Chapter

5

Livelihood Pattern of Sample Migrant Households: *Evidence from Relatively Backward Districts of West Bengal*

In this chapter we want to focus our attention to the analysis of livelihood pattern of sample migrant households in the relatively backward districts of West Bengal. While analyzing characteristics of the migrant households we have taken into account the factors such as the religion, caste affiliation, asset structure and the land holding pattern of the households. The distribution of these households according to the sources of their income has been considered for having an understanding of their occupational pattern. In a similar fashion the migrants have been classified in accordance with their age, sex, caste affiliation and educational attainments. The destination wise distribution of migrant has been considered for indicating the pattern of migration, namely, intra or inter regional migration, intercontinental migration etc. the push and pull factor behind such migration decision have also been taken into account. Further to indicate the importance of migrant family member towards family income and the time duration for job search, the duration of such migration has been considered. Normally, it is assumed that higher the duration of migration greater is the possibility of the remittance received by the migrant households. Again the quality of the migrant workers can be judge from the nature or type of employment, namely, employment in formal or informal sectors. The employment category of migrant worker across different sectors has also been taken into account to show whether secondary or tertiary activities play an important role to absorb such workers within and outside the country. The satisfaction from any such job depends on factors such as physical condition for work, hours of work, income, social security benefits etc. The distribution of migrant workers according to the remittances sent by them to the households is supposed to be crucial for estimating their contribution to the family income in any given year. Thus it

appears that monthly per capita income (MPCI) of any sample households depends to a great extent on the remittances received from the migrant family member. However, other general factors such as the dependency ratio, average years of education of the members of the households, size of land holding and other income sources also play an important role in determining the MPCI of the migrant households. Further, the monthly per capita remittance received (MPCRR) by any household also seems to be dependent on factors such as number of migrant from that household, the total years of migration of the migrant member, average earnings of the migrant per month etc. these remittances are believed to have an importance bearing upon the poverty status of the migrant households. The present chapter explores the above mentioned issues on the basis of field survey data (2013-14) of 480 sample *migrant households*[1].

This chapter is structured as follows: Section 5.1 presents brief profile of the sample blocks based on the data from Census of India, 2011. Section 5.2 discusses the demographic features of sample villages based on the data from Census of India, 2011. Section 5.3 analyses the characteristics of migrant households of sample villages. Section 5.4 presents the different characteristics of sample migrants in relation to their sex, caste, religion, age group, educational level and reasons for migration etc. Section 5.5 analyses the job profile of the migrant workers and the distribution of migrant workers by their economic activity, monthly earning, nature of payment and other benefits received, and amount of remittance sent towards native households. The factors which determine the monthly income of the household is examined in section 5.6. Section 5.7 provides an analysis of remittance determining factors at the household level and in the last section 5.8 examine the status of poverty among the migrant households and the significance of different factors determining the poverty at the household level.

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[1] *The **migrant household** refers to that household of which at least one member was migrated, but the household itself was not migrated.*

5.1 Demographic Features of Sample Blocks, 2011

So far as the demographic feature of the sample blocks are concerned the census data 2011 indicate that within Murshidabad district the sample blocks Barwan and Khargram are most thickly populated amongst all the sample block of other three districts, viz., Paschim Medinipur, Koch Bihar and Puruliya. Table 5.1 suggests that the percentage of SC population is highest in the two sample blocks of Koch Bihar district.

Table 5.1 Demographic Features of Sample Blocks, 2011

Block	PP ('000)	SC (per cent)	ST (per cent)	LTR (per cent)	WPR (per cent)	Distribution of Population (=100 per cent)			Distribution of Workers (=100 per cent)			
						MW	MRW	NW	CL	AL	HI	OW
Paschim Medinipur												
Mohanpur	111.9	10.3	5.4	71.4	34.2	24.1	10.2	65.8	37.8	48.6	1.6	12.1
Dantan - I	172.1	17.0	16.4	64.9	36.9	19.4	17.5	63.1	23.3	51.5	2.9	22.4
Koch Bihar												
Dinhata - I	286.2	44.0	0.4	64.2	39.7	31.4	8.4	60.3	30.5	39.1	3.6	26.8
Sitalkuchi	185.3	54.5	0.1	60.7	39.5	31.4	8.1	60.5	56.6	29.9	2.0	11.5
Murshidabad												
Burwan	257.4	24.5	1.1	60.4	32.8	22.9	10.0	67.2	25.1	51.0	3.5	20.3
Khargram	273.3	21.9	0.9	54.8	32.9	23.5	9.4	67.1	20.7	53.7	7.3	18.3
Puruliya												
Raghunathpur - I	117.7	35.4	10.7	58.9	34.0	19.7	14.3	66.0	14.0	29.6	3.5	52.8
Barabazar	170.5	7.4	19.4	54.4	49.4	23.2	26.2	50.6	28.6	50.0	2.9	18.5

Source: *Primary Census Abstract, Census of India*, 2011, *West Bengal*
PP = *Population*, SC = *Scheduled Caste*, ST = *Scheduled Tribe*, LTR = *Literacy Rate*, WPR = *Work Participation Ratio*, MW = *Main Workers*, MRW = *Marginal Workers*, NW = *Non Workers*, CL = *Cultivator*, AL = *Agricultural Labour*, HI = *Household Industry*, OW = *Other Workers.*

However, the two sample blocks of Puruliya district house the maximum percentage of Scheduled Tribe (ST) population among these sample blocks. The rank of the sample block in Paschim Medinipur district is found to be highest so far as the literacy rate is concerned. Work force participation rate, being one of the most characteristic features of the demographic structure of any region, is found to be almost similar in the sample blocks in accordance with the category of workers, viz., main workers (MW), marginal workers

(MRW) and non-workers (NW). It has been observed that the percentage of non-workers remains highest in Murshidabad district.

The combined proportion of main worker and marginal worker is found to be highest in the sample blocks of Koch Bihar district. Similarly, the disaggregation of these workers according to their occupational affiliation to different sectors, it has been observed that in almost all the sample blocks proportion of agricultural labourer remained highest among all categories of workers mainly cultivators (CL), household industries (HI) and other workers (OW).

5.2 Demographic Features of Sample Villages, 2011

When we come down to sample villages in each sample district we find similar such demographic features as indicated in Table 5.2. Within the district of Paschim Medinipur sample villages such as Remu and Benapura are found to be most thickly populated with very high percentage of ST people among all the sample villages within Paschim Medinipur district. However, literacy rate is found to be highest in the sample village Malpara and lowest in Solakhia within Paschim Medinipur district. Again work participation rate has been found to be higher in sample villages of Benapura and Solakhia than the average work participation rate within the sample villages of Paschim Medinipur. Within Paschim Medinipur, the sample village Malpara with highest literacy rate also shows the highest percentage of non-worker. Thus, the correlation between literacy rate and unemployment is observed. This fact can be corroborated by the fact that the percentage of cultivators also remains highest among different categories of workers. Within Koch Bihar district the sample villages Phulbari and Rangamati indicate majority share of SC population in total village population. In these two sample villages the average percentage of non-workers is found to be about 62 per cent.

Table 5.2 Demographic Features of Sample Villages, 2011

Village	HH (No.)	PP (No)	SC (per cent)	ST (per cent)	LTR (per cent)	WPR (per cent)	Distribution of Population (=100 per cent)			Distribution of Workers (=100 per cent)			
							MW	MRW	NW	CL	AL	HI	OW
Paschim Medinipur													
Malpara	154	655	2.4	0.0	90.4	32.2	31.9	0.3	67.8	96.2	0.5	0.0	3.3
Akhpura	170	838	7.9	0.0	75.7	33.5	26.7	6.8	66.5	62.6	25.6	0.7	11.0
Remu	405	1753	2.2	15.6	76.8	34.7	25.1	9.6	65.3	57.6	37.8	0.0	4.6
Jamua	73	347	0.6	0.0	76.4	32.6	30.5	2.0	67.5	90.3	1.8	0.0	8.0
Benapura	227	1078	0.1	25.8	72.2	44.5	11.0	33.5	35.5	23.1	48.5	17.7	10.6
Solakia	155	748	2.1	13.9	65.2	38.6	25.0	13.6	61.4	46.7	35.3	0.0	18.0
Koch Bihar													
Phulbari	633	2664	71.2	0.0	64.6	42.8	39.6	3.3	57.2	41.6	42.9	3.9	11.6
Rangamati	805	3379	61.7	0.0	69.0	33.3	27.3	6.0	66.7	63.8	22.4	0.6	13.2
Murshidabad													
Haribati	513	2235	0.4	0.0	63.6	30.4	26.5	3.9	69.6	29.1	45.9	0.3	24.7
Ramrampur	300	1238	0.0	0.0	43.7	27.7	23.6	4.1	72.3	8.2	73.8	13.7	4.4
Katna	547	2052	0.2	0.0	57.9	35.8	21.3	14.4	64.2	27.4	46.0	2.0	24.5
Kuli	918	3920	11.6	0.0	53.1	37.7	24.5	13.1	62.3	16.1	38.4	2.7	42.8
Asalpur	1118	5010	0.0	0.0	62.1	32.1	23.6	8.5	67.9	35.6	34.0	1.7	28.7
Serpur	888	3752	0.4	0.0	61.8	31.8	27.7	4.1	68.2	14.5	27.6	11.1	46.8
Bhalkundi	1017	3837	16.0	0.3	58.8	35.4	25.2	10.2	64.6	14.9	61.8	4.2	19.1
Sahapara	554	2368	36.1	0.0	52.8	30.2	22.6	7.5	69.8	7.4	72.0	4.5	16.1
Puruliya													
Chinpina	367	1861	65.0	0.0	43.4	34.7	19.8	14.9	65.3	4.3	9.8	0.5	85.4
Madhutati	522	2528	45.4	14.2	58.6	51.5	26.1	25.4	48.5	11.8	32.5	11.8	43.9
Gobindapur	244	1292	51.2	6.5	54.2	29.3	25.3	4.0	70.7	12.1	33.5	0.5	53.8
Unanshila	204	1155	39.7	7.0	62.3	27.4	22.6	4.8	72.6	9.5	7.6	6.0	77.0
Fatepur	190	966	0.0	18.9	58.3	58.3	31.4	26.9	41.7	37.3	54.2	1.2	7.3
Sindri	785	3972	19.2	3.3	58.3	43.8	31.0	12.8	56.2	8.9	38.1	12.5	40.6
Kudlung	271	1445	1.3	34.7	57.8	60.4	40.2	20.2	39.6	27.5	67.5	0.9	4.1
Mukundapur	124	562	3.0	16.7	47.9	37.5	30.2	7.3	62.5	21.3	59.7	3.3	15.6

Source: *Primary Census Abstract, Census of India*, 2011, *West Bengal*

PP = *Population*, SC = *Scheduled Caste*, ST = *Scheduled Tribe*, LTR = *Literacy Rate*, WPR = *Work Participation Ratio*, MW = *Main Workers*, MRW = *Marginal Workers*, NW = *Non Workers*, CL = *Cultivator*, AL = *Agricultural Labour*, HI = *Household Industry*, OW = *Other Workers*.

The sample villages of Murshidabad district indicate the population density much higher than those in other sample villages of other sample districts. Again the cast affiliation of the people of these sample villages seems to be with category other than SC and ST (namely, OBC which has not been considered here). The average literacy rate of the people of these sample villages also seems to be lower than those observed in Paschim Medinipur and Koch Bihar, although there are inter-village variations in this regard within Murshidabad district. Though work participation rate in most of these sample villages ranges varies from 28 per cent to 38 per cent, the share of non-workers varies from 62.3 per cent to 72.3 per cent, indicating the problem of unemployment. However, as opposed to Paschim Medinipur and Koch Bihar, the sample villages of Murshidabad district shows supremacy of agricultural labour (AL) in the distribution of workers.

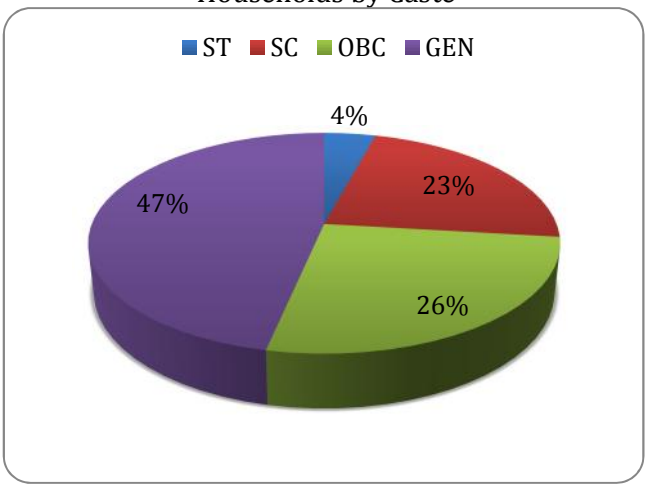
In case of Puruliya district substantial number of sample villages indicates greater shares of SC people. However, in villages such as Fatepur, Kudlung and Mukundapur the shares of ST people remain higher. The pattern of literacy rate among the people of the sample villages of Puruliya district shows lower and medium coverage having a range of 43.4 per cent to 54.2 per cent in the lower category and 57.8 per cent to 62.3 per cent in the middle category. There also remain variations in work participation rate across these sample villages with a range of 27.4 per cent to 60.4 per cent. So far as the distribution of populations among different categories workers the percentage of non-workers and that of agricultural labour are concerned, these are found to be higher than other categories.

5.3 Characteristics of Migrant Households in Sample Villages

Now the sample migrant households can be distributed in accordance with social caste, religion, asset structure, source of livelihood, land holding pattern etc.

5.3.1 Migrant households in Relation to Social Castes

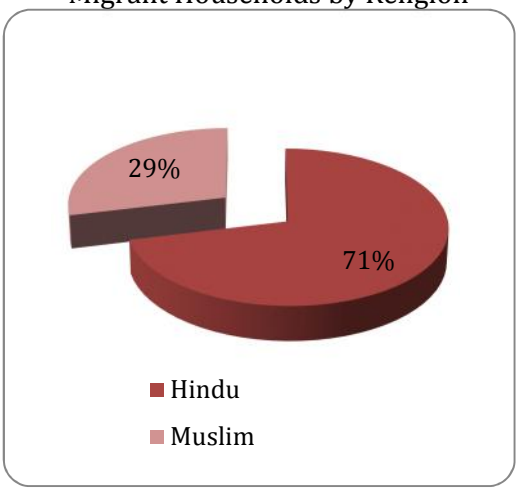
Figure 5.1 Distribution of Sample Migrant Households by Caste



When the demographic characteristics of migrant households in sample villages are analysed it is observed from our sample survey data that households affiliated to general cast category comprises the highest percentage (47 per cent) followed by OBC (26 per cent) and SC (23 per cent) categories (Figure 5.1)

5.3.2 Migrant Households in Relation to Religion

Figure5.2 Distribution of Sample Migrant Households by Religion



Similarly the distribution of migrant households in accordance with religion shows maximum share of households with Hinduism (71 per cent) and the remaining 29 per cent belonging to Muslim religion. It is important to note that most of these households belonging to Muslim religion are concentrated in Murshidabad district (Figure 5.2).

5.3.3 Distribution of Asset Structure of Sample Migrants Households

The livelihood pattern of any household is primarily determined by the assets structure of the household. In our case we have divided the assets into two broad categories: i) the landed assets (viz. operational land holding, pond etc.) or land holding size ii)

Physical assets other than land holding (viz. livestock, motor bike, bicycle, motor car, rickshaw, power tiller, television etc.)

Table 5.3 Distribution of Asset Structure in Sample Households

Asset Structure	No. of HH	Percentage share
Mobile	479	99.8
Live Stock	421	87.7
Bi-Cycle	379	79.0
TV	223	46.5
Motor Bike	47	9.8
Pump	24	5.0
Motor Car	19	4.0
Thresher	9	1.9
Rickshaw	7	1.5
Computer	2	0.4
Power tiller	2	0.4
Total HH = 480	–	100.0 (480)

Source: Sample Survey (2013-14)

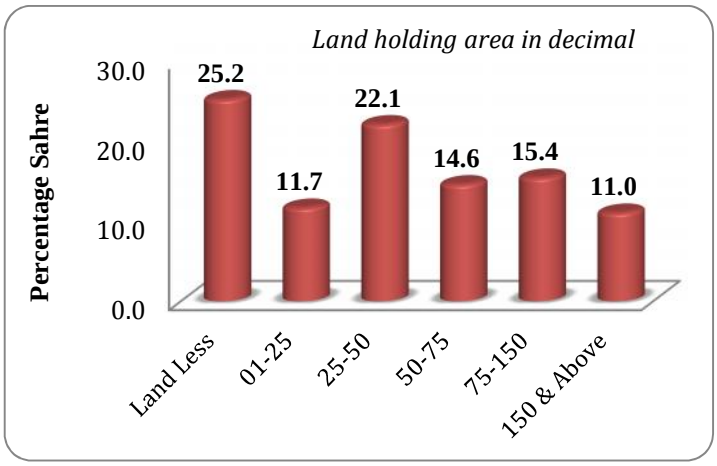
If we consider mobile phone as one of the non-landed assets then its share is found to be maximum (99.8 per cent). However, the real non-landed assets which most of these migrant households possesses constitute livestock (87.8 per cent), bicycle (79 per cent) and television (46.5 per cent) (shown in Table 5.3).

5.3.4 Distribution of Landholding Pattern

When the migrant household is categorised in terms of their operational landholding, about 25 per cent of the households are found to be landless (Table 5.4). On the other hand most of the migrant households fall in the category of small and marginal landholdings (90 per cent). So, most of them have uneconomic size of land holdings which are insufficient to ensure subsistence level of living as well as generating some marketable surplus of food grains. In addition to this we have considered possession of ponds and area of homestead land as important parts of landed assets.

Table 5.4 Distribution of Operational Land Holding Size

Total Operational Land Holding (Decimal)	No. of households
Land Less	121
01-25	56
25-50	106
50-75	70
75-150	74
150 & Above	53
Total HH	**480**

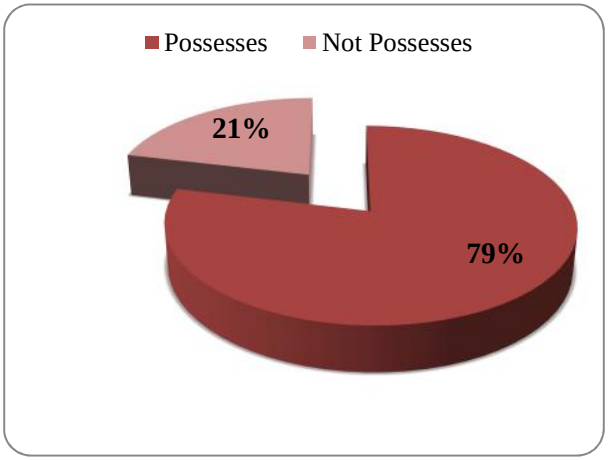


It is observed that 21 per cent of the sample migrant households possess ponds which are supposed to generate earnings from pisciculture (Figure 5.3).

Table 5.5 Distribution of households according to size of homestead Land

Size of Homestead Land (*in decimal*)	No of HH	Percentage Share
1-5	291	60.6
6-10	121	25.2
11-20	32	6.7
21-50	24	5.0
50 and Above	12	2.5
Total	480	100.0

Figure: 5.3 Distribution of households according to possession of pond



5.3.5 Sources of Livelihood of the Sample Migrant Households

The following Table 5.6 shows that earnings from remittances constitute about 57 per cent of the gross annual income of the migrant households from all sources. It proves that earnings from remittances play a crucial role in determining the livelihood pattern of the households. This is particularly because of the fact that the alternative earning sources

Table 5.6 Percentage share of sources of livelihood among migrant households

Sources of earnings (livelihood)	*Amount (Rs.)*	*Percentage Share*
Agricultural income(AI)	4595500	10.4
Business income	954000	2.2
Service income/ income from rent	2468800	5.6
Interest income	505000	1.1
Livestock/machinery income	1830029	4.2
Wage earning	7297200	16.6
Other income	1472900	3.3
Remittances	24919500	**56.6**
Total Income	**4,40,42,929**	100.0
Average Annual Earning	**91756**	–
Average Monthly Earning	**7646**	J

Source: Sample Survey (2013-14)

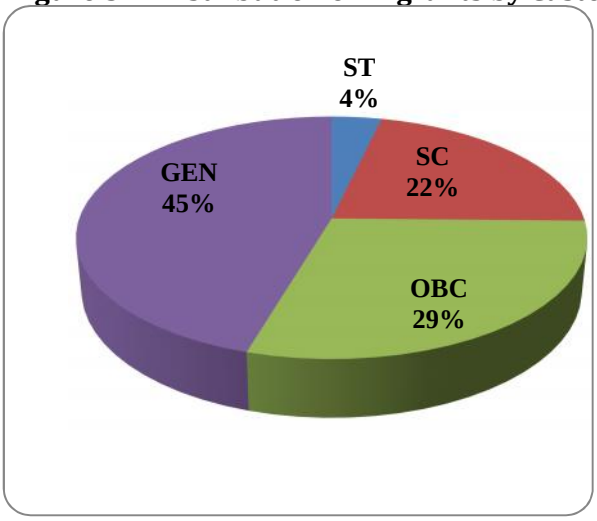
viz., agricultural income and wage income together constitute about 27 per cent of the gross annual income of these households. Thus it becomes obvious that earnings from service activities and borrowing remain insignificant in determining the livelihood pattern.

5.4 Characteristics of the Migrants

Here the sample migrants can be distributed in accordance with caste affiliation, age, sex, educational attainments, their destination place, and reasons for migration etc.

5.4.1 Distribution of Migrants by Caste

Figure 5.4 Distribution of Migrants by Caste



Our Primary data source also throws some light upon the caste affiliation of the migrants. Out of 597 out-migrants about 45 per cent belong to general category, followed by other backward class (29 per cent) and scheduled caste (22 per cent) categories (depicted in Figure 5.4).

5.4.2 Distribution of Migrants by Age

The age structure of the out-migrants shows in Table 5.7 that most of them (45 per cent) remain within the 18-25 years. More specifically about 76 per cent of these out-migrants were within the age group of 18-35 years.

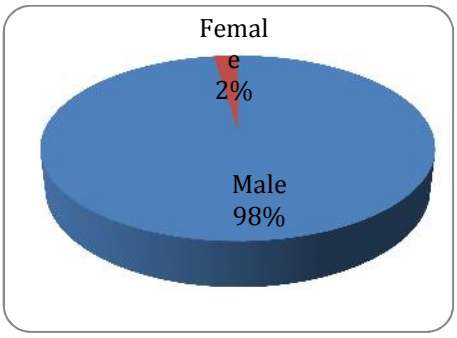
Table 5.7 Distribution of migrants by age group

Age Group	*No .of Migrants*	*per cent share*
0-17	21	3.5
18-25	269	**45.1**
26-35	185	31.0
36-45	93	15.6
46-60 and above 60	29	4.9
Total	597	100.0

Source: Sample Survey (2013-14)

5.4.3 Distribution of Migrants by Sex

Figure 5.5: Percentage share of migrants by Sex



In this survey we cannot consider the marriage as a reason for migration. Because maximum female migration are due to matrimonial reasons. When these out-migrants are distributed according their sex, the lion's share (98 per cent) goes to male migrants (shown in figure 5.5).

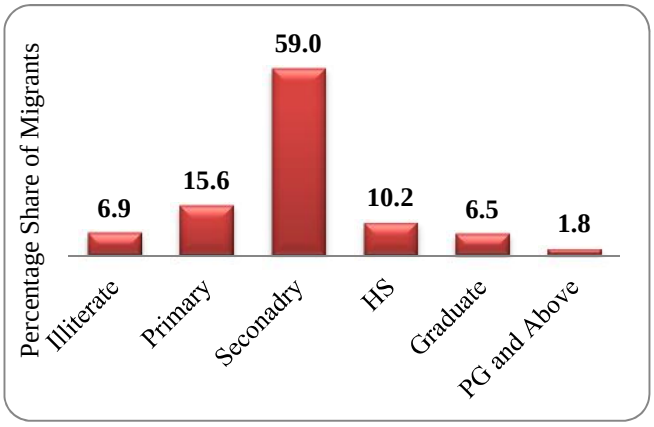
5.4.4 Distribution of migrants by educational qualification

The educational attainments or backgrounds are also supposed to have an important bearing upon the capabilities of out-migrants (shown in following table 5.8 and following figure).

Table 5.8 Distribution of migrants by educational attainments

Education Qualification	*No of migrants*	*Percentage Share*
Illiterate	41	6.9
Primary	93	15.6
Secondary	352	59.0
HS	61	10.2
Graduate	39	6.5
PG and Above	11	1.8
Total	**597**	**100**

Source: Sample Survey (2013-14)



It has been observed from the sample survey that most of the out-migrants (59 per cent) had an educational qualification up to secondary level. Thus share of migrants belonging to graduate and above level has been found to be insignificant (8 per cent). Similarly the share of illiterate migrants was also about 7 per cent.

5.4.5 Distribution of migrants by Place of Destination

The distribution of migrants according to their destination shows (Table 5.9) that most of the migrants (67.5 per cent) migrate outside the state of West Bengal but within India.

Table 5.9 Distribution of migrants by their place of destination

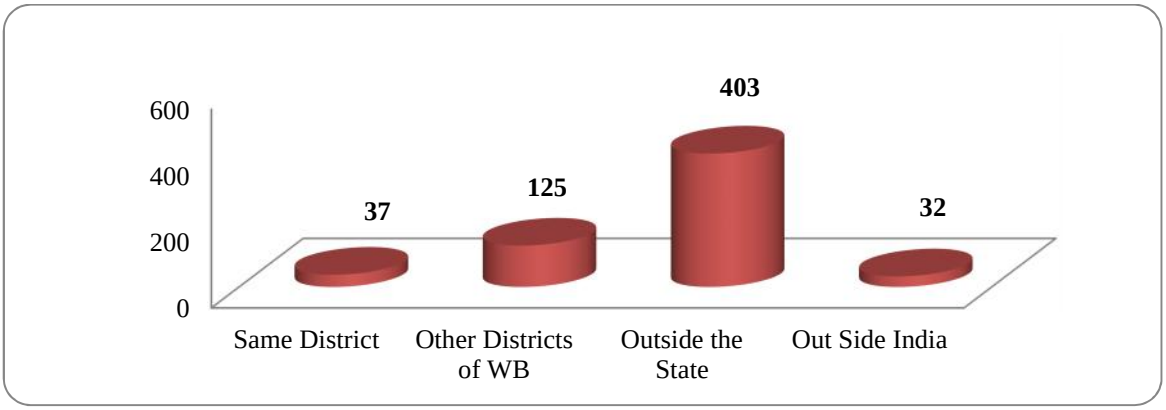
Place of Migration	**No of Migrants**	***Percentage Share***
Same District	37	6.2
Other Districts of WB	125	20.9
Outside the State	403	**67.5**
Out Side India	32	5.4
Total	597	100.0

Source: Sample Survey (2013-14)

Thus inter-state migration remained most prominent in this case and it has been followed by inter-district migration within West Bengal. Only about 5 per cent of this sample out-migrants moved out-side India in countries like Middle East. Due to new job creation and

opportunities of getting a job within West Bengal, large numbers of migrants from West Bengal are going outside to the states like Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Delhi, Kerala etc. Also our survey captures the right picture which is depicted in the following figure 5.6.

Figure 5.6 Number of migrants according to their present place of residence



5.4.6 Distribution of migrants by reasons for migration

The motivations for such migration or factors determining such out-migration have also been considered following both NSSO classification as well as the factors which were left out in NSSO and Census classification.

Table 5.10 Distribution of Migrants by Reason for Migration (NSSO Classification)

Reason *for migration*	***No. of Migrants***	***Percentage Share***
In search of employment	414	**69.3**
In search of better employment	89	**14.9**
Business	9	1.5
To take up employment /better employment	13	2.2
Transfer of service/ contract	5	0.8
Proximity to place of work	12	2.0
Studies	17	2.8
Acquisition of house / flat	3	0.5
Housing problem	13	2.2
Health care	1	0.2
Post retirement	13	2.2
Migration of parent/ earning member of the family	5	0.8
Others	3	0.5
Grand Total	**597**	**100.0**

Source: Sample Survey (2013-14)

According to NSSO classification the factors like job search, better employment opportunities, studies, proximity to place of work, housing problem, post retirement etc. get prominence. The above table 5.10 shows that among the sample migrants about 69 per cent cases indicate search for employment were primary factor behind out-migration. This was followed by about 15 per cent cases where migration decision has been taken to search out better employment opportunities.

5.4.7 Distribution of migrants by other influencing factors of migration

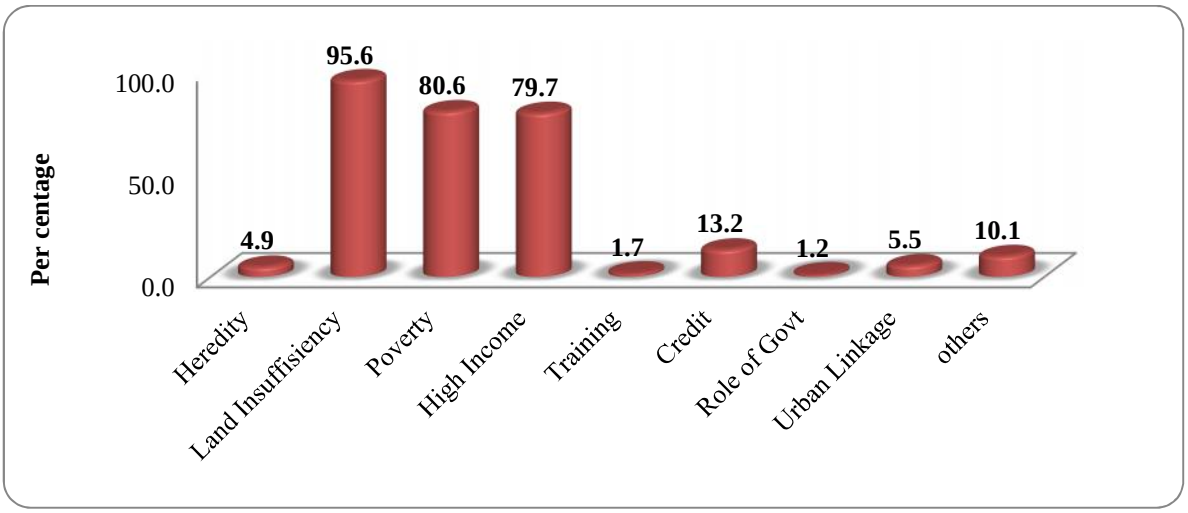
Our study also shows land insufficiency of the migrant households as the most crucial factor in 95 per cent cases to influence the migration decision (Table 5.11 and Figure 5.7). The incidence of poverty and the opportunity to earn high income have also influenced the migration decision in about 80 per cent cases. However, better credit facilities, familiarity with urban area and government support have also influenced such decisions in some particular cases.

Table 5.11 Distribution of other influencing factors of migration

Influencing Factors	***No. of Migrants***	***Percentage Share***
Heredity	29	4.9
Land Insufficiency	571	95.6
Poverty	481	80.6
High Income	476	79.7
Training	10	1.7
Credit	79	13.2
Role of Government	7	1.2
Urban Linkage	33	5.5
Others	60	10.1
Total Migrants	597	100.0

Source: Sample Survey (2013-14)

Figure 5.7 Distribution of migration influencing factors



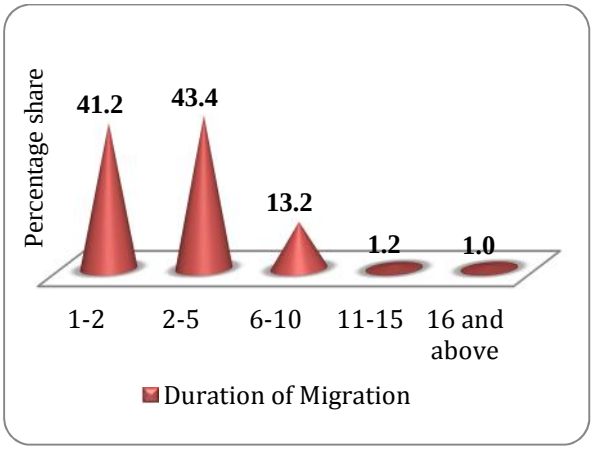
Here it is important to note that in case of female out-migration, marriage was the primary cause in almost 75 per cent or more cases. Hence in our study we have ignored this pull factor for female out-migration. Role of government (13 per cent) is also another important influencing factor that affects migration.

5.4.8 Distribution of Migrants by Duration of Migration

The effectiveness and continuity in the flow of remittances by migrant labourers depend to a great extent on the duration of migration. Our study shows that in 84 per cent cases this duration of migration varies from 1 to 5 years (Table 5.12).

Table 5.12 Distribution of Migrants by their Duration of Migration

Duration (in years)	No. of migrants	*Percentage share*
1-2	246	41.2
2-5	259	43.4
6-10	79	13.2
11-15	7	1.2
16 & above	6	1.0
Total	597	100.0



Source: Sample Survey (2013-14)

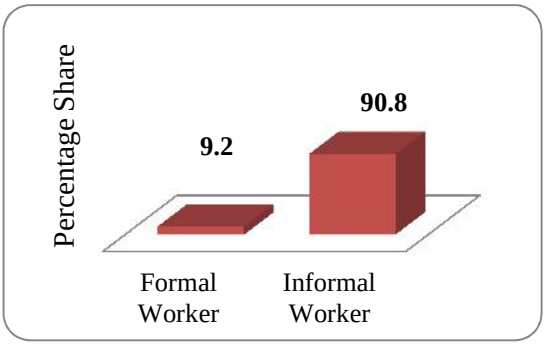
The earning potential of migrants is thus restricted by smaller duration of period of migration. Grater duration of migration has been done with smaller percentage share (15 per cent).

5.4.9 Distribution of Migrants by the types of Employment and Working Conditions

This apart, the earning potential of the migrant workers also depend upon the type of employment viz, formal or informal nature of the employment.

Table 5.13 Distribution of employment status of migrants

Employment Type	*Worker*	*Non Worker*
Formal Worker	52	31
Informal Worker	514	
Total Migrants	566	31



Source: Sample Survey (2013-14)

Table 5.14 Distribution of migrant workers by their working condition at their destination place

Physical Condition of Work	No of Migrant Workers	*Per-centage share*	***Night Work***	No of Migrant Workers	*Per-centage share*	***Over Time Paid***	No of Workers	*Per-centage share*
Good	39	6.9	*Yes*	461	81.4	*Yes*	97	17.1
Not Good	527	93.1	*No*	105	18.6	*No*	469	82.9
Total	566	100.0	Total	566	100.0	Total	566	100.0

Hours of Work	No. of Migrant Worker	*Percentage share*
4	1	0.2
5	10	1.8
6	14	2.5
8	234	41.3
10	245	43.3
12	60	10.6
14	1	0.2
24	1	0.2
Grand Total	566	100.0

Leisure Hours	No of Worker	*Percentage share*
0	135	23.9
1	341	60.2
2	84	14.8
3	6	1.1
Grand Total	566	100.0

Source: Sample Survey (2013-14)

Our sample survey shows that the out of total sample out-migrants about 91 per cent remain engaged in the informal sector (Table 5.13).This also reduces the quality of employment and most of the migrant workers (93 per cent) at the time of field survey express their dissatisfaction regarding the physical condition of work (Table. 5.14) of these workers because informal employment, in most cases does not ensure remunerative wages and adequate social security measures.

5.5 Distribution of Migrant Workers

Now the sample migrant workers can be distributed in accordance with economic activity, monthly income and other benefits received etc.

5.5.1 Distribution of Migrant Workers by Economic Activity

Sector wise distribution of employment of migrant workers shows that about 54 per cent of the sample migrants remained engaged in the service activity such as trade and commerce, transport, storage and communication etc. (Table 5.15 and Figure 5.8).

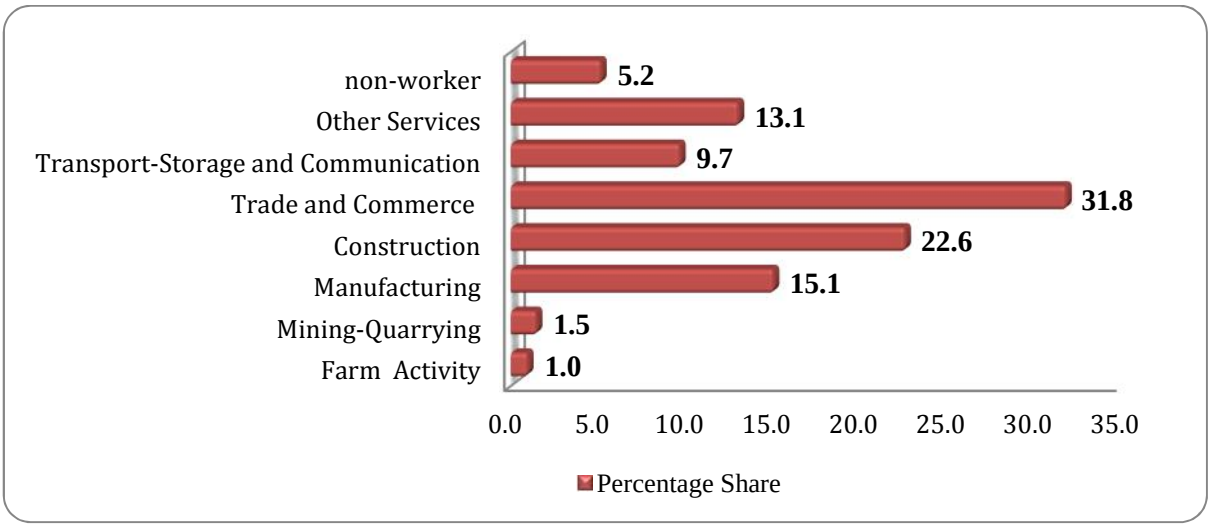
Table 5.15 Percentage shares of migrants by their employment category

Employment Category	***No. of Migrant***	***Percentage Share***
Farm Activity	6	1.0
Mining-Quarrying	9	1.5
Manufacturing	90	**15.1**
Construction	135	**22.6**
Trade and Commerce	190	**31.8**
Transport-Storage and Communication	58	9.7
Other Services	78	**13.1**
Non-worker	31	5.2
Grand Total	597	100.0

Source: Sample Survey (2013-14)

About 38 per cent of the sample migrant remained engaged in secondary activities such as manufacturing, construction works etc.

Figure 5.8 Distribution of Migrant Workers by their Economic Activity



5.5.2 Distribution of Monthly Income of the Migrant Workers

So far the Monthly Per Capita Income (MPCI) is concerned the migrant workers can again be classified into different income class (Table 5.16). This table clearly shows that about 59 per cent of sample migrant workers earned an average monthly income of ₹ 5000 to 10000 (alternatively speaking 59 per cent of the sample migrant workers belong to the income class ₹ 5001 – 10000).

Table 5.16 Percentage shares of income distribution of migrant worker

Income (₹) ***Per Capita Per Month***	***No. of Migrant Earner***	***Percentage Share***
1 - 5000	65	11.5
5001 - 10000	333	58.8
10001 - 15000	110	19.4
15001 - 20000	14	2.5
20001 - 30000	24	4.2
30001 - 50000	19	3.4
50001 and Above	1	0.2
Total Migrant Earner	**566**	**100**

Source: Sample Survey (2013-14)

If we consider the bottom three income classes viz., ₹ 1 – 5000, ₹ 5001 – 10000 and ₹ 10001 – 15000 per month then we see that about 89 per cent of the migrant workers belong to this low income classes. This is obvious because of their attachment to informal

sector with poor wages and salaries. Insufficient earning can lead to poor productivity and poor livelihood pattern of the migrant families. Thus even if the migrant workers are engaged in income generating activities, earning therefrom might be quite insufficient for the subsistence living of their families.

5.5.3 Distribution of Migrant Worker by Nature of Payment and Benefit Received

In the following Table 5.17 and Figure 5.9 depict the picture about the nature of payment and benefit received from their employer. Due to large number of employment in the informal sector so the larger share of migrant workers did not get any kind of legitimate benefits which is ensured by the enactment of Migrant Workers Act, 1980.

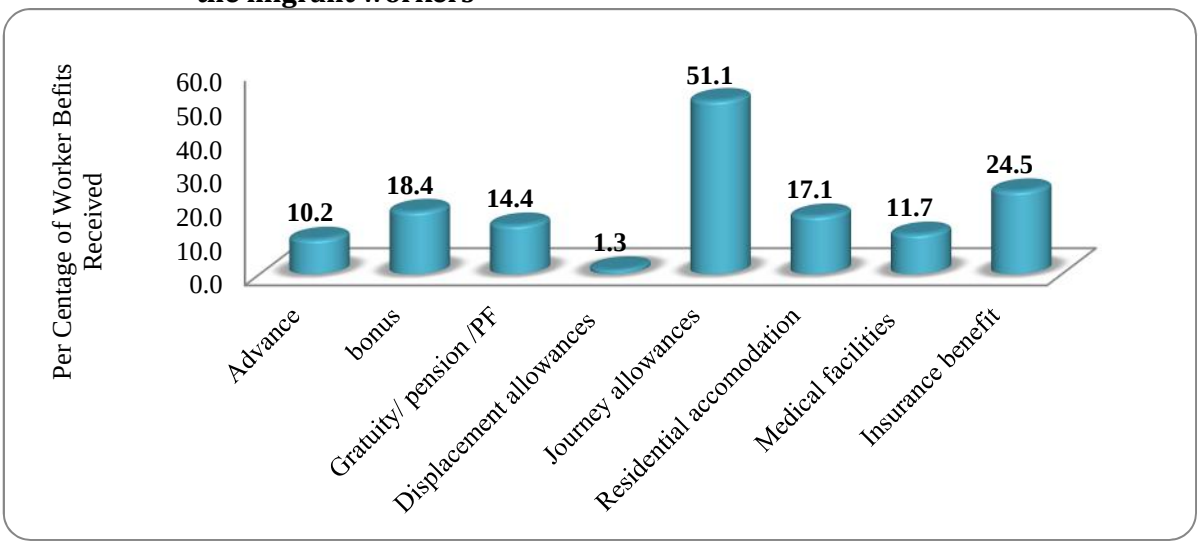
Our sample survey clearly shows that only about 12 per cent of the migrant workers received medical facilities in their work place and only 24 per cent of them received insurance benefit. Similarly only about 17 per cent of them received the benefits of residential accommodation in their work places. Thus most of the migrant workers were deprived of these facilities.

Table 5.17 Distribution (Percentage shares) of Payment and Benefits Received by Migrants

Payment and Benefits	***No. of Migrant Worker Received***	***Percentage Share***
Advance	61	10.2
bonus	110	18.4
Gratuity/ pension /PF	86	14.4
Displacement allowances	8	1.3
Journey allowances	305	51.1
Residential accommodation	102	17.1
Medical facilities	70	11.7
Insurance benefit	146	24.5
Total Migrant Workers	**566**	**100**

Source: Sample Survey (2013-14)

Figure 5.9 Percentage shares of different types of payment and benefit received by the migrant workers



5.5.4 Distribution of Migrant Worker by Amount of Remittances Sent towards Households during Last One Year

Since the remittances sent by the migrant workers to their respective households depends on their monthly income and as we have already seen that most of these workers earn a monthly income up to ₹15, 000. So, it is quite natural that the remittances being a

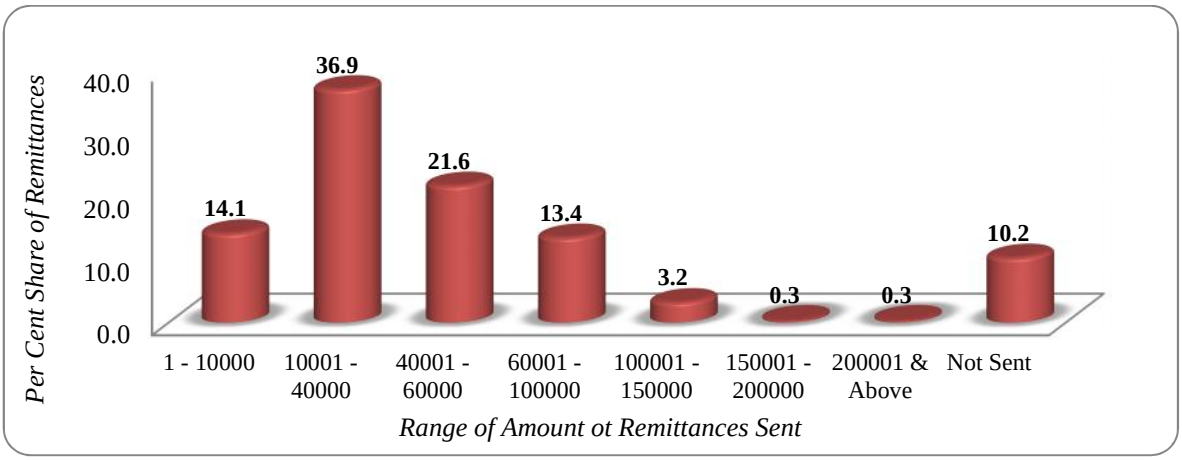
Table 5.18 Pattern of Remittance Sent Per Month by the Migrant Worker

Amount of Remittance* (₹) *Sent Per Month	***No. of Migrants***	***Percentage Share of Total Remittances***
1 - 5000	433	**72.5**
5001 - 10000	91	**15.2**
10001 - 20000	11	1.8
20001 and Above	1	0.2
Not Sent	61	10.2
Total No of Migrants	597	100

Source: Sample Survey (2013-14)

fraction of monthly income would be less than ₹15,000 per month. Our sample survey clearly shows that the amount of remittance up to ₹ 5000 per month for about 73 per cent cases and for only about 15 per cent cases it remained within the range ₹5000 to ₹ 10000 per month (Table 5.18 and Figure. 5.11).

Figure 5.10 Distribution of annual amount of remittances sent by the migrant workers



5.6 Determinants of Income at household Level

The present section analyses the factors that determine Monthly Per Capita Income (MPCI) of sample migrant households. At the household level, individual member decides on where to work and his/her ability generates earning. In addition, household characteristics and the asset structure also determine the income level of the household along with amount of remittances sent by the migrants of the respective households.

5.6.1 The *Theoretical Basis* of the Income Determination at the Household Level

The MPCI of a migrant household seems to be determined by the structural factors such as demographic structure of the household, the asset holding structure namely the proportion of tangible and non-tangible assets of the household and more importantly some economic factors particularly the resources of livelihood including sources like wage income, service income, income from livestock rearing and remittances received from migrant members of the household. Further the remittances received from the out-migrants have two particular dimensions, viz., share of remittances in total household income and the total years of migration.

Within the demographic structure higher is the incidence of dependency ratio, lower is the monthly per capita income because the non-earning members reduces the average monthly income of the household.

In case of the caste affiliation the negative impact is expected particularly, when households belonging to backward community exhibit a greater chance of lower MPCI. On the other hand, the asset structure of a household that also influences the MPCI. Greater volume of tangible assets (e.g. operational land holding) and intangible assets (e.g. average years of education of household member) are expected to generate a positive impact upon the MPCI because these assets empower the households to generate income by enlarging their endowment base and capability.

As already indicated several sources of livelihood of the household determine the level of MPCI of the household depending on whether the household depends primarily upon wage income or service income or farm based income or some supplementary source arising out of remittances received from out migrant of the household. Since the household that has been selected to analyse the income consists of out-migrants, so, it is expected that along with the normal sources of their livelihood, the supplementary sources, viz., remittances received from the migrant members can have an important bearing upon the MPCI. In fact the inadequacy of the normal sources of livelihood necessitates this supplementary source and in most cases such inadequacy can be adequately supplemented by this additional source of livelihood for these migrant households. Thus, in the absence of the flow of remittances received from migrant members the MPCI is expected to come down below the cut-off level necessary to maintain the subsistence living of the sample household.

5.6.2 The *Framework of the Model*

The interdependence between the MPCI of the migrant household and the factors which influence this MPCI can be better explained with the help of a regression analysis. Here the dependent variable is assumed to be the monthly per capita income (MPCI) and the independent variables or the regressors are sex of the head of the family (HHHMF), caste affiliation (CASTE) of the household, the dependency ratio (DEPRATIO), average

years of education of the households (AVGYEDUH), per capita operational landholding (PCPOLH), wage income (WAGEY), service income (SERVICEY), income from livestock rearing (LIVESTOCKY), share of remittances to total household income (SHAREREM) and total years of migration (TYM) of the migrant member(s) of the households. With multiple independent variables, the model is:

MPCI = $\alpha + \beta_1$ (HHHMF) + β_2 (CASTE) + β_3 (DEPRATIO) + β_4 (AVGYEDUH) + β_5 (PCOLH) + β_6 (WAGEY) + β_7 (SERVICEY) + β_8 (LIVESTOCKY) + β_9 (SHAREREM) + β_{10} (TYM) + U_i

5.6.3 The Specification of the Variables in the Model

We have considered the following hypothetical relationship of the factors which can influence the household income (Notation and Mean, SD, Max and Min values are given in Table 5.19).

- Male or female headed household (HHHMF): Normally the monthly per capita income of male headed household is supposed to be higher compare to female headed households.
- Caste (CASTE) affiliation of the sample household: Usually the household affiliated to any backward community (i.e., SC and ST) indicates low monthly per capita income because of factors such as poor capability in terms of endowments and education.
- The dependency ratio (DEPRATIO): The ratio of non-earning members to the earning members of the migrant households can be considered as the dependency ratio. Normally higher is the dependency ratio, lower is the monthly per capita income.
- Average years of education of households (AVGYEDUH): As noted earlier, the income earning capability of any household depends to a large extent on its skill and educational attainments. So, we expect a positive correlation between average years of education and average monthly per capita of sample a household.

- Per capita operational landholding (PCOLH): Since the endowments structure of a sample household also determines income earning capability. So, average monthly per capita income of a sample household is likely to increase with per capita operational landholding of sample household.

Table 5.19 Notation, Specification and Descriptive Statistics of Variables Used in Regression Analysis for the Migrant Households

Notation	Specification of Variables	*Max*	*Min*	*Mean*	*SD*
	Dependent Variables				
MPCI	Monthly Per Capita Income	10500	295.83	1593.35	990.45
	Independent Variables				
HHHMF	Whether the Household head is Male or not? Yes = 1, No = 0	1	0	0.96	0.18
CASTE	ST = 1, SC = 2, OBC = 3 and General = 4	4	1	3.15	0.91
DEPRATIO	Dependency Ratio is the No. of dependent member(s) to earning member(s) in migrant household.	0.8	0	0.4	0.2
AVGYEDUH	Average years of education in migrant households.	15	0	5.59	2.57
PCOLH	Per Capita Operational land holding (Size in decimals).	250	0	12.88	18.50
SHAREREM	Share of remittances to total income of the households.	100	0	54.97	25.59
TYM	Duration of migration of the migrant(s), i.e., since leaving the households.	45	1	4.73	4.45
WAGEY	Whether the households have any wage income or not? Yes = 1, No = 0	1	0	0.20	0.40
SERVICEY	Whether the households have any Service income or not? Yes = 1, No = 0	1	0	0.60	0.50
LIVESTOCKY	Whether the households have any Livestock income or not? Yes = 1, No = 0	1	0	0.90	0.30

Source: Sample Survey (2013-14)

- Percentage Share of remittances (SHAREREM) in household income: In case of migrant household the average monthly per capita income is also supposed to be

influenced to a great extent by the remittances received and the share of this remittance in total monthly household income.

- Duration of migration (TYM) of the migrant member of the household: We have already indicated that the flow of remittances depend not only the earnings of the migrant workers but also the duration of migration or total years of migration. Higher duration of migration increases the possibility of better earning of the migrant worker and hence higher remittances sent to the migrant household leading to higher average monthly per capita income of the household.

For the sample households it is found that the main sources of earning of the households are wage incomes from the casual labour, income from farm activities, income from livestock rearing and income from service activities. Here we have considered three dummy variables to specify the nature of main occupation of the households namely, wage earning, service income and livestock rearing.

a) **Wage income of the households (WAGEY)**: The possibility of relatively higher average monthly per capita income also depends on the main occupation of the households. It is assumed that wage income of the casual labour arises particularly out of primary and secondary activities. Now if the main source of earning of a family derived from wage income of the casual labour then the level of income of the household will be relatively low.

b) **Income from service activities (SERVICEY):** If migrant household has the opportunity to earn from service activities (say, petty business and other service activities) then also it will lead to relatively higher monthly per capita income. It is important to note that income from service activities in a particular locality (say, tea stalls, mobile recharge shops etc.) generates relatively higher and sustained income compare to other sources of income of the household.

c) **Income from Livestock rearing (LIVESTOCKY):** The endowment or asset base of a migrant household also depends on the possession of livestock and income possibilities out of livestock rearing. This is also expected to raise the average monthly per capita income of the household. The low market price and relatively lower scale of production may lead to poor earning from such livestock rearing for these families.

Among all these explanatory variables, the variables such as male or female headed household (HHHMF), WAGEY, SERVICEY and LIVESTOCKY are dummy variables with value '0' signify "No' and '1' signify 'Yes'. Further the qualitative variable like caste affiliation of the household has been accommodated with numerical numbers such as ST = 1, SC = 2, OBC = 3 and General = 4. Here we assign higher value for higher caste and lower value for backward community to accommodate their expected influence on MPCI of the household.

5.6.4 *The Empirical Results:* Income Determination of the Migrant Households

Here the monthly per capita income (MPCI) is estimated for the households' earning by using simple regression technique. The result is presented in the following Table 5.20.

Table 5.20 Income Determination of Migrant Households: Result of Regression Equation

Monthly Per Capita Income (MPCI)	*Co-efficient*	*Standard Error*	*t*	*P>t*	
HHHMF	49.47	185.11	0.270	0.789	Number of observation = 480
CASTE	36.55	45.54	0.800	0.423	
DEPRATIO	-508.70***	198.84	-2.560	0.011	F(7, 472) = 39.46
AVGYEDUH	88.18***	14.82	5.950	0.000	Prob. > F = 0
PCPOLH	13.03***	2.02	6.440	0.000	R-squared = 0.4669
SHAREREM	10.68***	1.64	6.500	0.000	
TYM	13.22*	7.95	1.660	0.097	Adj R-squared = 0.4563
WAGEY	-699.77***	113.84	-6.150	0.000	
SERVICEY	608.68***	94.25	6.460	0.000	Root MSE = 749.43
LIVESTOCKY	-230.24***	80.93	-2.850	0.005	
_cons	937.82	266.37	3.520	0.000	

Source: Sample Survey, 2013-14

Note: *** 1 per cent, ** 5 per cent, * 10 per cent level of significance respectively

The regression result shows *statistically significant* influence of DEPRATIO, AVGYEDUH, PCPOLH, SHAREREM, WAGEY, SERVICEY, and LIVESTOCKY upon MPCI of the sample household. The regression co-efficient related to dependency ratio (DEPRATIO) is found to be *negative* implying higher the dependency ratio, lower would be the monthly per capita income among the sample households. Similar is the case of wage income (WAGEY) and income form livestock rearing (LIVESTOCKY). In these two cases, however, the implicit reason behind *inverse relation* between MPCI and these income sources have already been indicated in earlier paragraph.

On the other hand, the estimated regression coefficients with regard to average years of education of household (AVGYEDUH) members, per capita operational land holding (PCPOLH), and share of remittances received (SHAREREM) to total family income and service income (SERVICEY) are found to be *positive* and their relationships with MPCI are statistically significant.

5.7 Determination of Remittances of the Migrant Households

In our study we have also tried to indicate the factors determining Monthly Per Capita Remittance Received (MPCRR) of the sample migrant households.

5.7.1 Theoretical background of the determinant of remittance received by the migrant households

The livelihood pattern of a migrant household not only depends on MPCI, as explained before but also upon monthly per capita remittance received since for these households remittance income is supposed to be significant in determining both of their MPCI and as well as their livelihood. Primarily, Monthly Per Capita Remittance Received (MPCRR) is directly influenced by the factors such as average earnings of the migrants per month, number of migrant member in any household and the duration of such migration. However, since we express this particular source of earning in per capita term for any household some other factors such as the endowment base and the demographic structure of

the household are expected to influence MPCRR. Thus, if any family exhibits higher dependency ratio or caste affiliation at the lower rung then MPCRR of such household is expected to remain at a low level.

5.7.2 The *Framework of the Model*

Here MPCRR can be considered as the dependent variable and the independent variable or the regressors include sex of the head of the family (HHHMF), caste affiliation (CASTE) of the household, the dependency ratio (DEPRATIO), average years of education of the migrants (AVGYEDUM), per capita operational landholding (PCPOLH), earning per month of the migrants (EARPMM), number of migrant of any household (NOM), and Total years of migration (TYM) of the migrant member(s) of the households. With multiple independent variables, the model is:

MPCRR = $\alpha + \beta_1$ (HHHMF) + β_2 (CASTE) + β_3 (DEPRATIO) + β_4 (AVGYEDUHM) + β_5 (PCOLH) + β_6 (EARPMM) + β_7 (NOM) + β_8 (TYM) + U_i

5.7.3 The Specification of the Variables in the Model

We have considered the following hypothetical relationship of the factors which can influence the remittance received by the household (Table 5.21).

a) **Male or female headed household (HHHMF):** Sex affiliation of head of the migrant household seems to be an important factor in determining the monthly per capita remittance received by the household. Normally, the male members migrate to distant places to supplement the household income. Hence it is expected that MPCRR will be higher for female headed households compared to that of male headed household. Since it is a qualitative variable we have used dummy where male = 1 and female = 0.

b) **Caste affiliation (CASTE):** The caste affiliation of the migrant household is also expected to influence the MPCRR of the migrant households. Because, migrant

household belonging to lower strata caste may have low asset base and lower educational attainments and hence is expected to generate low income opportunities. Since it is also a qualitative variable, so we assign higher numerical value for higher caste and lower value for lower caste, viz., ST = 1, SC = 2, OBC = 3 and GEN = 4.

c) **Dependency Ratio (DEPRATIO):** The demographic feature like dependency ratio is also expected to have a positive impact on MPCRR. If the non-earning dependent member to total numbers in any migrant household is relatively higher than the flow of remittances from migrant members would be higher.

d) **Per Capita Operational Land Holding (PCOLH):** It signifies that the tangible asset base of the migrant households is expected to determine the MPCRR to some extent. Thus higher is this asset base, higher will be MPCRR of a migrant family.

e) **Average years of education of the migrant members (AVGYEDUM):** the earning capability of a migrant is determined by his or her skill and knowledge base. The average years of education of the migrants can be considered as a proxy for such higher knowledge base and earning capacity. Hence with an increase in average years of education of migrants, MPCRR is also expected to rise in any sample migrant household.

f) **Earnings per month of the migrants (EARNPMM):** One of the most important determinants of MPCRR is likely to be the average earnings per month of the migrant which determine the remittance flow. Normally we expect one-to-one correspondence between earnings per month of migrant and MPCRR.

g) **Number of migrant member (NOM) of household**: With the increase in the number of migrant member in any household we can expect higher MPCRR, thus indicating a positive correlation between these two variables.

h) **Total years of migration (TYM) or duration of migration:** The flow of remittance from a migrant depends to the extent of the duration of such migration. In fact the possibility of earnings of a migrant worker increases with an increase in duration of such migration. Thus we expect a positive correlation between the duration of migration and MPCRR of a sample migrant household.

Table.5.21 Notation, Specification and Descriptive Statistics of Variables Used in Regression Analysis at the Migrant Household Level

Notation	Specification of Variables	*Max*	*Min*	*Mean*	*SD*
Dependent Variables					
MPCRR	Monthly Per Capita Remittance Received	41667	0	4326.3	3619.3
Independent Variables					
HHHMF	Whether the Household head is Male or not? Yes = 1, No = 0	1	0	0.96	0.18
CASTE	ST = 1, SC = 2, OBC = 3 and General = 4	4	1	3.15	0.91
DEPRATIO	Ratio of No. of dependent member(s) to earning member(s) in migrant household.	0.8	0	0.4	0.2
AVGYEDUM	Average years of education of migrant(s)	15	0	8	3.6
PCOLH	Per Capita Operational land holding size (Size in decimals).	250	0	12.88	18.50
EARNPMM	Earnings (average) per month of the migrants	66000	0	9904.01	9028.75
NOM	Number of migrant member of the households	6	1	1.20	0.50
TYM	Duration of migration (average years) of the migrant(s), i.e., since leaving the households.	45	1	4.0	3.5

Source: Sample Survey (2013-14)

5.7.4 The *Empirical Results*: Remittance Determination of the Migrant Households

The regression analysis shows (Table 5.22) that caste affiliation (CASTE), dependency ratio (DEPRATIO), number of migrants (NOM), duration of migration (TYM)

and earnings per month of the migrant (EARNPMM) have statistically significant positive influenced upon MPCRR.

The education level of the migrant seems to be an important determination of income potential of the migrants but the MPCRR of the migrant family it is not found to be statistically significant.

Table 5.22 Determination of the Remittances: Result of Regression Equation

Remittance Received Per Month	*Co-efficient*	*Standard Error*	*t*	*P>t*	
HHHMF	-414.48	771.51	-0.54	0.591	
CASTE	941.19***	165.97	5.67	0.000	Number of obs = 480
DEPRATIO	1278.26**	821.55	1.56	0.020	F(7, 472) = 35.20
AVGYEDUM	37.12	40.92	0.91	0.365	Prob. > F = 0.000
PCOLH	6.16	7.92	0.78	0.437	R-squared = 0.3921
EARNPMM	0.08***	0.02	4.95	0.000	Adj R-squared =0.3868
NOM	1471.40***	298.39	4.93	0.000	Root MSE = 3114
TYM	97.27***	34.95	2.78	0.006	
_cons	-2329.97	1024.02	-2.28	0.023	

Source: Sample Survey, 2013-14

Note: *** 1 per cent, ** 5 per cent, * 10 per cent level of significance respectively

5.8 Status of Poverty of migrant households: *An Analysis*

Whether the remittances received by a migrant family can sufficiently enhance the household income so as to enable it to cross the poverty line is a matter of great concern. So, in this section we try to analyse the status of poverty among the households with remittances income and without remittances income.

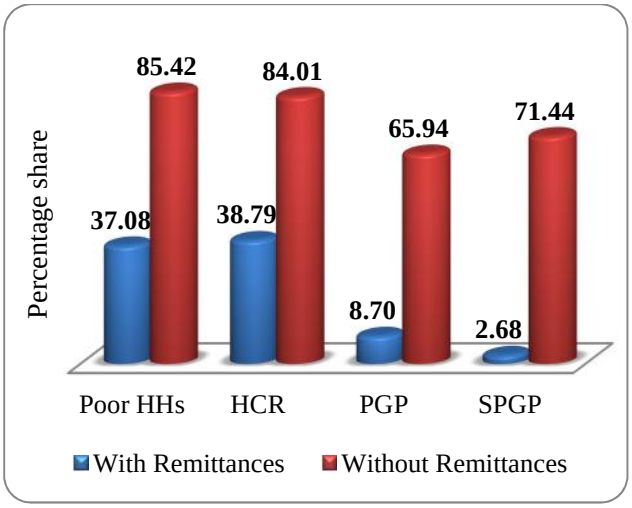
5.8.1 Status of Poverty in Relation to Remittance

It is believed that flow of such remittance which supplements the household income and assumes, in many cases, significant portion of the household income can help many

poor households to cross the cut-off line indicating the minimum monthly per capita consumption expenditure (MPCE) needed to maintain the subsistence standard of living. Our study indicates that the incidence of poverty, as estimated by Head Count Ratio (HCR), Poverty Gap Ratio (PGP) and Squared Poverty Gap (SPGP) becomes *significantly* different for sample household enjoying such remittance flow.

Table.5.23 and Figure 5.11 the incidence and depth of poverty of migrant households with and without remittances

Category	*With Remittances*	*Without Remittances*
Poor HHs	37.08	85.42
HCR	38.79	84.01
PGP	8.70	65.94
SPGP	2.68	71.44



Note: HCR = *Head Count Ratio*, PGP = *Poverty Gap*, SPGP = *Squared Poverty Gap*
Source: Sample Survey, 2013-14

Here we first estimate the rural poverty line of West Bengal for the year 2013-14 from the data published by the Planning Commission of India for the year 2012-13. The rural poverty line for West Bengal for the year 2013-14 is ₹ 960.27 (discussed in chapter 1 in methodology section) When the sample households are devoid of such remittance flow then incidence of poverty e.g., in terms of HCR or PGP or SPGP escalates to high level compared to the sample household whose income is supplemented by such remittance income. Our study shows that the SPGP for sample household with remittances is only 2.68 per cent while it is rises up to 71.44 per cent (Table 5.23 and Figure 5.11) for sample household without any such remittance income. Also when we consider HCR it has been found that the HCR for sample household with remittances is about 39 per cent while it

increases to 84 per cent for sample household without any such remittance income. A similar result is also observed when we express such difference in terms of PGP.

5.8.2 Impact of Remittance on Poverty

In our study we have resorted to a probit model to indicate the interdependence between the possibilities of any household remaining below poverty line or not (Poor or Not Poor) and the factors responsible for such possibility including the sex affiliation of the head of the family, caste affiliation of the household, dependency ratio of the household, average years of education of the household, size of per capita operating land holding, share of remittance received to the total household income and number of migrant member(s) of the household. The notation, specification and the descriptive statistics of the dependent and independent variable are given in Table 5.24.

Table 5.24 Notation, Specification and Descriptive Statistics of Variables Used in Regression Analysis at the Migrant Household Level

Notation	Specification of Variables	*Max*	*Min*	*Mean*	*SD*
	Dependent Variables				
Poor or Not Poor	Whether the Migrant Household is Poor or Not Poor? Yes = 1, No = 0	1	0	0.40	0.50
	Independent Variables				
HHHMF	Whether the Household head is Male or not? Yes = 1, No = 0	1	0	0.96	0.18
CASTE	ST = 1, SC = 2, OBC = 3 and General = 4	4	1	3.15	0.91
DEPRATIO	No. of dependent member(s) in migrant household.	0.8	0	0.4	0.2
AVGYEDUH	Average years of education of the households.	15	0	5.59	2.56
PCOLH	Per Capita Operating land holding size (Size in decimals).	250	0	12.88	18.50
SHAREREM	Share of remittances to total income of the households.	100	0	54.97	25.59
NOM	Number of migrant member of the households	6	1	1.20	0.50

Source: Sample Survey (2013-14)

5.8.3 The Empirical Results: *Probit Estimates*

The empirical results relating to households' poverty estimation is presented in the Table 5.25 by means of Probit estimates.

Table 5.25 Probit Estimates of poverty of Migrant Households

Variables	*Co-efficient*	*Robust Standard Error*	*t*	*P>t*	
HHHMF	1.177	0.891	1.320	0.186	Number
CASTE	-0.277**	0.136	-2.040	0.042	of observation = 480
DEPRATIO	0.195	0.644	0.300	0.762	LR chi2(8) = 93.62
AVGYEDUH	-0.261***	0.052	-4.970	0.000	Prob. > chi2 = 0.000
PCOLH	-0.045***	0.009	-4.780	0.000	Pseudo R2 = 0.2083
SHAREREM	-0.033***	0.005	-5.960	0.000	
NOM	-0.070	0.250	-0.280	0.778	
_cons	2.845	0.932	3.050	0.002	

Source: Sample Survey, 2013-14

Note: *** 1 per cent, ** 5 per cent, * 10 per cent level of significance respectively.

However, for factors such as caste affiliation (CASTE), average years of education of the household (AVGYEDUH), size of per capita operating land holding (PCOLH), share of remittance received (SHAREREM) to the total household income have statistically significant impact upon reducing poverty level of a migrant household.

Table 5.26 Calculation of Marginal Effects for Estimated Probit Model

Variables	ME(*dy/dx*)	*Delta-method Standard Error*	*z*	*P > z*	Average Marginal Effects
HHHMF	0.206	0.153	1.340	0.179	
CASTE	-0.048**	0.023	-2.080	0.038	
DEPRATIO	0.034	0.113	0.300	0.762	Model VCE Robust
AVGYEDUH	-0.046***	0.008	-5.580	0.000	
PCOLH	-0.008***	0.002	-4.950	0.000	No of
SHAREREM	-0.006***	0.001	-6.850	0.000	observations = 480
NOM	-0.012	0.044	-0.280	0.778	

Note: *** 1 per cent, ** 5 per cent, * 10 per cent level of significance respectively

The *marginal effects* (ME) of these variables on the incidence of poverty are given in the following Table 5.26. The result suggests that a migrating household is likely to be

more poor if it belongs to SC or ST caste category. Similarly, an educational attainment, as measured by average years of education, of the household members is supposed to help the migrant household in coming out of abject poverty, i.e. higher is the average years of education of family members lower is the incidence of poverty for such a family.

In a similar fashion the asset structure as explained by size of per capita operating landholding (PCOLH) of the migrant household is likely to reduce the incidence of poverty. In fact this is obvious, since greater size of per capita operating landholding of the migrant household is likely to reduce the incidence of poverty. Greater size of per capita operating landholding gives enough scope for any such household to earn more from agricultural activities.

However, for a migrant household the flow of remittances received from migrant members and its share in total income of the household seems to be the *sine qua non* for diminution of the intensity of poverty. Our result also indicates that higher is the share of remittances in total household income, lower will be the incidence of poverty for such migrant family.