low material possession. Forty percent of migrant families are belongs to comparatively high cosmo-politeness followed by 35 percent belongs to comparatively low cosmo-politeness. It is revealed that 50 percent of migrant families are belongs to

comparatively high mass-media exposure. Sixty two percent respondents got there information from friends followed by 32 percent from relatives and only 4 percent from different institutions. Distribution of the respondent according to source of money for migration shows that 42 percent respondent uses their family savings as the source of money for migration. Twenty seven percent respondent take loan from money lender, 24 percent depends on own savings and 7 percent had no requirement for money.

Changes in rural ecology before and after migration

It reveals from the study that 82 percent of the respondent was farmer, 11 percent were unemployed, and 7 percent were student before migration. After migration, the scenario completely changed. After migration 3 percent of the respondent government services, 2 percent business, 11 percent in textile industry, 12 percent car driver, 7 percent house keeper, 19 percent industry labour, 5 percent in brick factory, 5 percent versatile job, in sweet shop 3 percent, in cloth shop 3 percent, in others stationary shops 4 percent, labour in stone industry 2 percent, 4 percent in tea garden, 4 percent van puller, 4 percent rickshaw puller, 6 percent stonemason, 3 percent mechanics, 3 percent some non-governmental companies.

It is clearly shown that before migration, for the investment in agricultural sector 67 percent of respondent had to depend on money lender, 30 percent depends on own resources and 3 percent on banks, whereas after migration the situation become changed. The dependency on money lender decreased. After migration for the investment in agricultural sector 55 percent of respondent had to depend on money lender, 40 percent depends on own resources and only 5 percent on banks and other institution. This change clearly means that migration reduces the dependency on money lender and plays a positive role for self sufficiency. These findings are similar to the findings of Kuhn, Gardner, Afsar, Stark which revealed that

Remittances pay for agricultural production and growing-season consumption, reducing the need to incur debt (Kuhn 1999; Gardner 1995; Afsar 1994).

There is a significant change in the crop type preference for cultivation before and after migration. Before migration 65 percent of respondent are preferred to cultivate agricultural crops where as 30 percent of them are chosen horticultural crops, 5 percent of respondent are not so specific about their choice. But at present scenario (after migration) according to the respondent 45 percent of them choose horticultural and value added crop, 40 percent are still choice agricultural crop and 15 percent are not so specific about their choice. According to respondent's perception labour crisis, dependency on farm women and child for farm operations the migrants family are trying to avoid high labour intensive agronomical crop cultivation .In absence of main earning male member of family the farmwomen took decision about cropping type preference. Most of the farm women maximum time choose value added horticultural crops like chilli, vegetables and other horticultural crops due to comparatively low physical labour required for those crops (according to migrants family perception). This finding is similar to the findings of Bull (2001), who pointed out that the rural-urban pattern of migration takes more young men than women out of the rural areas, resulting in many women becoming the heads of the household and being responsible for agricultural production.

The study reveals that, most of the respondents (85 percent) indicate their family enjoys the benefit of quality water facilities after migration, whereas only 15 percent respondent indicates that, they enjoy these facilities before migration. The study also reveals that 77 percent of respondent's family gets the benefit of good sanitation facilities after migration, whereas only 23 percent of them indicate that they enjoy these facilities before migration. It is also observed

that before migration only 24 percent of migrants get the benefit of bank account whereas after the migration the 74 percent of respondent come under the benefit of the banking facilities. The study reveals that before migration only 15 percent of migrants use cell phone in daily life whereas after migration 85 percent of the respondent started to use cell phone.

Pair 't' test for comparing income differences before and after migration

It is observed that the calculated value of t was 25.349 which is highly significant at 5 percent level of significance (1.984) and also at 1 percent level of significance (2.626) hence, we can conclude that there is a significant difference in per capita income of all respondents before and after migration. This findings is similar to the findings of Afsar, Dang, IOM and Bangladesh Bank, Kwankye and Anarfi, Mahmood, Ranabahu who stated that migration increases livelihood and employment opportunities, and secondly, it often increases their financial income (Afsar 2009; Dang 2005a; IOM and Bangladesh Bank 2009; Kwankye and Anarfi 2011; Mahmood 2011; Ranabahu 2004).

It is observed from the study area, the migrants chose their occupation, place of migration and take decision for migration considering three important parameters –

1. Distance of migration.

2. Duration of migration.

3. Perceived benefit of migration.

It is found that, education of migrant, family material possession, mass media exposure, cosmopoliteness, satisfaction level, per capita income increased due to migration, duration, income increased per kilometre are positively and significantly correlated whereas, age of

the migrant at the time of migration, age of migrant at present, marital status, income from other sectors, family land holding, are negatively and significantly correlated with the dependent variable, distance of migration. It has been found that the variables satisfaction level, per capita income increased due to migration, income increased per kilometre has recorded a significant causal effect impact on distance of migration.

Age of migrant at present, duration of taking decision for migration, satisfaction level, distance, are positively and significantly correlated whereas, family social participation, per capita income increased due to migration are negatively and significantly correlated with the dependent variable duration of migration. It has been found that the age of migrant at present, duration of taking decision for migration, per capita income increased due to migration has recorded a significant causal effect impact on duration of migration.

Education of migrant, family educational status, duration of taking decision for migration, family material possession, family social participation, cosmo-politeness, information sources, satisfaction level, per capita income increased due to migration, are positively and significantly correlated whereas, age of migrant at present, family size, income from other sectors, duration of migration are negatively and significantly correlated with the dependent variable, perceived benefit of migration. It has been found that the variables mass media exposure, information sources, satisfaction level, per capita income increased due to migration has recorded a significant causal-effect impact on perceived benefit of migration.

Push and pull factor: Determinants of migration

Push factors are the aspect or conditions that motivates one to leave in one own region, place, organization etc where as pull factors are the aspects or conditions that attracts the migrants to move to the new location. The push and pull factors of migration are listed here is

totally on the basis of Migrant and his family perception. Also the pull & push factors are identified by the target people themselves. They judged every statement according to their perception and give score respect to importance.

The study reveals that according to migrants perception poverty is the main push factor for migration followed by irregularity of income in the locality. This study is similar to the results of the research done by Baljinder Kaur, J M Singh, B R Garg, Jasdev Singh and Satwinder Singh (Department of Economics & Sociology, Punjab Agricultural University) who finds that Poverty (85.7 percent) and less civic amenities (79.1 percent) were reported as the major social reasons behind migration.

The study reveals that according to migrant's perception high wage is the main pull factor for migration followed by better job opportunity in the locality. This is also similar to the results of Mohapatra (2011), which highlight that most internal and international migrants move to the urban centres of developing countries because of employment opportunities there, with many working in the informal segments of the business, transport, crafts and services sectors.

For migration process the migrant and migrant's family get some opportunities for better living side by side they are also bound to face some constraints. The study reveals that according to migrant's perception dependency on dalal is the main constraints and social insecurity is the main constraints identified by the migrant's family. This finding are similar to the study of (Zachariah and Irudaya Rajan) 2009 who stated that in Kerala, India, left-behind wives of male migrants in the Gulf reported considerable 'insecurity' (32.6 percent), 'loneliness' (85.8 percent), 'added responsibilities' (86.7 percent) and 'difficulties in bringing up children alone' (38.6 percent)The study

reveals that according to migrant's perception earning of comparatively high revenue is the most important opportunity and high level of income is the most important opportunity identified by the migrant's family.

Factor Analysis

The factor 1 includes variables like, poverty, insecurity and risk, due to jobs which have contributed 11.237 percent of variance and has renamed as **Stress.** The factor 2 includes variables like, high status (mainly young), regularity of income which has contributed of 9.726 percent variance and has renamed as **Benefit Perception**. The factor 3 includes variables like, low status (mainly young), improved connectivity (mainly road condition), influence by family, dream of better lifestyle which have contributed 8.610 percent of variance and has renamed as **Expectation.** The factor 4 includes variables like irregularity of income**,** high return on per hour labour, which have contributed 7.862 percent of variance and has renamed as **Resource.** The factor 5 includes variables like price rise, which have contributed 7.076 percent of variance. The factor 6 includes variables like improved communication network, influence by villagers, which have contributed 7.032 percent of variance and has renamed as **Network**. The factor 7 includes variables like low net return from agriculture **(**as it is pre occupation for maximum migrant**),** high wage, which have contributed 6.243 percent of variance and has renamed as **Return**. The factor 8 includes variables like, influence by friends, better job opportunities which have contributed 5.891 percent of variance and has renamed as **Peer.** The factor 9 includes variables like lack of local market, lack of versatility of working sector, which have contributed 5.005 percent of variance and has renamed as **Diversity.** It is revealed from the study that according to perception of respondent, from 1950 to 1995 the migration rate were very less. The scenario begins to change from the year 1995-96. And 2005 onwards a

dramatic jump is occurred regarding rural migration. It is perceived by the local people now a day's 40 percent of population took a decision for rural out migration.

Human mobility in its many and varied forms, within and across national borders, is a major characteristic and perhaps even one of the defining features of our contemporary world. People move in ever increasing numbers and for many different purposes related to work, family, social, educational, cultural, business or personal safety concerns; sometimes within their own countries, at other times across the nearest border or perhaps across the world. The study reveals that migration process enhances the qualitative change in cropping pattern, self dependency, and occupational diversity of the rural ecology. It is noticeable due to high remunerative and regularity of income, the youth and middle age group are more attracted for migration. As a result, labour crisis became an emerging problem for agricultural sector. These consequences results for increasing numbers of farm child labour. Less land-human ratio and high cost of cultivation drives the rural population towards the bright street light of industrialized urban culture. The income variation factor before and after migration are in favour of migration also. A finding of the study indicates that under-employment and unemployment causes a dramatic jump on rural migration in last 10 years. The increasing propensity of migration, being prompted by both push and pull factors, demands a policy intervention at national levels so migration can be checked by making farm ecology more fertile and agile for generation of livelihoods as well as social security.

The study, which was conducted for determining the differentials and determinants of migration process in the rural areas of West Bengal with the stipulated objectives, the following courses of action can be taken into account in future while conducting repeating study.

- The population under the migration process is large, their psychological, sociological and economical orientation are multidimensional. The study was confined to a specific area and the number of respondents is not up to the limit. So, generalization from this study is not possible. Other areas should also be taken into consideration with more numbers of respondents so as to reach a generalization of the results.

- Similar type of study may be conducted on other districts; then the inter district comparisons will be possible.

- As the R^2 value is not so high more relational variables related to the migration process are needed to be taking into consideration. The similar type of study may be conducted by incorporating other more contextual and realistic independent variables to predict the livelihood of the migrants.

- Analysis of rural migration process with a special emphasis on role of women in migration.

- Determine and analyze the impact of rural migration on environment.

- Analyze the effect of migration on rural as well as nations economy. The planners and policy makers can also conducted the study for appropriate policy making.