CHAPTER-VI

CAUSES OF MIGRATION – PUSH AND PULL FACTORS

6.1. Introduction

Inter-regional and intra-regional disparities at macro level and primarily lack of employment opportunities resulting low standard of living conditions among different socio-economic groups at micro level are the causes of migration. Migration of the members of households in our survey villages from rural to urban areas is caused by different reasons. The basic and most important reasons were found to poverty and unemployment at origin. Therefore, they undertake migration as a livelihood strategy to meet the food deficit and other fundamental needs.

Most of the families in surveyed villages of the district are near landless. They, therefore, are not self-sufficient with that margin amount of land in food grain and vegetable items production. Besides, there is a huge lack of employment opportunities in their local areas. A very little amount of days during the year they generally get employment like agricultural labour, construction labour, labour of MGNREGA works in the local area etc. So, for their survival and to maintain socio-economic conditions, they are bound to migrate out to the prosperous regions and states in India. We analyse below the causes of migration by using our field survey data.

6.2 Prerequisite Conditions of Migrants for Migration

Before the analysis of factors of migration, we need to discuss the pre-requisite conditions of migrants for migration. The pre-requisite conditions of migrants are like decision making for out-migration, facilitators of migration, status of employment before out-migration, sector of employment before out-migration etc. Now, we discuss below the above mentioned prerequisites conditions of migrants for migration through our field investigation.

6.2.1 Decision Making for Out-migration

The data regarding the entities (family wise) influences the decision to out-migration for employment is revealed in Table 6.1 and also depicted in bar and pie diagrams in Figs. 6.1(a) and 6.1(b). Although, the decision to out-migrate is felt by the family as a whole to earn livelihood by getting employed at a place other than the migrant's native place, there is generally a final entity that plays the key role in migration decision. We collected data from the respondents to know which entity acted as trigger for out-migration.

Table – 6.1

Distribution of Migrants on the Basis Decision Making Entity (Family wise)

Village	Self	Spouse	Parents	Total
V ill 1	17(68.00)	0(0.00)	8(32.00)	25(100.00)
V ill 2	23(92.00)	0(0.00)	2(8.00)	25(100.00)
V ill 3	23(92.00)	0(0.00)	2(8.00)	25(100.00)
V ill 4	19(76.00)	0(0.00)	6(24.00)	25(100.00)
V ill 5	25(100.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	25(100.00)
V ill 6	23(92.00)	0(0.00)	2(8.00)	25(100.00)
Dist. Total	**130(86.67)**	**0(0.00)**	**20(13.33)**	**150(100.00)**

Source: Field Survey.

The results of the surveyed households show that about 87 percent cases the decision to migrate was made by the migrant himself/herself. Only about 13 percent cases the decision to migrate was taken by the parents of the migrants. Interestingly, in Village 5, all the migrant of the surveyed households, the decision to migrate were taken by himself/herself. There was no such type of migrant household among six villages surveyed whose family member was migrated by the decision of their spouses. So, spouse being involved in decision making was found to be insignificant.

Thus, overall picture brings out that most of the migrant of the surveyed households the decision to migrate was taken by himself/herself and taking decision to migrate may be categorised as a push factor.

Fig. 6.1(a)

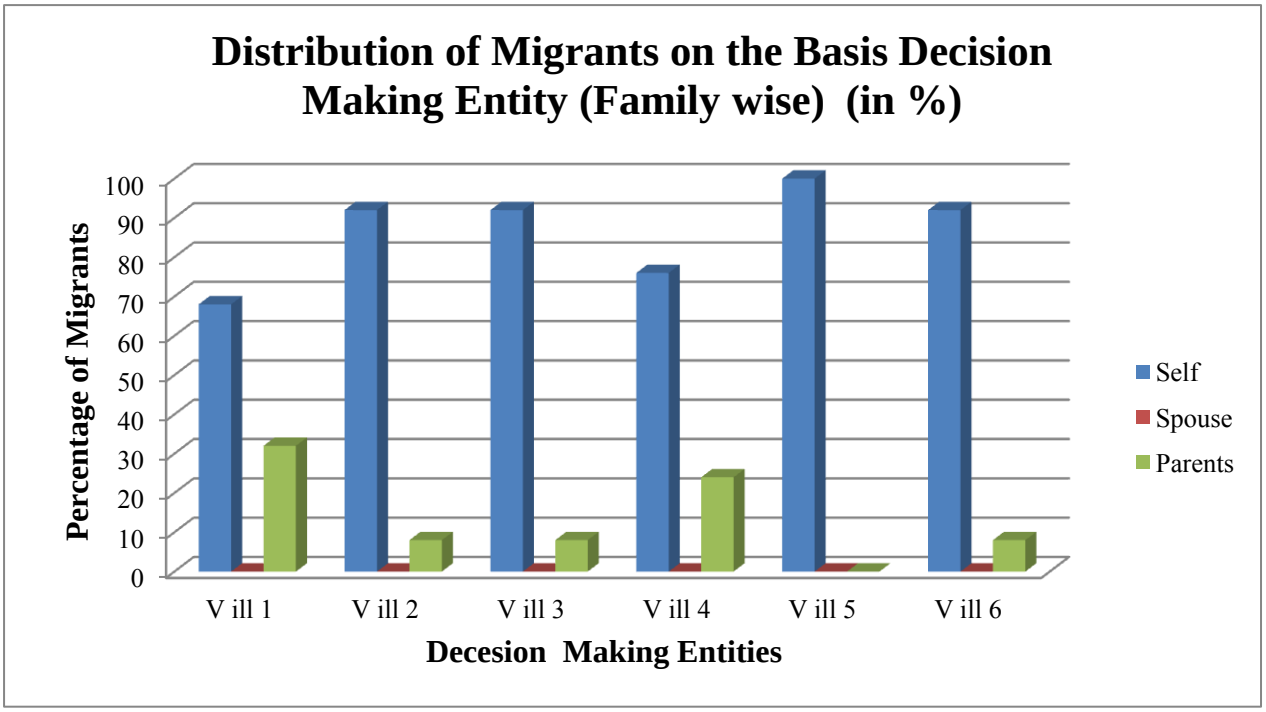
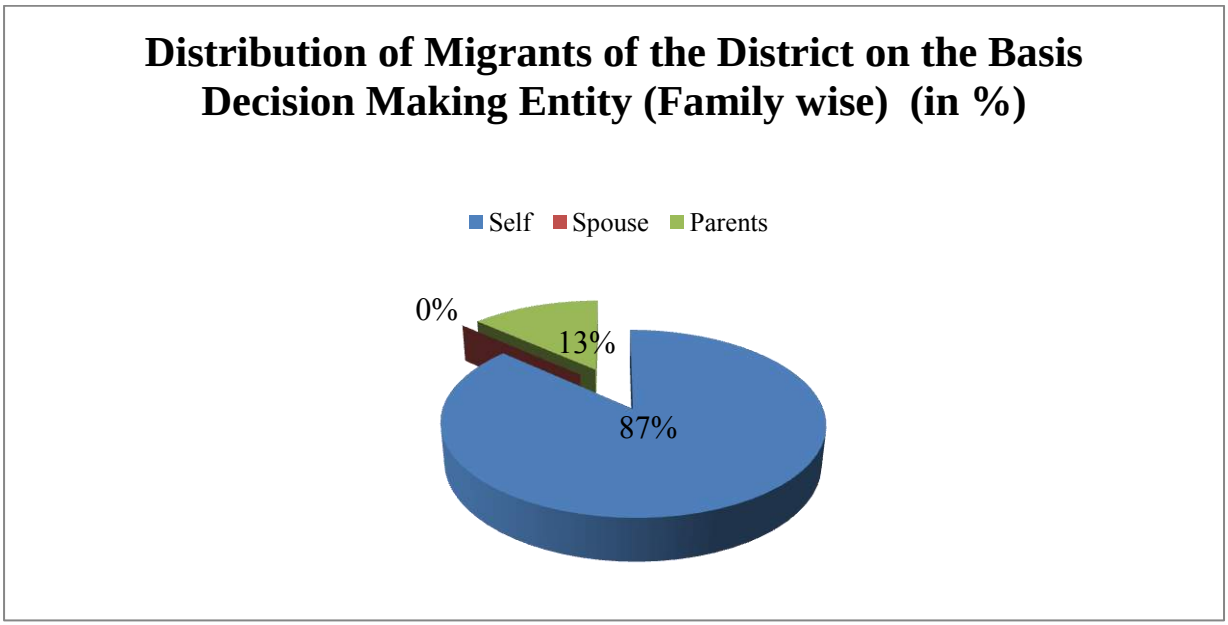


Fig. 6.1(b)



6.2.2 Facilitator of Migration

Rural out-migration is generally facilitated by some agents. The work done as facilitator are like relatives, friends, neighbours, labour recruiters and contractors, media sources like TV, newspaper etc. and employers' agents. The distribution of migrants on the basis of facilitator

of migration as household wise is represented in Table 6.2 below. In the case of more than one facilitator of migration, we have recorded the name of the dominant facilitator.

Table – 6.2

Distribution of Migrants on the Basis of Facilitator of Migration (Household wise)

Village	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
Vill 1	18(72.00)	4(16.00)	2(8.00)	1(4.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 2	14(56.00)	4(16.00)	5(20.00)	1(4.00)	1(4.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 3	19(76.00)	1(4.00)	2(8.00)	3(12.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 4	1(4.00)	0(0.00)	7(28.00)	15(60.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	2(8.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 5	6(24.00)	7(28.00)	3(12.00)	8(32.00)	0(0.00)	1(4.00)	0(0.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 6	11(44.00)	4(16.00)	1(4.00)	9(36.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	25(100.00)
Dist. Total	**69(46.00)**	**20(13.33)**	**20(13.33)**	**37(24.67)**	**1(0.67)**	**1(0.67)**	**2(1.33)**	**150(100.00)**

Notes: (i) Figures in brackets indicate row wise percentage.

(ii) 1= Relatives, friends already living at destination; 2=Relatives, friends living in village/neighborhood; 3=Labour recruiters/contractors from origin (village/neighborhood); 4= Labour recruiters/contractors from destination; 5=Media sources like news paper, TV, radio etc; 6=Employer/employer's agent; 7=others.

Source: Field survey.

It shows in the above table that among the facilitators of surveyed households of the district, relatives, friends already living at destination acted as the most important facilitators (46 per cent cases); followed by labour recruiters/contractors from destination (about 25 per cent cases); relatives, friends living in village/neighborhood (about 13 per cent cases). Interestingly, it proclaimed the same percentages i.e., about 13 percent between relatives, friends living in village/neighborhood and labour recruiters/contractors from origin village/neighborhood) acted as facilitator and also same percent i.e., only 0.67 percent between media sources like news paper, TV, radio etc. and employer/ employer's agent performed as facilitator. Only 1.33 percent marked by others (himself/herself) as facilitator. One contradictory result revealed in village 4 is that only 4 percent relatives, friends already living at destination acted as the facilitator i.e., the lowest percentage compared to other villages whereas labour recruiters/contractors from destination acted as facilitator were the highest percentage i.e., 60 percent compared to other villages. Thus, there are much inter-

village variations in the roles played by each of the facilitators of migration of the surveyed district.

6.2.3 Status of Employment before Out-migration

Employment situations before out-migration in family wise of the migrant workers from the surveyed households are presented in Table 6.3 and in Figs. 6.2(a) and 6.2(b) below. It could be seen that out of total surveyed households in the district, 66 percent households' workers were partially employed before out-migration and only 1.33 percent household workers were fully employed before out-migration. On the other hand, about 33 percent households' workers of the surveyed households had totally remain unemployed before out-migration.

Table – 6.3

Distribution of Migrants on the Basis of Status of Employment Before Out – Migration (Family wise)

Village	1	2	3	Total
Vil 1	0(0.00)	8(32.00)	17(68.00)	25(100.00)
Vil 2	1(4.00)	18(72.00)	6(24.00)	25(100.00)
Vil 3	0(0.00)	15(60.00)	10(40.00)	25(100.00)
Vil 4	1(4.00)	18(72.00)	6(24.00)	25(100.00)
Vil 5	0(0.00)	19(76.00)	6(24.00)	25(100.00)
Vil 6	0(0.00)	21(84.00)	4(16.00)	25(100.00)
District Total	**2(1.33)**	**99(66.00)**	**49(32.67)**	**150(100.00)**

Note: (i) Figures in bracket indicate row percentages. (ii) 1=Employed; 2=partially employed; 3=unemployed.

Source: Field survey.

It reveals from the above table that there is huge variation regarding employment status of household workers before migration of surveyed households among the categories of employment mentioned here and also inter-village variations regarding the same categories mentioned. This implies that migrations that have taken place from the district are mostly distress migration in the sense that about 67 percent households; migrants were either partially employed or unemployed. It may be noted that those who were partially employed were not gainfully employed. So to earn sufficient livelihood they had no alternative but to

migrate either in urban or semi-urban or rural areas of other-state or other district of the same state where both employment and higher wages are assured.

Fig. 6.2(a)

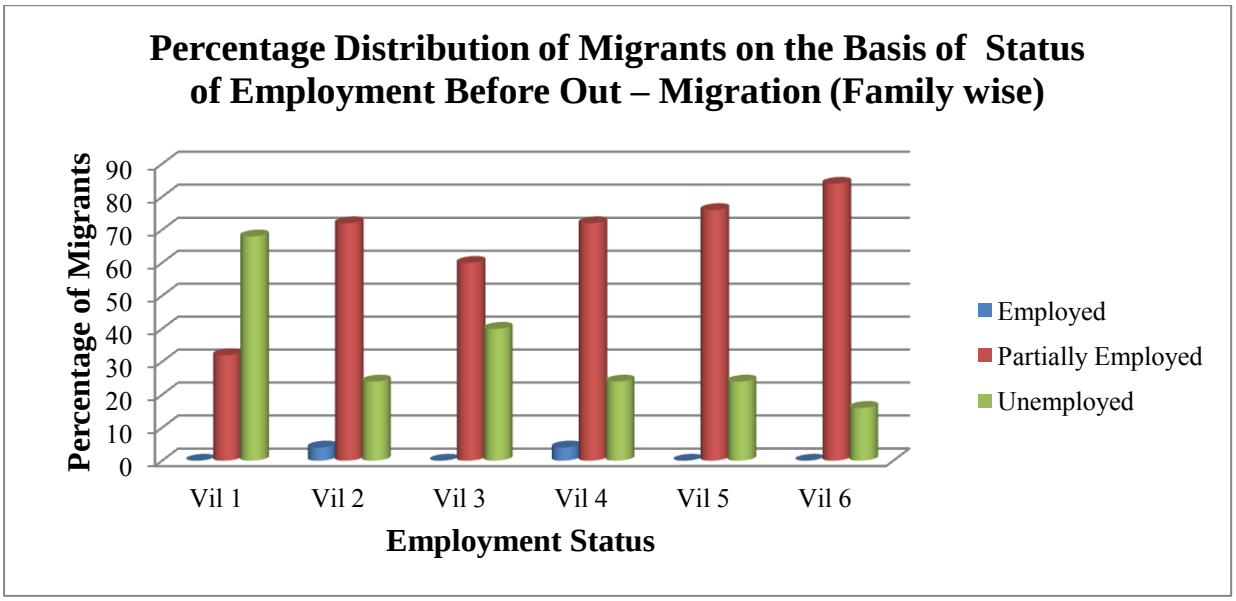
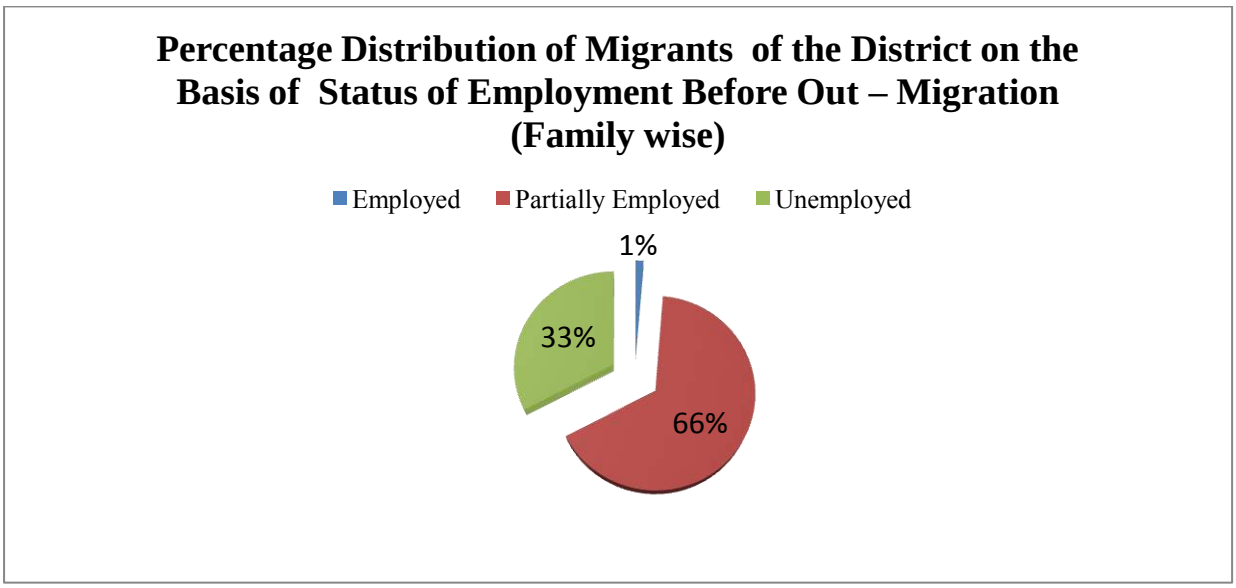


Fig. 6.2(b)



6.2.4 Sector of Employment before Out-migration

We have already seen that 66 percent of the labourers were partially employed and only 1.33 percent fully employed before out migration in the surveyed villages of the district. We have also collected data on their sector of employment before to out-migration. The sectors of

employment before out-migration in household wise of the migrant workers from the surveyed households are represented in Table 6.4 below and also illustrated in bar and pie diagrams in Figs. 6.3(a) and 6.3(b).

Table -6.4

Distribution of Migrants on the Basis of Sector of Employment Before Out - Migration (Household wise)

Village	1	2	3	N.A.	Total
Vill 1	8(32.00)	1(4.00)	0(0.00)	16(64.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 2	23(92.00)	1(4.00)	0(0.00)	1(4.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 3	12(48.00)	2(8.00)	1(4.00)	10(40.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 4	18(72.00)	1(4.00)	0(0.00)	6(24.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 5	13(52.00)	6(24.00)	0(0.00)	6(24.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 6	20(80.00)	1(4.00)	0(0.00)	4(16.00)	25(100.00)
District	**94(62.67)**	**12(8.00)**	**1(0.67)**	**43(28.66)**	**150(100.00)**

Note: (i) Figures in brackets indicate row percentages.

(ii) 1=Agriculture related; 2=Manufacturing related; 3=Service related; NA=Not Applicable.

Source: Field Survey.

Data showed in the above Table revealed that about 63 percent of the migrant households of the surveyed villages were engaged in agriculture and its allied activities before out-migration and 8 percent engaged in manufacturing sector. Only 0.67 percent of the migrant households were engaged in service sector. It was also revealed in the table that about 29 percent migrant workers before out-migration were engaged neither agricultural related activities nor manufacturing related activities nor service related activities as they were not got employment in local areas. So most of the migrant households' workers were engaged in agricultural related activities compared to other sectors of employment before out-migration.

On the other hand, service related activities being as one of the sector of employment of migrant workers before out-migration were found to be insignificant. However, there were much inter-village variations observed regarding the different categories of sector of employment.

Fig. 6.3(a)

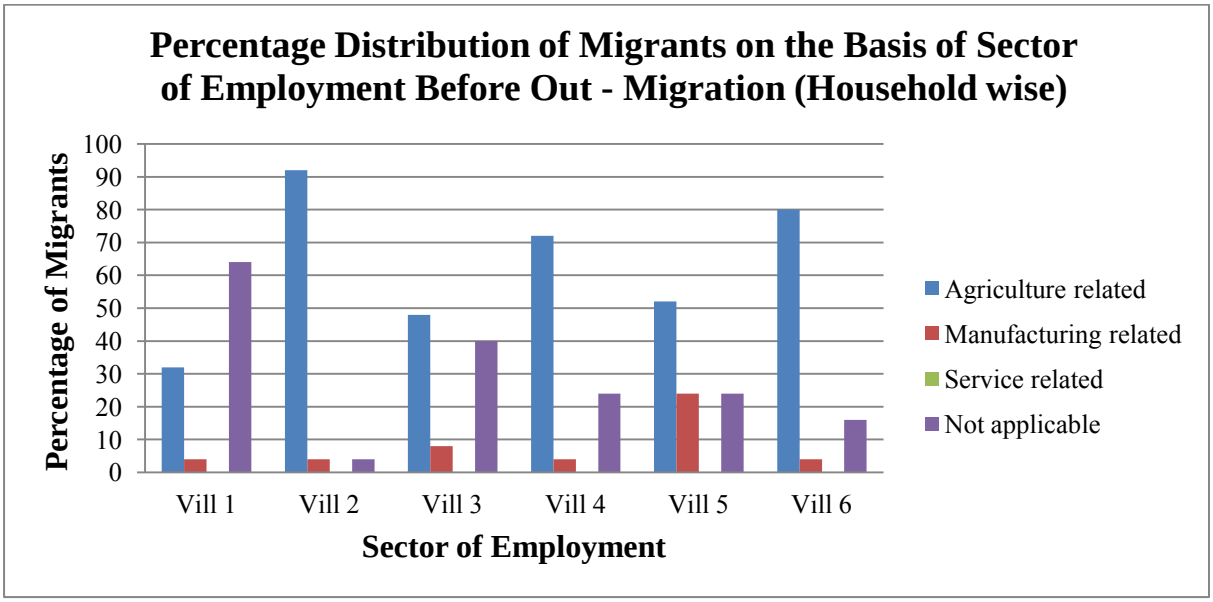
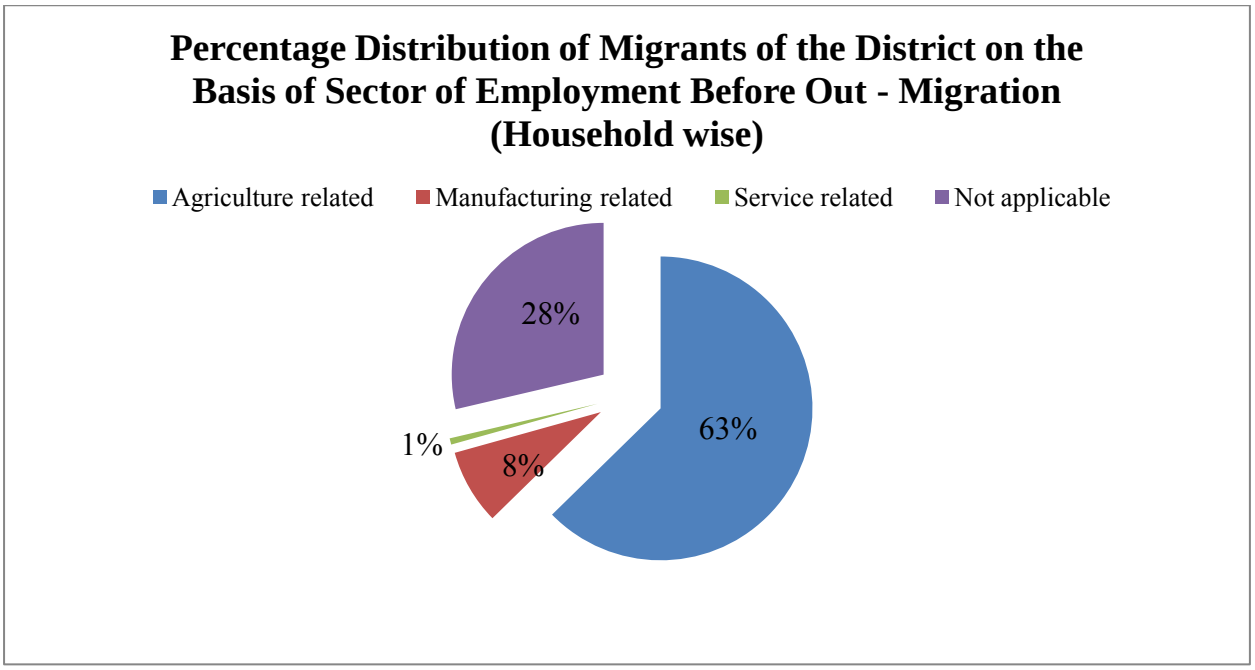


Fig. 6.3(b)



6.3. Factors of Migration Analysis in the Study Area

The factors which motivate people can be classified into five categories. They are economic factors, demographic factors, socio-cultural factors, political factors and miscellaneous factors. Here, we made an attempt to discuss mainly the social and economic factors of migration. Migration is primarily motivated by economic factors. Landlessness, Low agricultural income, agricultural unemployment and underemployment etc. are considered basic factors pushing the migrants towards developed areas with better employment

opportunities. The basic economic factors which motivate migration of people may also be categorized as 'Push Factors' and 'Pull Factors'.

6.3.1 Land Possession and Type of Housing

We emphasize below to the fact that being a revelation of a state of chronic and acute poverty the land possession and type of house conditions led the households to undertake migration as a coping strategy to shield them against further deterioration of their condition of living. The distribution of households regarding land possession and type of house conditions are indicated in Table 6.5, which is graphically presented with the help of bar and pie diagrams in Fig. 6.4(a) and 6.4(b).

Table – 6.5 Distribution of Migrant Households on the Basis of Possession of Land and Type of House

District	Land Size group (in bigha)	No. of Household	Type of house		
			Kutcha	Semi-pucca	Pucca
Cooch Behar	Less than 1	91(60.67)	92(62.59)	1(50.00)	0(0.00)
	1.0-3.0	32(21.33)	30(20.41)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)
	3.1-7.5	19(12.67)	17(11.56)	1(50.00)	1(100.00)
	7.6-15.0	6(4.00)	6(4.08)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)
	15.1-30.0	2(1.33)	2(1.36)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)
	Greater than 30.0	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)
	Total	**150(100.00)**	**147(100.00)**	**2(100.00)**	**1(100.00)**

Notes: (1) Figures in brackets indicate column percentages. (2) 3 bighas make one acre.

Source: Field Survey.

It is revealed in the above table that the highest about 61 percent households of the district possessed less than 1 bigha of cultivable land followed by about 21 percent households who possessed cultivable land between 1.0 bigha to 3.0 bighas, 13 percent households who occupied land between 3.1 to 7.5 bighas, 4 percent households who occupied land between 7.6 to 15.0 bighas and about 1 percent household who possessed land between 15.1 to 30.0 bighas. There was no even a single household who possessed land greater than 30.0 bighas. Now, as far as types of houses are concerned, the highest about 63 percent households have kutcha houses who possessed less than 1 bigha of cultivable land, followed by 20 percent households who possessed land between 1.0 bigha to 3.0 bighas, 12 percent households who

occupied land between 3.1 to 7.5 bighas, about 4 percent households who occupied land between 7.6 to 15.0 bighas and about 1 percent household who possessed land between 15.1 to 30.0 bighas. There was no even a single household having kutcha house who possessed land greater than 30.0 bighas. Semi-pucca and pucca being the types of houses, the number of households who possessed less than 1 bigha and between 3.1 to 7.5 bighas of cultivable land were found to be insignificant. So, majority of kutcha households have less than one bigha of cultivable land. Thus, land being the main asset in rural areas that depicted a very pitiable economic condition of the households of the district under survey.

Fig. 6.4(a)

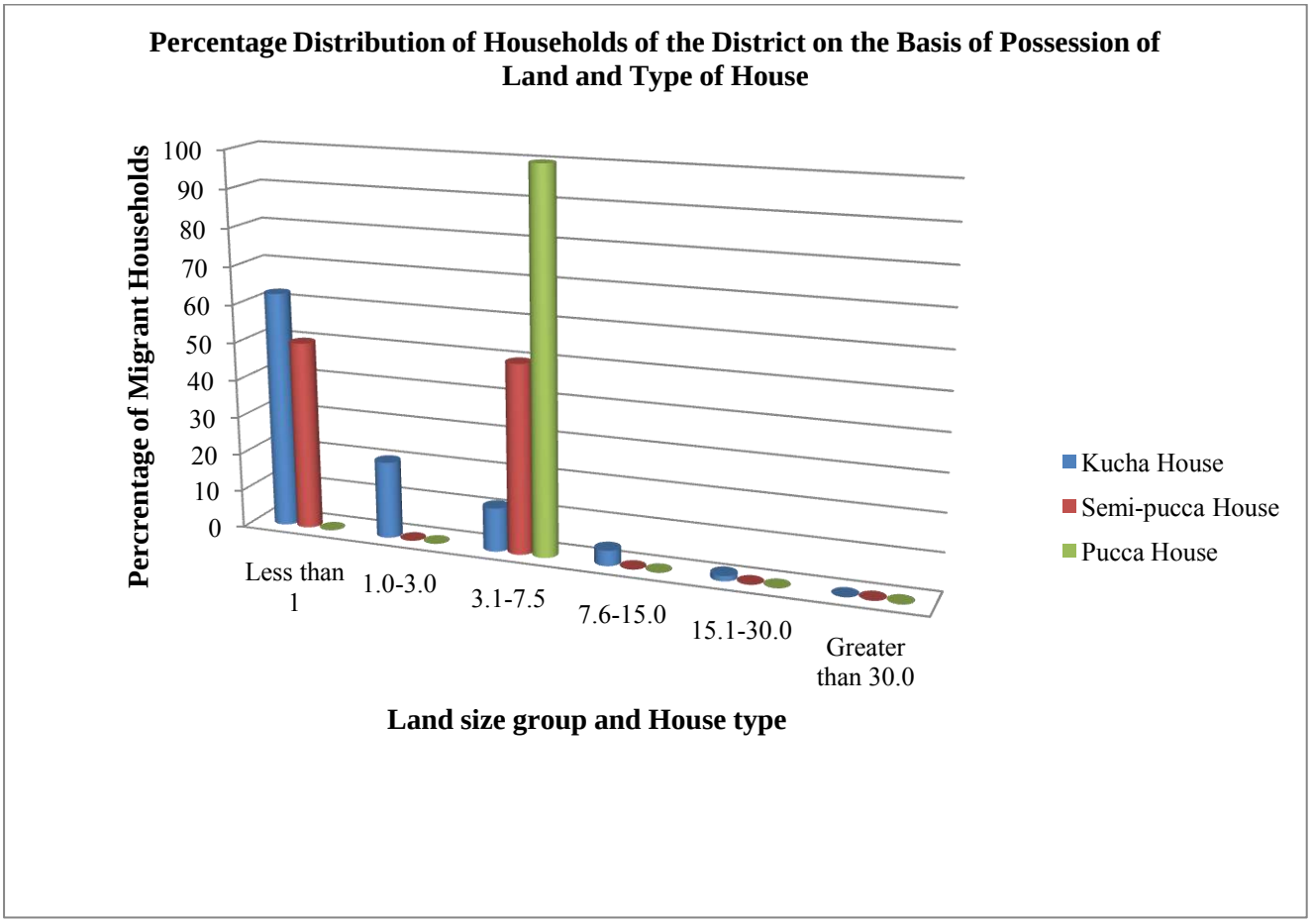
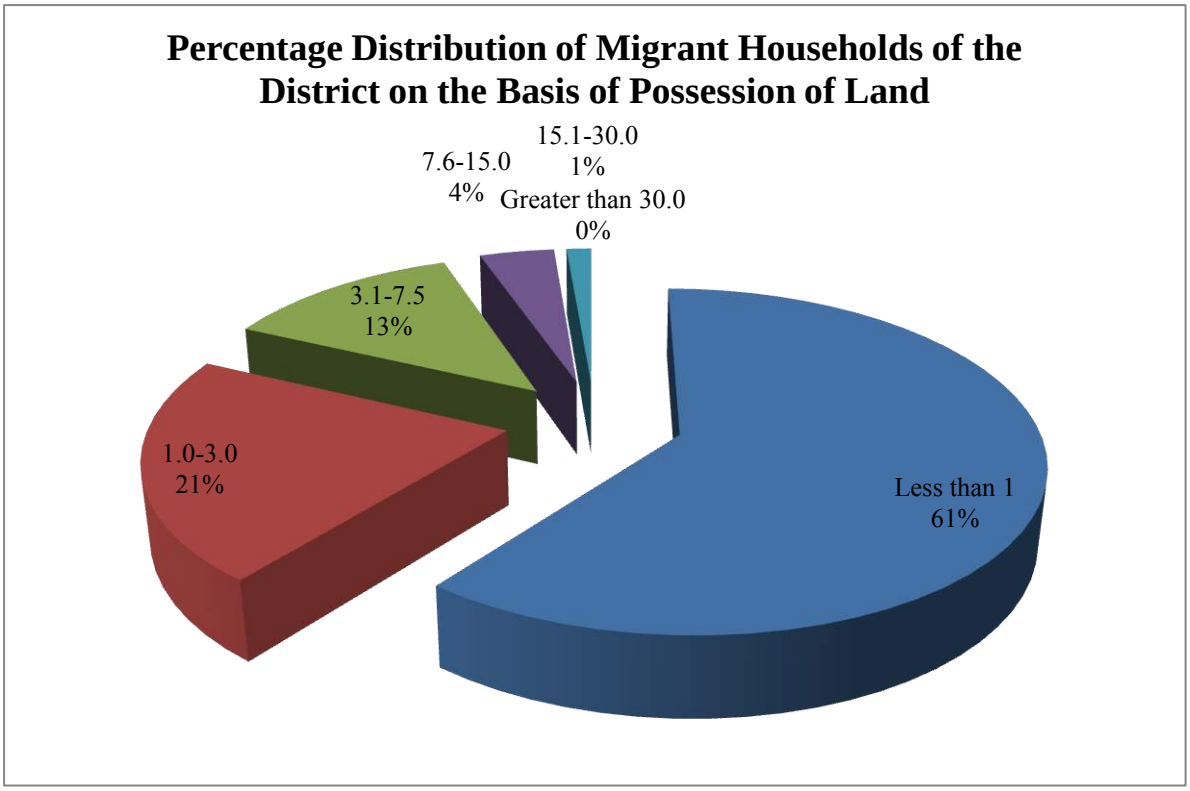


Fig. 6.4(b)



6.3.2 Household Infrastructure: Toilet facility

The same disgraceful condition of living as we have found to the case of land possession in just previous table with regard to the presence and type of toilet facility is hereby further repeated. Table 6.6 shows below the existence and type of toilet facility in the households surveyed.

Table -6.6

Distribution of Households on the Basis of Household Infrastructure: Toilet Facility

Village	Toilet Facility		Type of Toilet			
	Yes	No	Kutcha	Pucca	Semi - Pucca	Open space
Vill 1	14(56.00)	11(44.00)	9(36.00)	4(16.00)	1(4.00)	11(44.00)
Vill 2	16(64.00)	9(36.00)	12(48.00)	3(12.00)	1(4.00)	9(36.00)
Vill 3	24(96.00)	1(4.00)	19(76.00)	6(24.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)
Vill 4	9(36.00)	16(64.00)	9(36.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	16(64.00)

Vill 5	12(48.00)	13(52.00)	4(16.00)	6(24.00)	1(4.00)	14(56.00)
Vill 6	5(20.00)	20(80.00)	3(12.00)	2(8.00)	0(0.00)	20(80.00)
District Total	**80(53.33)**	**70(46.67)**	**56(37.33)**	**21(14.00)**	**3(2.00)**	**70(46.67)**

Note: Figures in brackets indicate row percentages.
Source: Field Survey

It is revealed in the above Table that in Cooch Behar district, about 53 per cent migrant households have their toilet facility and about 47 percent have not their toilet facility. As far as categories of toilets are concerned in Cooch Behar district about 37 percent of the toilets are kutcha, 14 percent are pucca, only 2 percent are semi-pucca and about 47 percent migrant households have not any toilet facility as they normally use open space for toilet. So most of the migrant households surveyed have no toilet facility and semi –pucca as being one of the types of toilet facility was found to be insignificant. Although there is much inter-village variations observed among different categories of toilet.

6.3.3 Household Infrastructure: Drinking Water Sources

Drinking water sources as household infrastructure is one of the most essential sources for livelihood of the migrant households surveyed. There are mainly three types of drinking water sources like Tube well (own), Well (own) and Tube well/ Well (Shared/ Public). Table 6.7 shows below the distribution of migrant households regarding the drinking water sources.

Table – 6.7

Distribution of Households on the Basis of Household Infrastructure: Drinking Water Sources

Village	Tubewell (own)	well (own)	Tubewell / well (Shared / public)	Others (specify)
Vill 1	22(88.00)	0(0.00)	3(12.00)	0(0.00)
Vill 2	18(72.00)	1(4.00)	6(24.00)	0(0.00)
Vill 3	18(7200)	0(0.00)	7(28.00)	0(0.00)
Vill 4	20(80.00)	1(4.00)	4(16.00)	0(0.00)

Vill 5	13(52.00)	1(4.00)	11(44.00)	0(0.00)
Vill 6	9(36.00)	2(8.00)	14(56.00)	0(0.00)
District Total	100(66.67)	5(3.33)	45(30.00)	0(0.00)

Note: Figures in brackets indicate row percentages.

Source: Field Survey.

It is brought out in the above Table that about 67 percent of surveyed households of Cooch Behar district use tube wells as own source of drinking water, 30 percent households use tube well or well on shared basis as source of their drinking water and only about 3 percent households use well as own source of drinking water. There is no any other source of drinking water in surveyed households. As shared sources of water requires lots of time to be devoted to collect water due to travel requirement to the source of water as well as spending time in standing on the queue, therefore 30 percent surveyed households in Cooch Behar district are normally done this type of troublesome activities to cover drinking water. Well being as one of the source of drinking water was found to be insignificant among the surveyed households. However, it reveals that there are inter-village variations of migrant households among the mentioned different drinking water sources.

6.3.4 Household Infrastructure: House Electrification

One of the most important indicators of standard of living of family is the existence of electricity in a house. It can be used for many proposes like lighting, running various types of electric and electronic gadgets as well as fuel. Data presented in Table 6.8 below exhibited that only about 9 percent surveyed houses were electrified whereas about 91 percent surveyed houses had not gained electricity connection. There is no doubt that poverty was the main cause for which they couldn't afford to have electric connection.

Table – 6.8

Distribution of Households on the Basis of Household Infrastructure: House Electrification

Village	Yes	Yes (%)	No	No (%)
Vill 1	1	4.00	24	96.00
Vill 2	3	12.00	22	88.00
Vill 3	1	4.00	24	96.00
Vill 4	1	4.00	24	96.00
Vill 5	5	20.00	20	80.00
Vill 6	2	8.00	23	92.00
District Total	**13**	**8.67**	**137**	**91.33**

Source: Field Survey

However, there were inter-village variations exist between having electricity and not having electricity of surveyed households. Thus, it could be supposed that in different aspects of household infrastructure the members of the surveyed households live a sub-human life. This distress condition bounded to push them towards migration to other places to earn a little more in order to somehow maintain and improve their living conditions.

6.3.5 Almost Zero Waiting Period for Migrants at Destination

In Todaro's migration model it has been conceded that due to urban unemployment, there is a probability that some of the job seekers who are migrating to towns and cities may have to remain unemployed for a certain period to get any job or a coveted job. We have made an attempt to test this proposition from Table 6.9 which can also be depicted in bar and pie diagrams in Figs. 6.5(a) and 6.5(b) below.

Table - 6.9

Distribution of Migrants on the Basis of Whether Had to Wait or Not to Get Job (Family wise) at Destination

Village	Yes(No.)	Yes (%)	No(No.)	No (%)
Vill 1	0	0.00	25	100.00
Vill 2	0	0.00	25	100.00
Vill 3	0	0.00	25	100.00
Vill 4	0	0.00	25	100.00
Vill 5	1	2.00	24	98.00
Vill 6	0	0.00	25	100.00
District Total	**1**	**0.67**	**149**	**99.33**

Source: Field Survey.

It could be found in the above table that in 99.33 percent cases the migrant workers did not have to wait in the destination to obtain a job and only 0.67 percent cases the migrant workers had to wait to get job. Thus, waiting to get job for the migrants in the destination was insignificant here. The matter of the fact is that almost there was no waiting by the migrants for jobs but there were jobs waiting to be manned by the migrants at the destination in our study. There were several reasons for this as mentioned below.

First, household workers of the villages of our survey were neither ambitious nor qualified for getting white-collar jobs either in the formal sector or in the informal sector.

Second, friends, relatives, labour recruiters/contractors, employers' agents whoever are the facilitator of migration arranged for the absorption of the migrant workers at the destination before their arrival.

Thirdly, the financial conditions of most of the migrants were so erratic that they couldn't afford to remain unemployed except 2-3 days. Before making journey to the destination, they were already assured of their employment and lodging as well as become informed about the nature and terms and conditions of their work.

Thus, the rural areas of our survey was witnessing massive stream of out-migration towards urban, semi-urban or rural areas that were instantly absorbed at the destination in various non-farm or farm activities without any difficulty and without any major problem of assimilation and adaptation.

Wages and other terms and conditions of employment offered by the employers were quite agreeable to the migrant workers. Therefore, zero waiting period to join jobs at destination is a boon to be out-migrants and is working as an infallible pull factor to them.

Fig. 6.5(a)

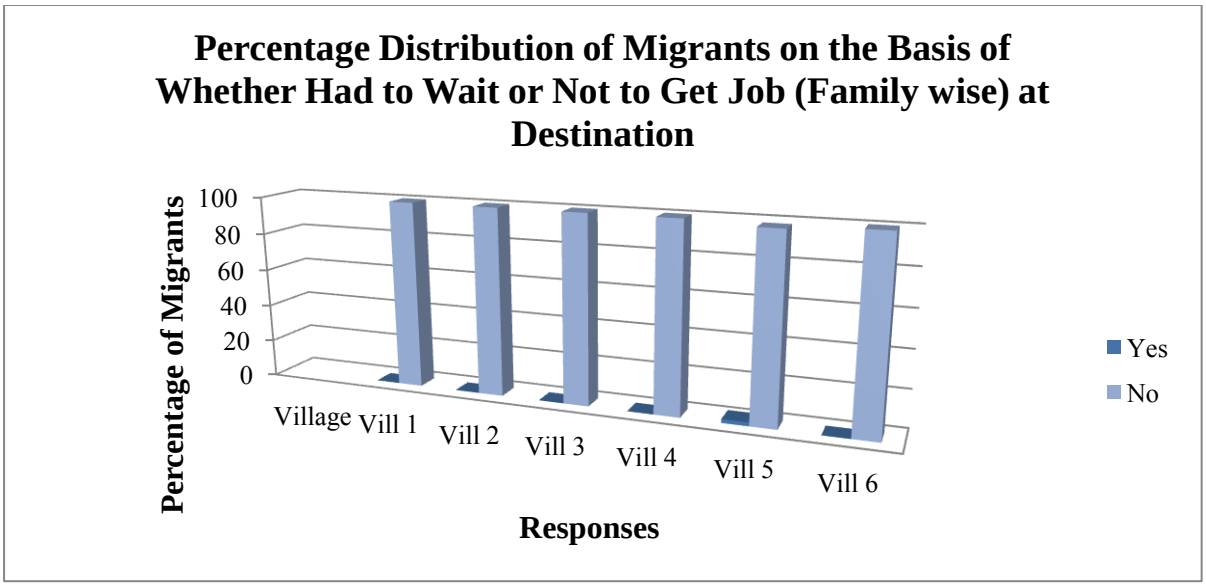
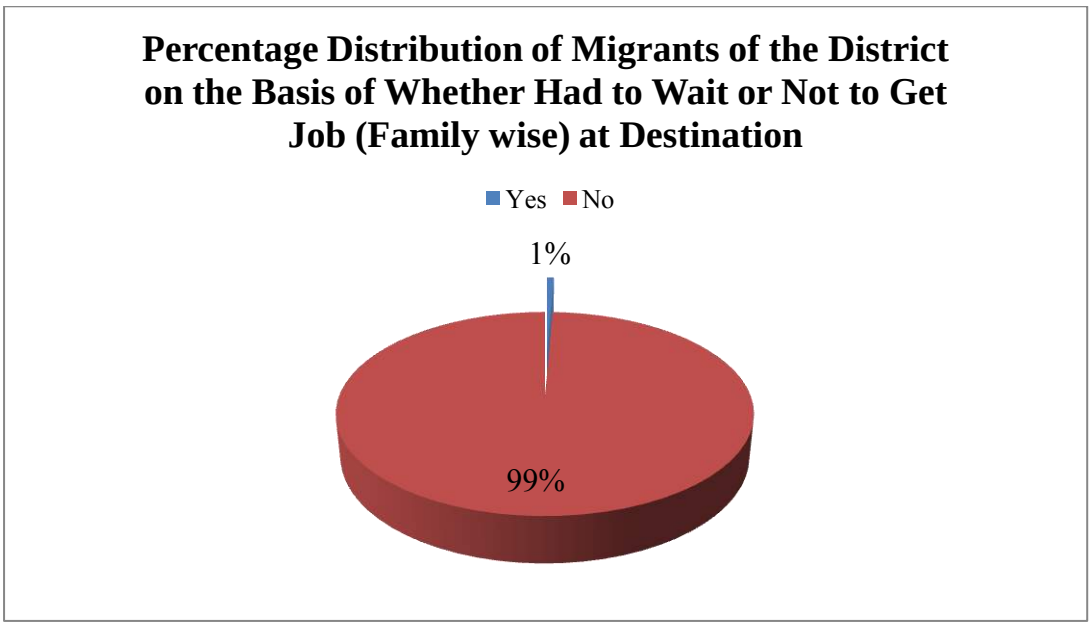


Fig. 6.5(b)



6.3.6 Helping/Motivating Others to Migrate

Migrant households worker motivate others to migrate various places that leads to increase migration rate. We have made an attempt to know from the migrant workers or their family members whether the migrants helped or motivated others to migrate. Table 6.10 represents the migrant workers who helped others to migrate in the destination area which is graphically presented with the help of bar and pie diagrams in Figs. 6.6(a) and 6.6(b).

Table -6.10

Distribution of Migrants on the Basis of Helping Others to Migrate

Village	Yes (no.)	Yes (percent)	No (No.)	No (percent)	Total
Vill 1	22	23.16	73	76.84	95(100.00)
Vill 2	20	28.99	49	71.01	69(100.00)
Vill 3	25	40.32	37	59.68	62(100.00)
Vill 4	32	49.23	33	50.77	65(100.00)
Vill 5	8	12.12	31	52.54	39(100.00)
Vill 6	28	47.46	31	52.54	50(100.00)
District Total	**135**	**32.45**	**281**	**67.55**	416(100.00)

Note: Figures in brackets indicate row percentages.

Source: Field Survey.

Data revealed in the above Table that about 32 per cent migrant workers of surveyed households helped others to migrate and about 68 percent migrant workers did not help others for migration. So, there was a quite portion of migrant workers who motivated others to migrate. The reason for motivation might be that since migration from the district was overwhelmingly rural to urban areas and at distant places, therefore, workers who already migrated worked as a role model or motivator to many prospective migrant workers. Migration to other states and in urban areas was at the same time a charm and an adventure as well as constituted lots of tension and apprehensions to the prospective migrants. In such a condition, many migrant workers motivated the prospective migrants and dispel some of the apprehensions of the latter.

Fig. 6.6(a)

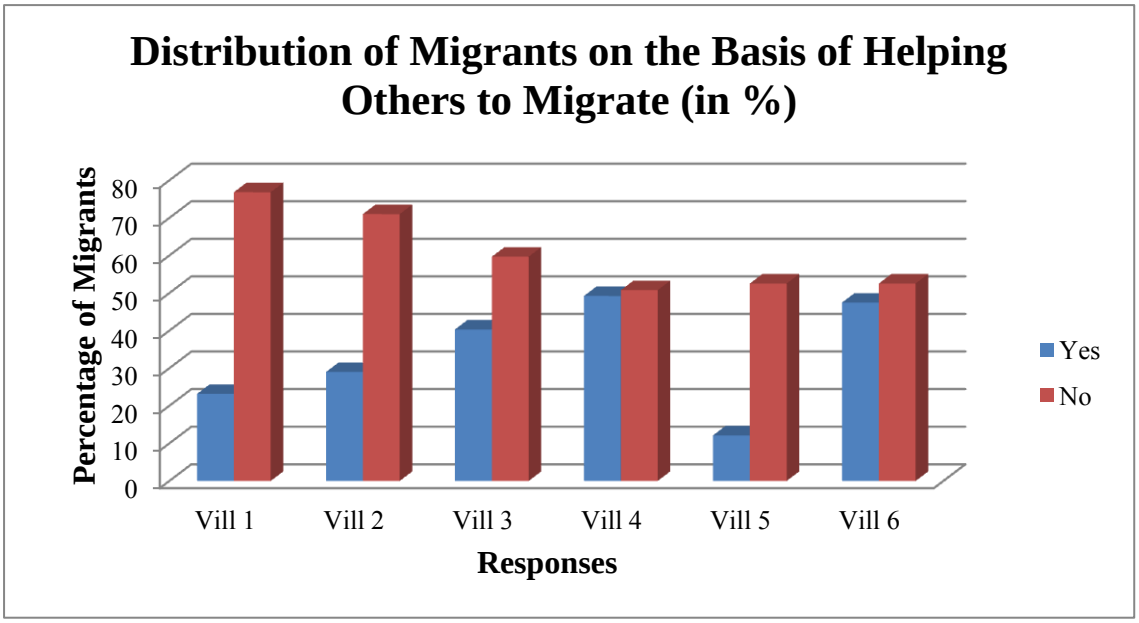
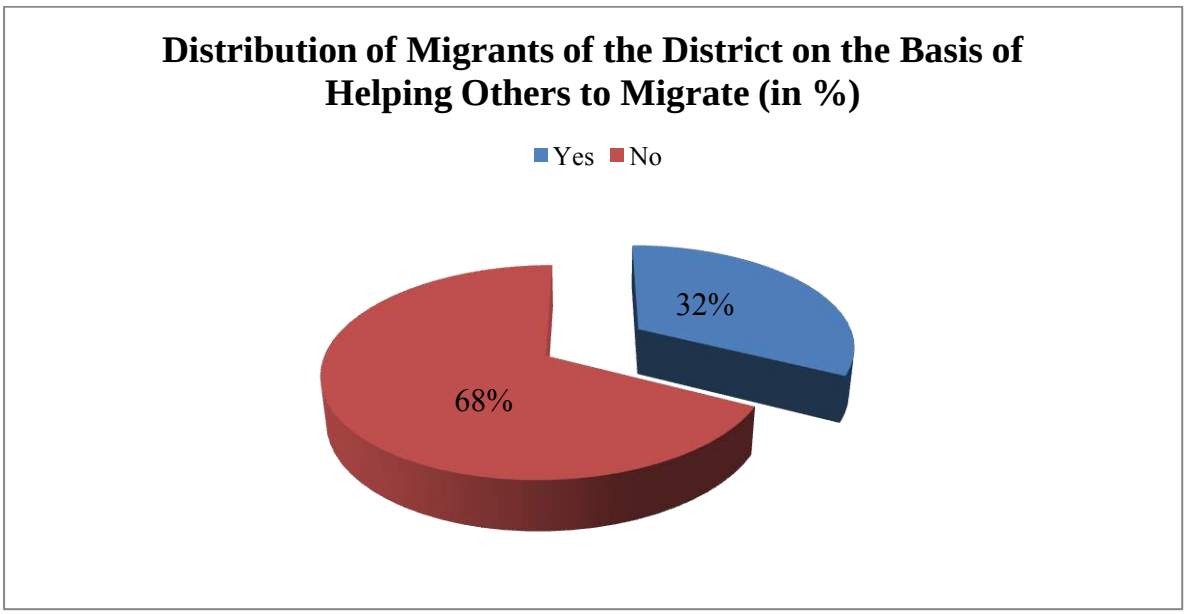


Fig. 6.6(b)



6.3.7 Employment at Origin

Household workers of surveyed households had received varieties of days of employment in a year before out-migration at local areas i.e. at origin. Although, few households did not receive even a single day of employment. Now, it can be seen through our field investigation. The employment scenario for the migrants' households if they stayed at origin instead of migrating are presented in Table 6.11 and in Figs. 6.7(a) and 6.7(b).

Table – 6.11

Distribution of Migrants on the Basis of Days of Employment

Per Year if Would Not Migrate (in Percentages)

Village/District	No Employment	1 to 120	121 to 200	200 & above	Total
Vill 1	68.00	12.00	20.00	0.00	100.00
Vill 2	0.00	16.00	80.00	4.00	100.00
Vill 3	40.00	0.00	60.00	0.00	100.00
Vill 4	4.00	80.00	16.00	0.00	100.00
Vill 5	4.00	32.00	64.00	0.00	100.00
Vill 6	12.00	40.00	48.00	0.00	100.00
District Total	**21.33**	**30.00**	**48.00**	**0.67**	**100.00**

Source: Field Survey

It is revealed from the above Table that about 21 percent households reported that their working members would have remained unemployed, 30 percent reported to get employment for upto 120 days, 48 percent would get employment between 121 to 200 days and less than one percent i.e., 0.67 percent households reported to a have been employed for more than 200 days in a year it they remained in origin instead at migrating. So most of the working members of the surveyed households got employment between 121 to 200 days in a year. Employments consisting of more than 200 days by the working members of the households were found to be insignificant. However, there were much inter-village variations regarding days of employment received in a year.

Now, if the migration of the households would not take place, then the proportion of unemployment in the district would have been in the case of one fifth of the total households, As a result, a larger proportion of the households of the district might afford to remain unemployed in the case of migration not taking place.

The important point to note is that in the best possible situation working age members of 48 percent households of the district would get employed upto 200 days only in a year. It shows that there is a situation of massive underemployment of rural labourers in the villages

of our survey. This indicates that the situation was rife enough to warrant large scale emigration of rural labourers in search of livelihood.

Now, comparing with destinations, employment opportunity is available throughout the year in public and private civil construction sites, in factories, queries, brick kilns etc. It was reported that labourers could work in destinations for all the 365 days of a year if they liked. Moreover, there is no waiting for job to the migrants; rather the jobs are in waiting for the migrants at destinations. This happens due to the fact that the migrants, who are already there in destinations, make arrangements of employment for the potential migrants before the arrival of the latter in destinations. Moreover, most jobs being manual in nature, the new migrants virtually faces very little competition from the local labourers at destinations since there is a huge shortage of labourers at destinations as well as due to the fact that local labourers finds performing such menial jobs beyond dignity. Thus, the problems of demanding higher wages, higher recess time by the local labourers that lead to the problem of lesser degree of control over the local labourers on the part of the employers. Though we have not made our survey at destinations, all these factors have been reported to us by respondents at origin. Thus the push factors on the part of the migrant workers become a pull factor on the part of the employers at destination. The two factors combined reinforce the migration process of the working members of the households which we surveyed.

Fig. 6.7(a)

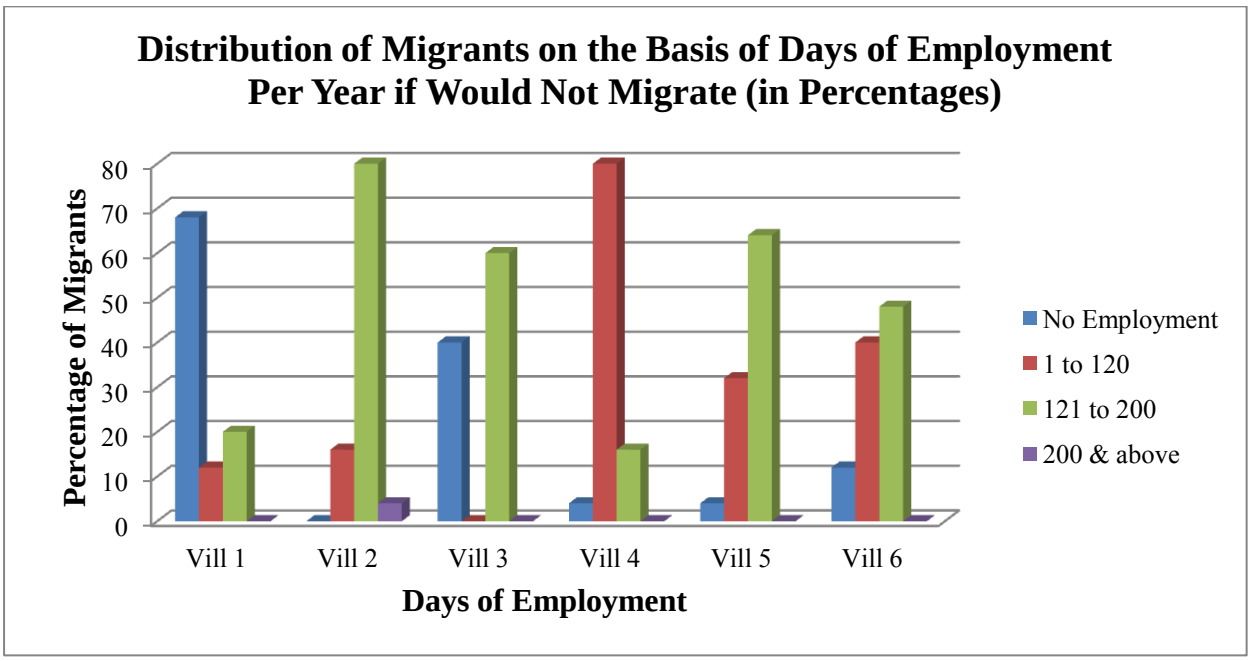
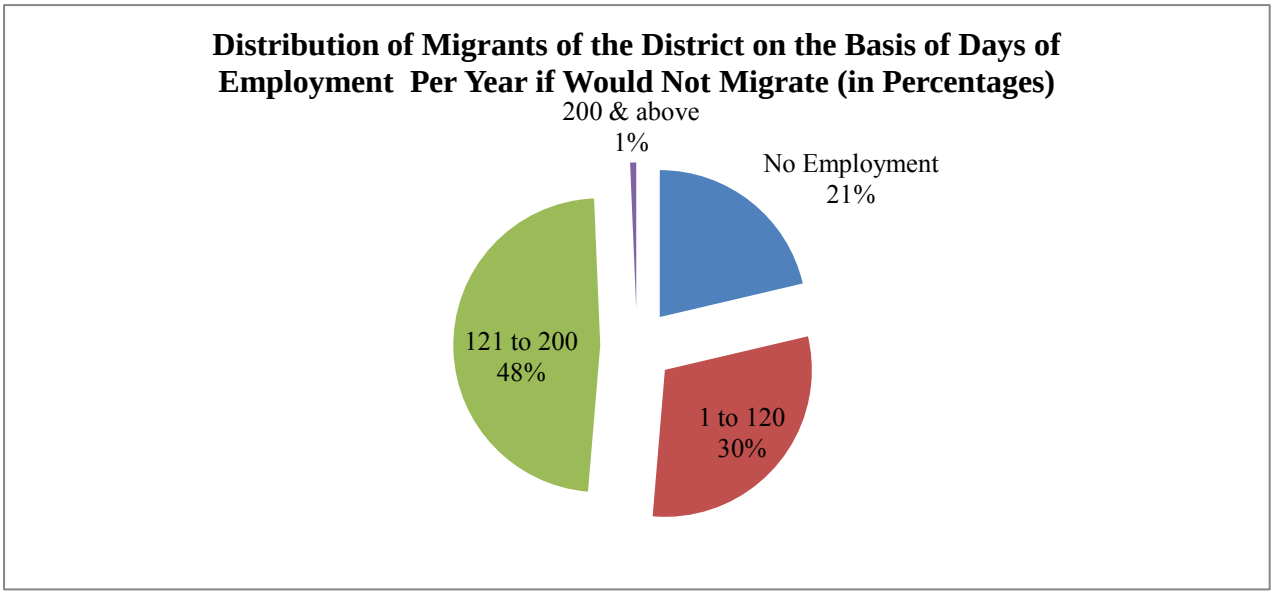


Fig. 6.7(b)



6.3.8 Wages at Origin

One more driving force of migration is the higher wage rates prevailing at destination compared to the lower wages rates at origin. Thus, the former operates as pull factor and the latter acts as push factor of migration. It may be noted that the higher average wage rates at destinations are not part of 'expected' income as has been postulated by Todaro, rather it is part of 'actual' income due to the fact that there is no 'probability' factor working in destinations. The probability of getting employment is hundred out of hundred. So it is the lure of higher wage rates and higher total actual income at destinations compared to the origin that works as a strong driving force or pull factor for out-migration of rural workers from our areas of survey.

Now, the wage rates prevailing and received by the workers who work at origin by performing different types of work are shown in Table 6.12 and also depicted in bar and pie diagrams in Figs. 6.8(a) and 6.8(b) below.

Table-6.12

Distribution of Migrants on their Basis of Rates of Wages (in Rs.) Per day Received at Origin (in percentages)

Village	Upto to 40	41 to 60	61 to 80	Above 80	Total
Vill 1	12.50	87.50	0.00	0.00	100.00
Vill 2	4.17	95.83	0.00	0.00	100.00
Vill 3	0.00	33.33	66.67	0.00	100.00
Vill 4	0.00	70.00	30.00	0.00	100.00
Vill 5	0.00	66.67	28.57	4.76	100.00
Vill 6	0.00	57.14	42.86	0.00	100.00
District Total	**1.84**	**68.81**	**28.44**	**0.91**	**100.00**

Source: Field Survey.

The data expressed in the above table that migrant labourers of the surveyed households would have received wage rates of upto 40 rupees in the case of labourers of about 2 percent households in the district. This indicates that these types of labourers from the surveyed households were faced at distressed situation. Then labourers from nearly 62 per households were received Rs. 41 to Rs. 60. This also indicates a distressed situation of surveyed households as it carried comparatively low wage rate. On the other hand, the labours of about 28 percent households would get Rs. 61 to 80, relatively higher rate of wages and only near about 1 percent household workers were received wages above Rs. 80. However, there were much inter-village variations regarding the wage rates of surveyed households.

It may be mentioned that at the time of field survey year, that is, in the 2013, the government's daily minimum wages were lies between Rs. 115 to Rs.137. So, most of the labourers did not get wages equivalent to government's daily minimum wages. Only about 1 percent household workers were received wages equivalent to government's daily minimum wages.

Though not strictly comparable, (as data have been collected household wise that is presented in Table - 6.3(8), whereas data presented in Table - 5.3(5) have been collected individual migrant worker-wise) still from a rough comparison of wage rates presented in Table - 6.3(8),, and Table - 5.3(5) we see that percentage of workers who received wage rates of upto

Rs 60 is only about 3 percent in case of migrant workers which is nearly 62 percent workers in the district as they were non-migrant. But about 35 percent of the migrant workers of this district earn a wage rate of Rs. above 80 which is available to non-migrant workers from less than one percent of the surveyed households. This shows that there is a tremendous boost in earning due to migration.

Thus, it can be seen that higher wage rates prevailing at destinations has been a driving force of rural out-migration in our study area. The monthly and yearly incomes are also high in the post-migrant situation compared to the pre-migration situation and number of days of employment is much higher in the former situation compared to the latter situation.

Fig. 6.8(a)

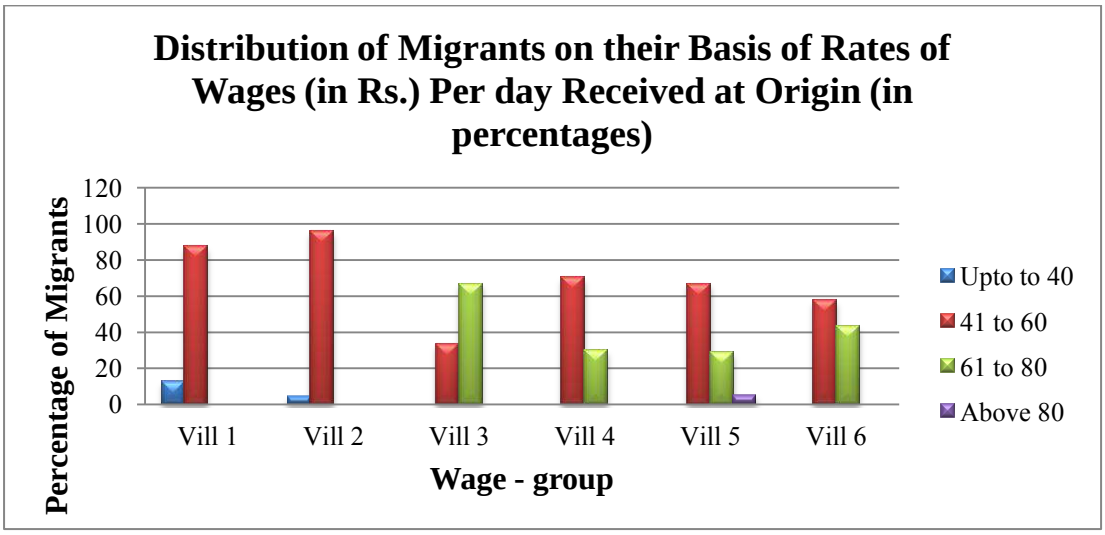
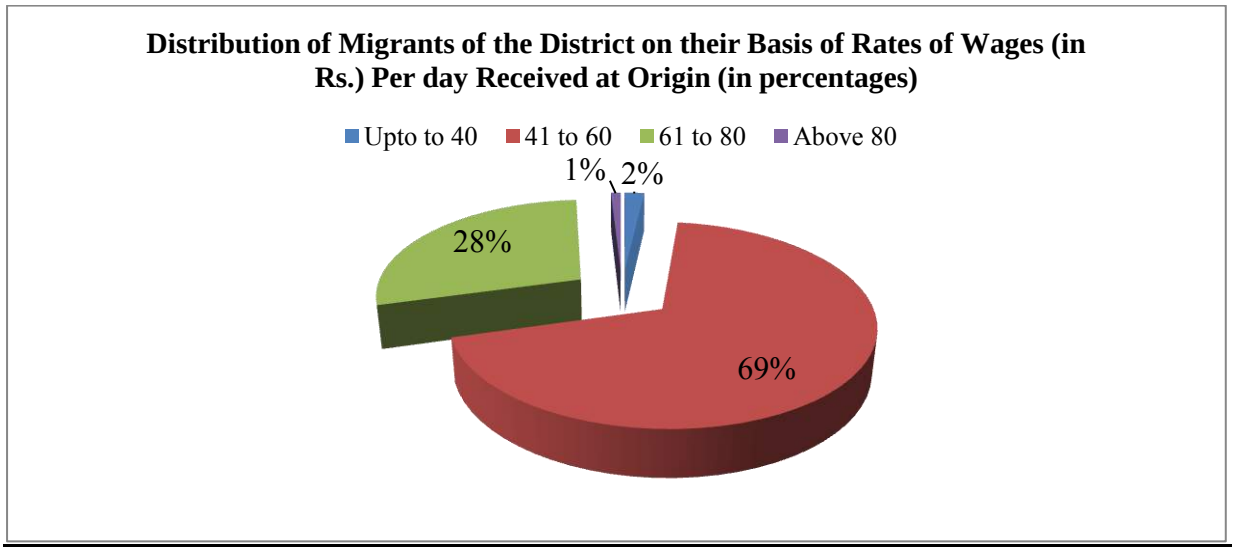


Fig. 6.8(b)



6.3.9 Reasons for Migration

Migration from households may be occurred due to various reasons. It can be broadly classified into two categories – push factors and pull factors. But, what are the specific factors for causing migration of household members? We have tried to find out through our field investigation. Of course, for policy recommendations it is very important to have information on reasons for migration. Table 6.13 below shows the distribution of migrants regarding reasons for migration which is also illustrated with the help of bar and pie diagrams in Figs. 6.9(a) and 6.9(b).

Table-6.13: Distribution of Migrants on the Basis of Reasons for Migration

Village/District	In search of employment	In search of better employment	Business	Transfer of services/ contract	Proximity to place work	Health care use	Migration of the parent/earning member of the family	**Total**
Vill 1	7(9.59)	44(60.27)	1(1.37)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	21(28.77)	73(100.00)
Vill 2	4(9.53)	27(64.27)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	11(26.20)	42(100.00)
Vill 3	37(88.09)	1(2.38)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	4(9.53)	42(100.00)
Vill 4	3(9.09)	28(84.85)	0(0.00)	2(6.06)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	33(100.00)
Vill 5	7(22.58)	24(77.42)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	31(100.00)
Vill 6	12(38.71)	19(61.29)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	31(100.00)
District	**70(27.78))**	**143(56.74)**	**1(0.40)**	**2(0.79)**	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	**36(14.29)**	**252(100.00)**

Note: (i) Figure in brackets indicate column percentages.(ii) 1= In search of employment; 2= In search of better employment; 3= business; 5= Transfer of services/contract; 6= Proximity to place work ; 14= Health care use; 17= Migration of the parent/earning member of the family.
Source: Field Survey.

It shows in the above table that in the surveyed households of the district the reasons for migration in order of importance were: 'in search of better employment' (nearly 57 percent), 'in search of employment (nearly 28 percent), 'migration of the parent/earning member of the family' (about 14 percent). 'Other reasons' for migration were found to be very insignificant.

But, if we compare the reasons for migration with secondary data that are discussed in chapter 3, it is found that according to Census 2001, the most important reason for migration among males (37.6 percent) was due to work or employment whereas marriage was the most important reason for migration of females migrants (64.9 percent) from the place of last residence. So the dominant cause for migration in case of primary data is 'in search of better employment' and in case of secondary data, it is 'work or employment'. Of course, former factor is stronger than the later factor for migrants.

It is noticed in the above table there were huge inter-village variations of the causes of migration. But overall, it could be found that the dominant of migration for villages of the district is that people migrated largely to get better employment, though in villages 3 'in search of employment' was the dominant cause of migration than 'in search of better employment'. That is, in this village people were more unemployed compared to other villages where majority of the migrants migrated in search of better employment. Migration due to the 'migration of parent/earning member of the family' constituted 14 percent of migrants of the district. It may be noted that a good number of migrants in this category belonged to minors, that is, children up to the age of 14 years. The Table shows that in Cooch Behar district in villages 4, 5 and 6 there were no such type of migrants.

From the point of our forgoing analysis it is perhaps clear that both push and pull factors were responsible for effecting out-migration of family members of the household we surveyed in the selected district. However, overall push factors appeared to be stronger than the pull factors.

Fig. 6.9(a)

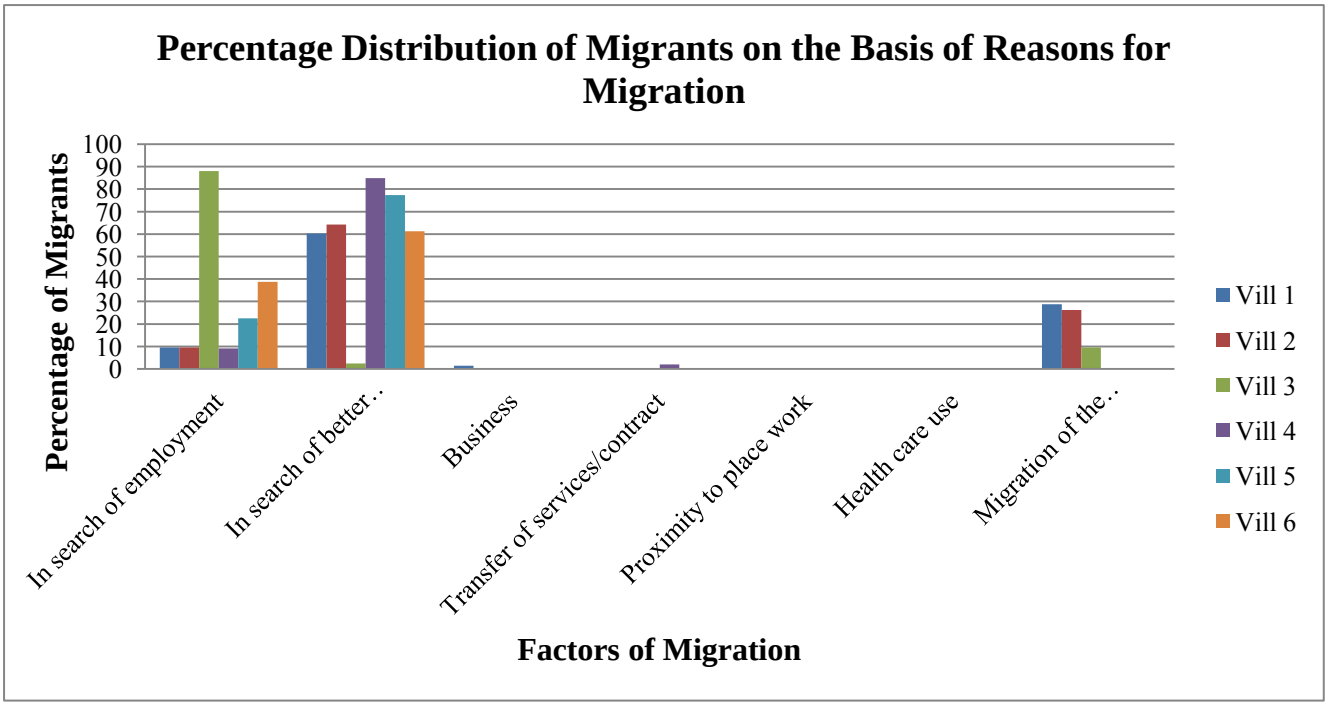
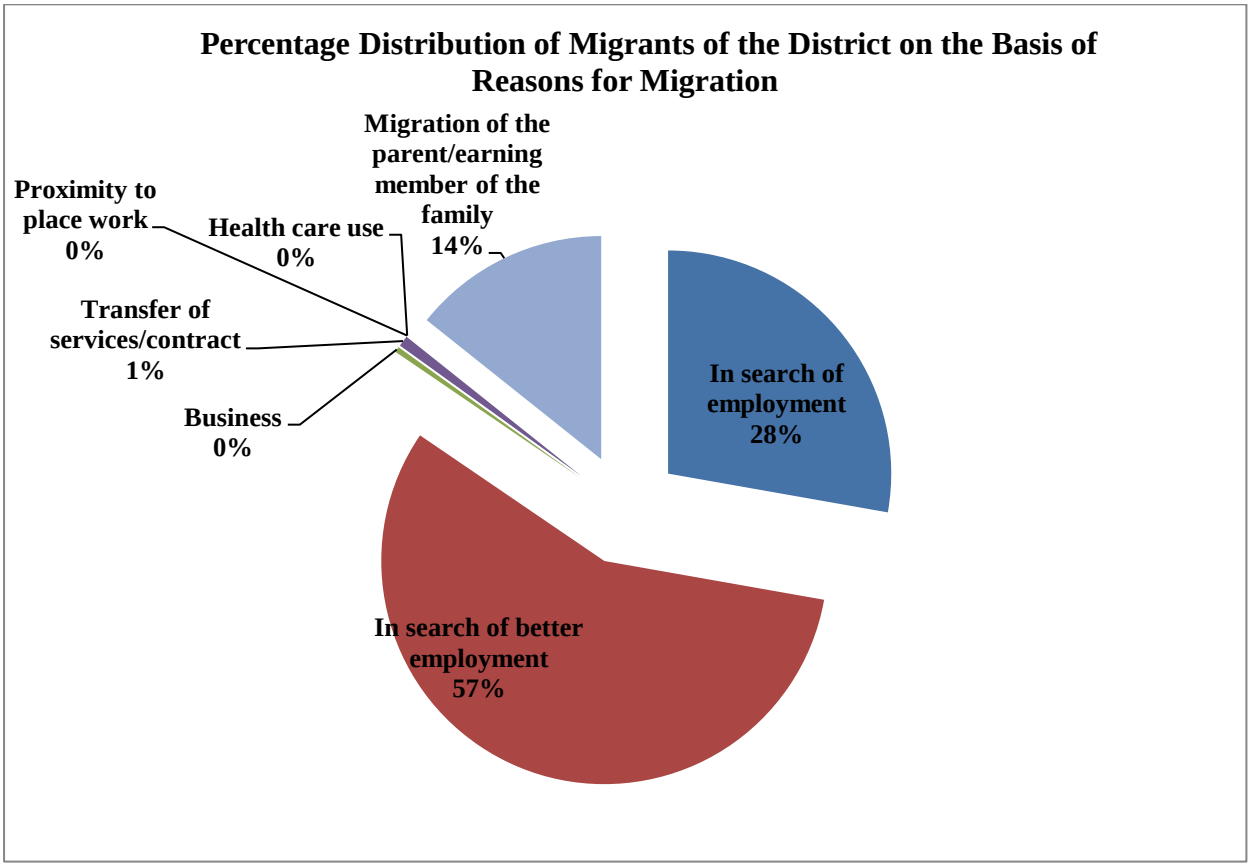


Fig. 6.9(b)



6.4 Test of Hypothesis – 2

2) Push factors are the relatively important determinants of rural-urban migration than pull factors in the study area.

We have tested hypothesis-2 in this chapter through tabular forms and with figures.

From the Tables 6.3, 6.5, 6.12 and 6.13 and the Figures 6.2(a) and 6.2(b), 6.4(a) and 6.4(b), 6.8(a) and 6.8(b) and 6.9(a) and 6.9(b), we have found regarding status of employment before out-migration that out of total surveyed households in the district, 66 percent households' workers were partially employed before out-migration and only 1.33 percent household workers were fully employed before out-migration. On the other hand, about 33 percent households' workers of the surveyed households had totally remain unemployed before out-migration. So, there was lack of employment opportunity for labourers in local areas. Regarding land possession and type of housing, it is found that majority of kutcha households have less than one bigha of cultivable land that is, they are near to landless households. As far as wages at origin are concerned, nearly 62 percent household labourers were received Rs. 41 to Rs. 60. This indicates a distressed situation of surveyed households as it carried out comparatively low wage rate. On the other hand, about 28 percent household labourers were received Rs. 61 to 80 and only near about 1 percent household workers were received wages above Rs. 80. Regarding reasons for migration, the major cause for migration is 'in search of better employment' being as pull factor of migration, other pull factors like better heath, better education etc. are insignificant. Thus, overall observation is that push factors are relatively important determinants than pull factors for rural –urban migration. In this context, the hypothesis-2 is true and in this way, it is tested.

6.5 Implementation of MGNREGA and Out- Migration

National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) was enacted in September 2005 as one of the most progressive flagships rural employment schemes of UPA Government implemented in February 2006 under the 'Ministry of Rural Development' is the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA). This flagship programme was renamed as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) on 2nd October, 2009. Under the provision of the Act every rural household willing to do certain specified jobs will be provided with 100 days of guaranteed employment within the village/block/sub-

division. One of the objectives of the Act is to check massive out-migration of rural labourers to urban areas. It is, therefore, expected that implementation of the Act would check the massive out-migration of rural workers in our selected areas also. We had collected data from our selected households to find out how far the implementation of MGNREGA has been able to reduce one of the important push factors of migration, i.e., lack of employment opportunity.

Table – 6.14

Distribution of Migrants on the Basis of Job Card Holding

Village/District	Yes (no.)	Yes (%)	No (no.)	No (%)	Total (no.)	Total (%)
Vill 1	25	100.00	0	0.00	25	100.00
Vill 2	25	100.00	0	0.00	25	100.00
Vill 3	24	96.00	1	4.00	25	100.00
Vill 4	19	76.00	6	24.00	25	100.00
Vill 5	22	88.00	3	12.00	25	100.00
Vill 6	17	68.00	8	32.00	25	100.00
District Total	**132**	**88.00**	**18**	**12.00**	**150**	**100.00**

Source: Field Survey.

Now, in order to get employment, a rural household shall have to apply for a job card and obtain it. We made an enquiry in the surveyed households whether they held job cards to be eligible for getting 100 days employment. The results of our survey are displayed in Table 6.14 below.

Data presented in the above Table 6.12 reveal that 88 percent households of Cooch Behar district held job cards under the scheme and only 12 percent households did not get job card under the scheme. A higher percentage of job card holders of surveyed households indicate that the depth of poverty was higher among them as a higher number of them were job hungry.

Thus, from the number of job card holding it appeared that majority of households surveyed in the district were willing to do the jobs provided under the scheme. It also appeared to us that households who did not procure job cards were the APL households. In fact, almost all BPL households were found to be willing to do the jobs provided under the scheme.

However, only holding of job cards is not enough. The willing households are to be provided with much amount of works. We therefore made an investigation to find out whether a household received employment at all under the scheme. The results are being displayed in Table 6.15 below.

Table – 6.15

Distribution of Migrants on the Basis of Receipt of Employment under MGNREGS in the last one year

Village	Received	Did not receive	Total
Village 1	23 (92.00)	2(8.00)	25(100.00)
Village 2	25 (100.00)	0(0.00)	25(100.00)
Village 3	0(0.00)	25(100.00)	25(100.00)
Village 4	14(56.00)	11(44.00)	25(100.00)
Village 5	21(84.00)	4(16.00)	25(100.00)
Village 6	4(16.00)	21(84.00)	25(100.00)
District Total	**88(58.67)**	**62(41.33)**	**150(100.00)**

.**Note:** Figures in brackets indicate row percentages.
Source: Field Survey

It could be seen from the above table that about 59 percent of the surveyed households of Cooch Behar district received some days of employment and about 41 percent households did not receive even a single day of employment under MGNREGS. So, a large part of households' member did not receive any employment. It was found that there were much inter-village variations regarding employment received and did not receive under the mentioned scheme. In village 3, there was no even a single migrant who received employment under the above mentioned scheme in the last one year. The paradoxical result between villages 5 and 6 found in the table was that in village 5, 84 percent households received some days of employment and remaining 16 percent did not receive even a single day of employment whereas in village 6 only 16 percent households got some days of employment and a large amount of households i.e., 84 percent households did not get any

employment. So, implementations of MGNREGS works were not adequate among the surveyed households of the district.

All over again, provision for job is not the execution of pledge of providing 100 days of employment to the entitled households. These households are to be provided with the stipulated number of employment days. We had collected data on the actual number of days of employment provided to the applicant households through our field investigation. The results are shown in Table 6.16 and in Figs. 6.10(a) and 6.10(b) below.

Table - 6.16

Distribution of Respondents on the Basis of Days of Employment Received Under MGNREGS Last One Year

Village	1 to 5	6 to 10	11 to 16	17 & above	Not Applicable	Total
Vill 1	6(24.00)	17(68.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	2(8.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 2	2(8.00)	23(92.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 3	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	25(100.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 4	2(8.00)	7(28.00)	3(12.00)	2(8.00)	11(44.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 5	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	4(16.00)	17(68.00)	4(16.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 6	2(8.00)	2(8.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	21(84.00)	25(100.00)
District Total	**12(8.00)**	**49(32.67)**	**7(4.67)**	**19(12.66)**	**63(42.00)**	**150(100.00)**

Note: Figures in brackets indicate row percentages.
Source: Field Survey.

It is revealed from the above Table that nearly 33 percent households received employment between 6 to10 days, 12 percent households received 17 days and 8 percent received employment 1 to 5 days only and 42 percent did not receive any employment at all in the district.

Therefore, the above picture of employment arrangements through MGNREGS brought out a very poor state of implementation of MGNREGA among the investigated villages. Such a poor performance of the programme obviously discouraged the job card holders. They, therefore, could not rely on the scheme to get employment for 100 days for the family in a

year. Thus, this programme appeared to have failed miserably in checking rural out-migration from the households of our survey.

Fig. 6.10(a)

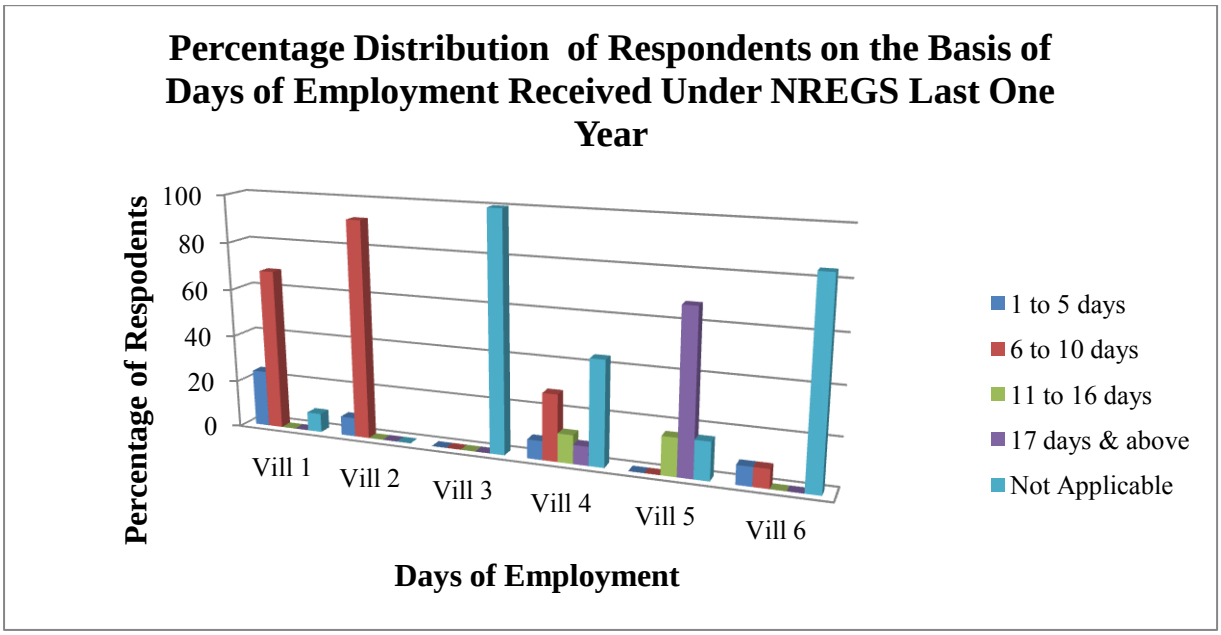
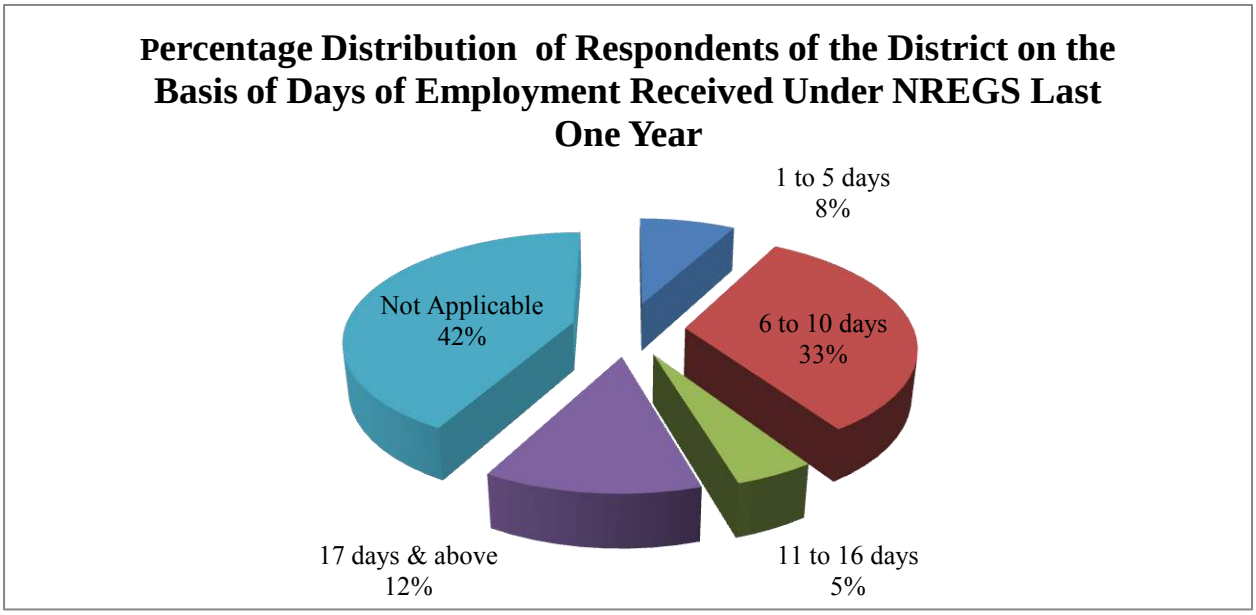


Fig. 6.10(b)



6.6 Test of Hypothesis – 3

3. Urban-rural real income-differential is not the most important cause of rural-urban migration.

We have tested hypothesis-3 through tabular forms and with figures.

From the Tables 5.12 and 6.12 and the Figures 5.11(a) and 5.11(b) and 6.8(a) and 6.8(b), we have found that regarding rates of wages received at destination, most of the migrant workers were received wages in the range of Rs. 81-100 per day engaging as labour in industrial sector. On the other hand, regarding rates of wages at origin, it is found that majority of migrant labour were received wages in the range of Rs. 41-60 per day engaging as agricultural labour in agriculture and allied sector. So, the difference between the rates of urban and rural real wages of migrant workers before and after migration is very marginal amount. Therefore, it is said that urban-rural real income-differential is not the most important cause of rural-urban migration and it is, therefore, true in this context. In this way, hypotheis-3 is tested.

6.7 The Comparative Analyses between Migrant and Non-migrant Households regarding their Nature and Significance

We surveyed a total of 300 migrant and non-migrant households in six villages of Cooch Behar district consisting of 150 migrant households and 150 non-migrant households. The survey had been done on the numbers of mentioned households regarding various aspects like land possession, sector of employment, implementation of MGNREGA in the villages and their adjacent areas, etc that are discussed in detail below. We have tried to find out here the important causes for migration of migrant households and causes for no migration of non-migrant households through the comparative analyses between migrant and non-migrant households regarding their nature and significance.

6.7.1 Land Possession of Migrant and Non-migrant Households

We have categorised here six types of size of cultivable land of migrant and non-migrant households of the surveyed villages of Cooch Behar district and compared between them. The distribution of migrant and non-migrant households based on the types of land possession is presented in Table 6.17 , which is graphically presented with the help of bar diagrams in Fig. 6.11(a) and 6.11(b) below .

Table 6.17: Distribution of Migrant and Non-migrant Households on the Basis of Land Possession

District	Land Possessed (in Bighas)	Migrant Households	Migrant Households(in percentage)	Non-Migrant Households	Non-Migrant Households(in percentage)
Cooch Behar	Less than 1	91	60.67	53	35.33
	1.0 – 3.0	32	21.33	43	28.67
	3.1 – 7.5	19	12.67	28	18.67
	7.6 – 15.0	6	4.00	23	15.33
	15.1- 30.0	2	1.33	3	2.00
	Greater than 30.0	0	0.00	0	0.00
	Total	**150**	**100.00**	**150**	**100.00**

Source: Field Survey.

The data indicated in the above Table reveal that in case of migrant households, out of total 150 migrant households 61 percent households possessed first category of agricultural land that is less than 1 bigha whereas from a total of 150 non-migrant households about 35 percent households possessed the same type of agricultural land. But from the second category that is 1.0 – 3.0 to 15.1-30.0, the agricultural lands possessed by the non-migrant households were consecutively greater than those types of land possession of migrant households. There was no any agricultural land of both migrant and non-migrant households that lies greater than 30 bighas. Regarding the type of 7.6 – 15.0 agricultural land, only 4 percent migrant households possessed this type of land. On the other hand, about 15 percent non-migrant households possessed the same type of agricultural land which was obviously much higher than the migrant households. Thus, it is cleared from the above table that due to insufficiency of possession of agricultural land, migrant workers were bound to migrate to eke out their living whereas non-migrant households had comparatively the higher possession of agricultural land than migrant households that was the reason for non-migration.

Fig. 6.11(a)

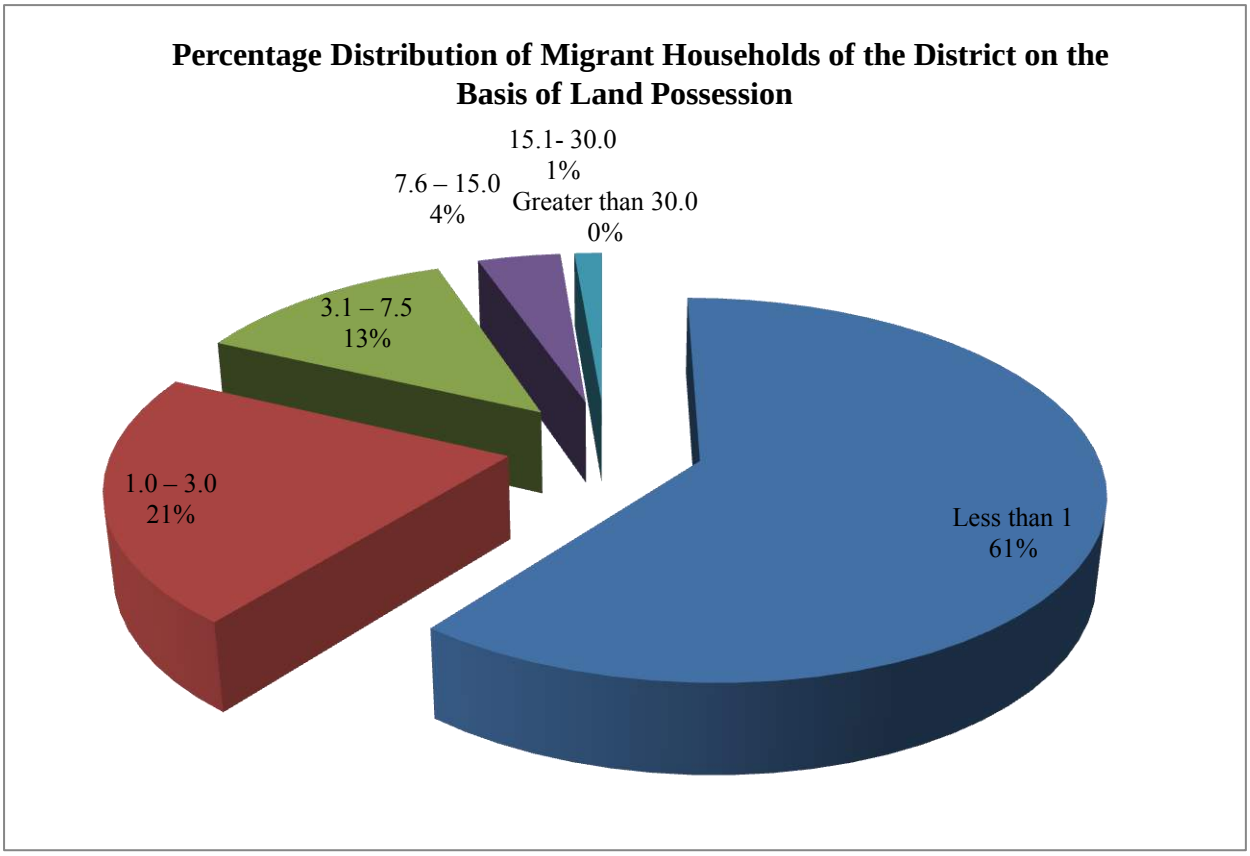
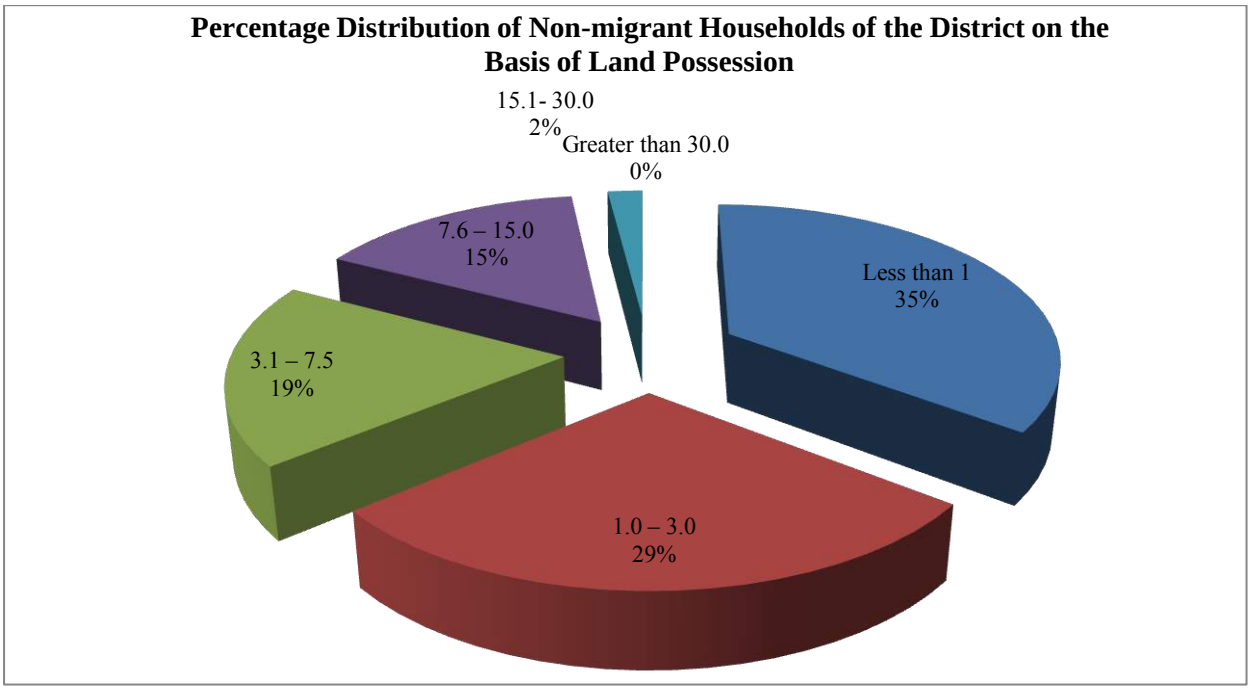


Fig. 6.11(b)



6.7.2 Sector of Employment before Out-migration of Migrant Households and Sector of Employment of Non-migrant Households

Sector of employment is an important factor that results to the economic condition of the household. Here we have divided sectors of employment of both migrant and non-migrant households into three categories as agriculture and allied, industry and service. In case of migrant households who were not getting employed before out-migration, are treated as not applicable. The Table 6.18 and in Figs. 6.12(a) and 6.12(b) below shows the distribution of migrant households on the basis of sector of employment before out-migration and sector of employment of non-migrant households.

Table 6.18: Distribution of Migrant Households on the Basis of Sector of Employment before Out-migration and Sector of Employment of Non-migrant Households

Village	Household Category	Sector of Employment			Not Applicable	Total
		Agriculture & Allied	Industry	Service		
Vill 1	MIG	8(32.00)	1(4.00)	0(0.00)	16(84.00)	25(100.00)
	N-MIG	19(76.00)	1(4.00)	5(20.00)	0(0.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 2	MIG	23(92.00)	1(4.00)	0(0.00)	1(4.00)	25(100.00)
	N-MIG	18(72.00)	1(4.00)	6(24.00)	0(0.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 3	MIG	12(48.00)	2(8.00)	1(4.00)	10(40.00)	25(100.00)
	N-MIG	19(76.00)	0(0.00)	6(24.00)	0(0.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 4	MIG	18(72.00)	1(4.00)	(0.00)	6(24.00)	25(100.00)
	N-MIG	19(76.00)	0(0.00)	6(24.00)	0(0.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 5	MIG	13(52.00)	6(24.00)	(0.00)	6(24.00)	25(100.00)
	N-MIG	19(76.00)	0(0.00)	6(24.00)	0(0.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 6	MIG	20(80.00)	1(4.00)	(0.00)	4(16.00)	25(100.00)
	N-MIG	18(72.00)	1(4.00)	6(24.00)	0((0.00)	25(100.00)
District Total	**MIG**	**94(62.67)**	**12(8.00)**	**1(0.67)**	**43(28.66)**	**150(100.00)**
	N-MIG	**112(74.67)**	**3(2.00)**	**35(23.33)**	**0(0.00)**	**150(100.00)**

Source: Field Survey.

The data presented in the above Table reveal that about 63 percent of the migrant households engaged in agriculture and allied activities whereas about 75 percent of the non-migrant households engaged in agriculture and allied activities. So, non-migrant households engaged more than migrant households in that type of activities. For migrant households, only about 9 percent associated with both industrial and service related activities. On the other hand, about 25 percent non-migrant households associated with both industrial and service related activities. Therefore, non-migrant households associated more with those types of activities than migrant households. In case of migrant households, about 29 percent of the households did not get employment opportunity in local areas before out-migration. Although, there were much inter-village variations observed in the above table among migrant and non-migrant households regarding various sectors of employment. Thus, it is cleared that most of the migrant and non-migrant households engaged in agriculture and allied activities and since a quite percentages of migrant households before out-migration did not get employment opportunity in local areas, for this they were forced to migrate outside for getting employment opportunity.

Fig. 12(a)

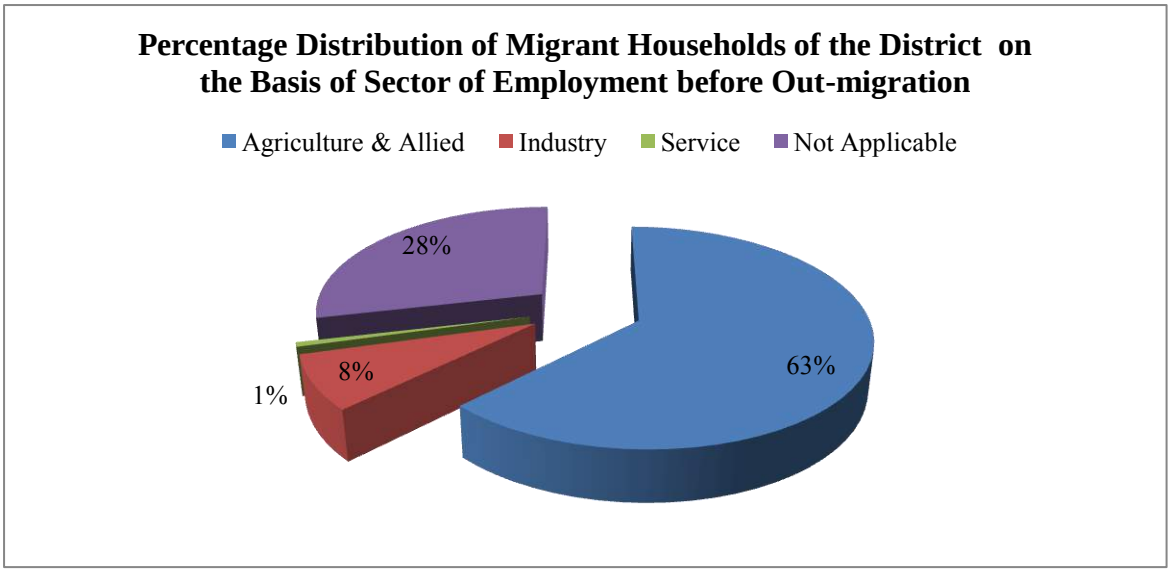
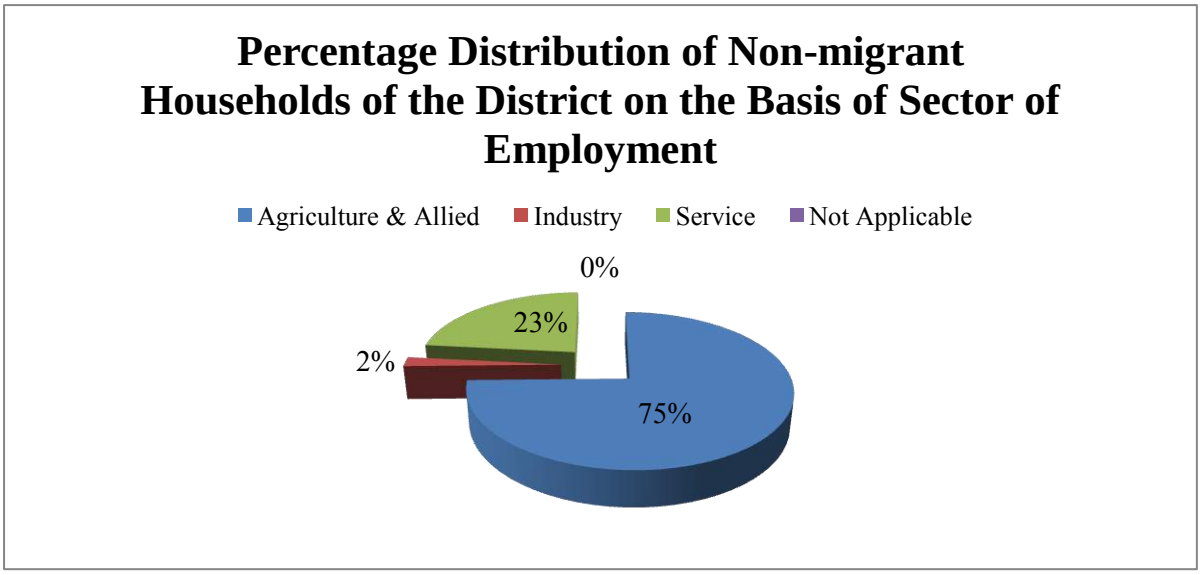


Fig. 6.12(b)



6.7.3 Implementation of MGNREGA of Migrant and Non-migrant Households

Implementation of MGNREGA of migrant and non-migrant households regarding job card holding, received of employment in the last one year and days of employment received in the last one year are explained below. A comparison between migrant and non-migrant households has been made on the above mentioned issues.

6.7.3(a) Job Card holding of Migrant and Non-migrant Households

Job card holding is a necessary factor for getting employment under MGNREGS in local areas of both migrant and non-migrant households. The distribution of migrant and non-migrant households on the basis of job card holding is shown in Table 6.19 which is also depicted with the help of bar diagrams in Figs. 6.13(a) and 6.13(b) below.

Table 6.19: Distribution of Migrant and Non-migrant Households on the Basis of Job Card Holding

Villages	Migrant Households			Non-migrant Households		
	Yes	No	Total	Yes	No	Total
Vill 1	25(100.00)	0(0.00)	25(100.00)	24(96.00)	1(4.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 2	25(100.00)	0(0.00)	25(100.00)	24(96.00)	1(4.00)	25(100.00)

Vill 3	24(96.00)	1(4.00)	25(100.00)	15(60.00)	10(40.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 4	19(76.00)	6(24.00)	25(100.00)	19(76.00)	6(24.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 5	22(88.00)	3(12.00)	25(100.00)	21(84.00)	4(16.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 6	17(76.00)	8(24.00)	25(100.00)	15(60.00)	10(40.00)	25(100.00)
District Total	**132(88.00)**	**18(12.00)**	**150(100.00)**	**118(78.67)**	**32(21.33)**	**150(100.00)**

Note: Figures in brackets indicate row-wise percentages.
Source: Field Survey.

The data revealed in the above table are that the percentage of holding job card of migrant households under MGNREGS of the surveyed households was 88 whereas about 79 percent non-migrant households did hold job card. Only 12 percent of the migrant households did not hold job card. On the other hand, about 22 percent non-migrant households did not hold job card. So, migrant households did hold more job card than non-migrant households under MGNREGS. There were almost inter-village variations noticed in the above table regarding job card holding among migrant and non-migrant households. Only interesting result shows in village 4 that percentage of holding job card and not holding job card among migrant and non-migrant households were same that is, 76 percent for holding job card and 24 percent for not holding job card respectively. Thus, it is observed that although migrant households did hold more job card than non-migrant households yet they migrate outside the district or state as the employment through job card was not enough for maintaining socio-economic condition of the households.

Fig. 6.13(a)

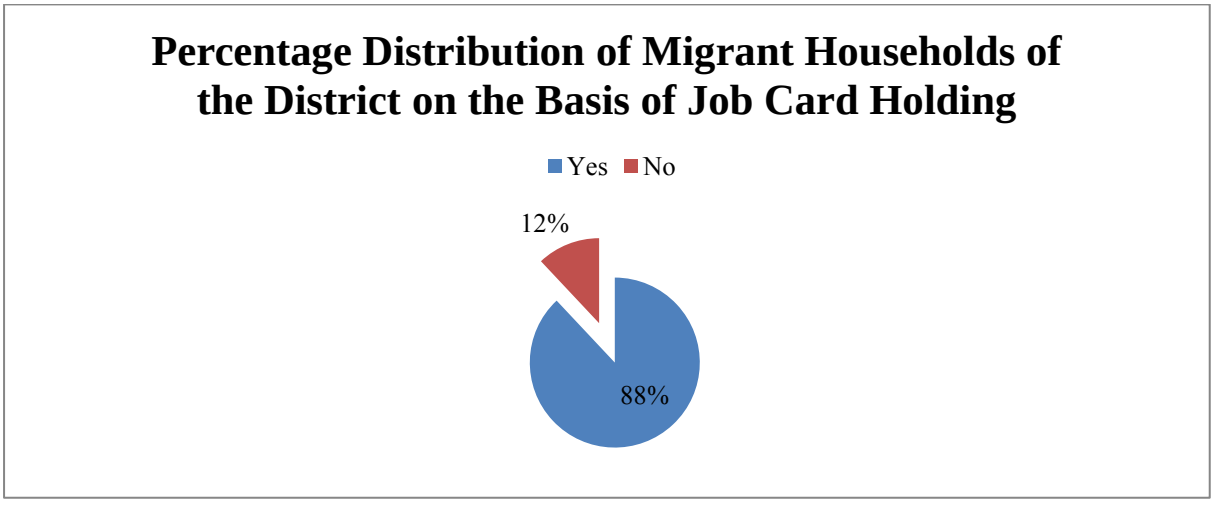
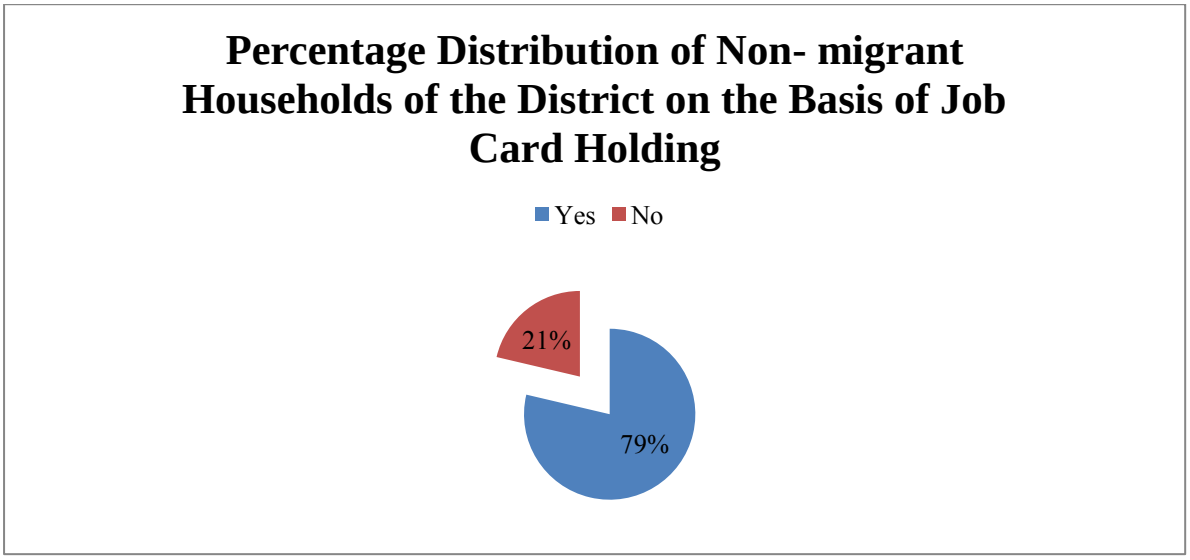


Fig. 6.13(b)



6.7.3(b) Employment Received under MGNREGS of Migrant and Non-migrant Households

The migrant and non-migrant households of the surveyed villages received few employments under MGNREGS in the last one year through holding their job cards. The table 6.20 and Figs. 6.14(a) and 6.14(b) below shows the distribution of migrant and non-migrant households regarding receipt of employment under MGNREGS in the last one year.

Table 6.20: Distribution of Migrant and Non-migrant Households on the Basis of Receipt of Employment under MGNREGS in the last one year

Village	Migrant Households			Non-Migrant Households		
	Received	Did not receive	Total	Received	Did not receive	Total
Vill 1	23 (92.00)	2(8.00)	25(100.00)	12(48.00)	13(52.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 2	25 (100.00)	0(0.00)	25(100.00)	20(80.00)	5(20.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 3	1(4.00)	24(96.00)	25(100.00)	8(32.00)	17(68.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 4	14(56.00)	11(44.00)	25(100.00)	14(56.00)	11(44.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 5	21(84.00)	4(16.00)	25(100.00)	17(68.00)	8(32.00)	25(100.00)
Vill 6	4(16.00)	21(84.00)	25(100.00)	10(40.00)	15(60.00)	25(100.00)
District Total	**88(58.67)**	**62(41.33)**	**150(100.00)**	**81(54.00)**	**69(46.00)**	**150(100.00)**

Note: Figures in brackets indicate row-wise percentages.
Source: Field Survey.

The data presents in the above Table that about 59 percent migrant households received employment under MGNREGS in the last one year whereas 54 percent non-migrant households received employment under MGNREGS in the last one year. In case of migrant households about 42 percent did not receive employment and on the other hand 46 percent non-migrant households did not receive the same. So, employment received by the migrant households was more than employment received by the non-migrant households. Although, there were much inter-village variations regarding receive of employment and did not receive of employment among migrant and non-migrant households surveyed. One absurd result noticed among migrant and non-migrant households in case of villages 3 and 6 is that received of employment under MGNREGA in the last one year is quite less than not received of employment of both migrant and non-migrant households. Here, only 4 percent and 16 percent migrant households of villages 3 and 6 received employment whereas 96 percent and 84 percent migrant households of those same villages did not receive employment. Further, 32 percent and 40 percent non-migrant households of villages 3 and 6 received employment whereas 68 percent and 60 percent non-migrant households of those same villages did not receive employment. Thus, it is cleared that as received of employment under MGNREGS of migrant households is not enough for maintaining socio-economic conditions of the households; they therefore, migrate outside the district or state for further employment opportunities.

Fig. 6.14(a)

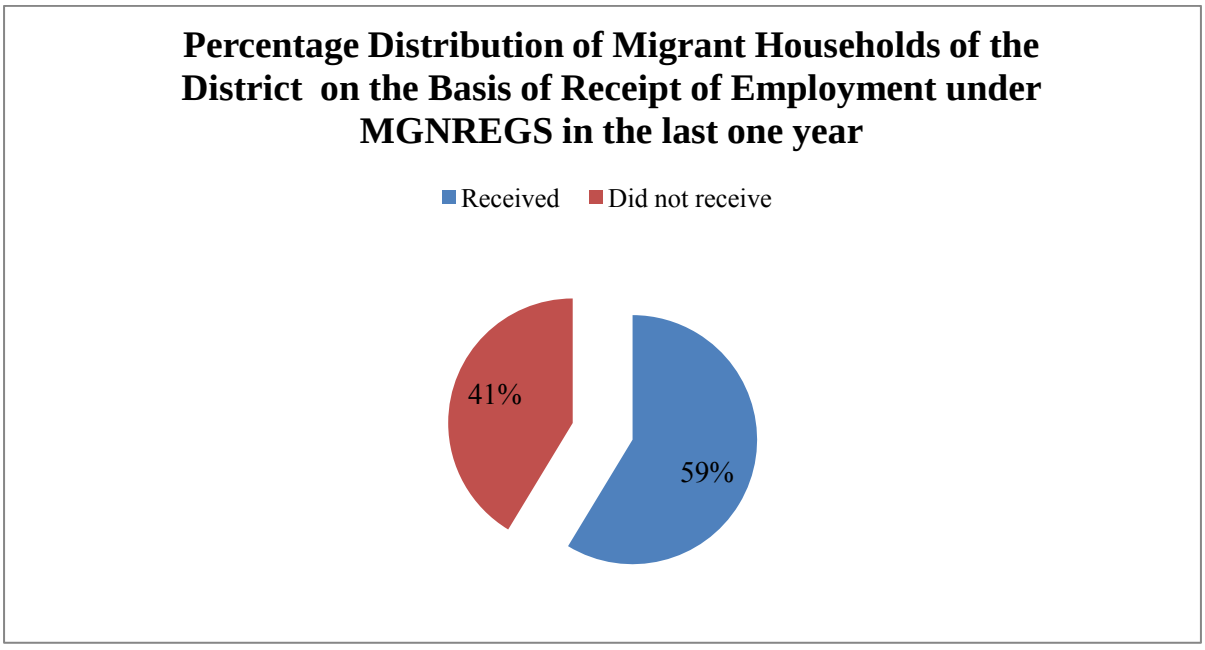
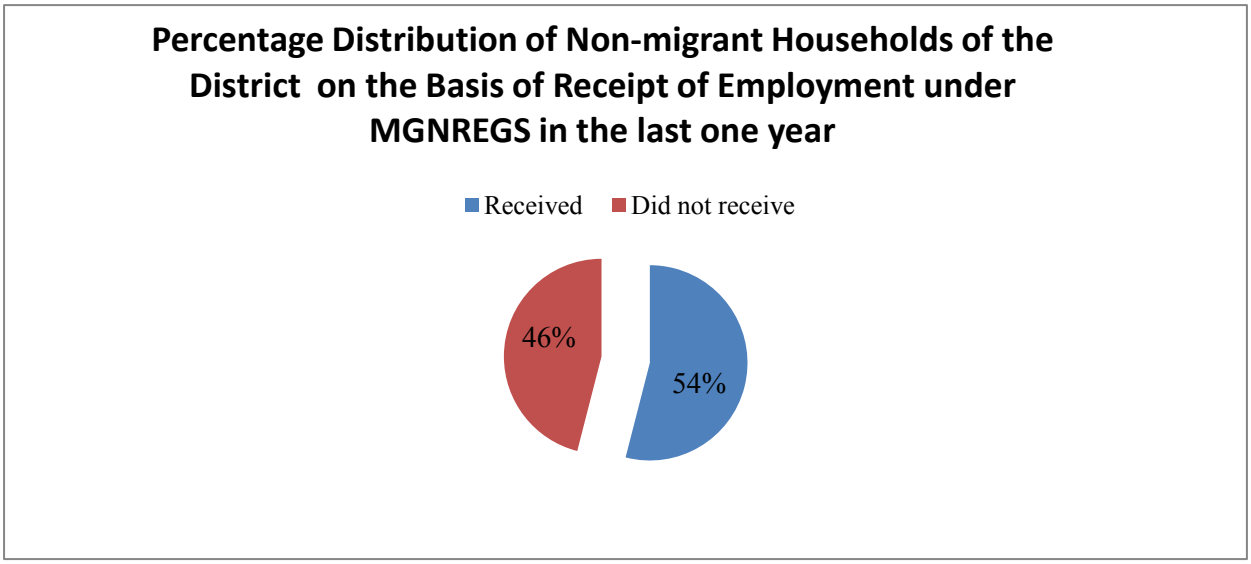


Fig. 6.14(b)



6.7.3(c) Days of Employment Received under MGNREGS of Migrant and Non-migrant Households

We have divided number of days of employment under MGNREGS of migrant and non-migrant households into five categories such as 1 to 5 days, 6 to 10 days, 11 to 15 days, 16 days and above and also N.A. (not applicable). The Table 6.21 and Figs. 6.15(a) and 6.15(b) represents below the distribution of migrant and non-migrant respondents on the basis of days of employment received under MGNREGS in the last one year.

Table 6.21: Distribution of Migrant and Non-migrant Respondents on the Basis of Days of Employment Received Under MGNREGS in the last one year

District	Days of Employment	Migrant Households	Migrant Households(in percentage)	Non-Migrant Households	Non-Migrant Households(in percentage)
Cooch Behar	1 to 5	12	8.00	1	0.67
	6 to 10	49	32.67	14	9.33
	11 to 15	7	4.67	32	21.33
	16 & Above	19	12.66	34	22.67
	N.A.	63	42.00	69	46.00
	Total	**150**	**100.00**	**150**	**100.00**

Note: N.A. means Not Applicable.
Source: Field Survey.

The data showed in the above Table are that about 33 percent which is the highest percentage of migrant households received 6 to 10 days of employment under MGNREGS whereas the highest about 23 percent of non-migrant households received 16 and above days of employment under MGNREGS in the last one year and only about 5 percent which was the lowest percentage of migrant households received 11 to 15 days of employment whereas only about 1 percent which was the lowest percentage of non-migrant households received 1 to 5 days of employment under MGNREGS. So, most of the migrant households received 6 to 10 days of employment and non-migrant households received 16 and above days of employment under MGNREGS in the last one year. In case of migrant household, received of employment between 11 to 15 days was found to be insignificant whereas in case non-migrant households received of employment between 1 to 5 days was found to be insignificant. For migrant households, 42 percent households did not receive any number of days of employment and 46 percent for non-migrant households did not receive any number of days of employment as they did not get job card under MGNREGS.

Thus, it is cleared from the above Table that the majority percentage of migrant households received employment that lies between 6 to 10 days only in the last one year which was not of course enough to maintain their socio-economic condition of the households and for this they are bound to migrate outside the district or states to maintain the mentioned condition.

Fig. 6.15(a)

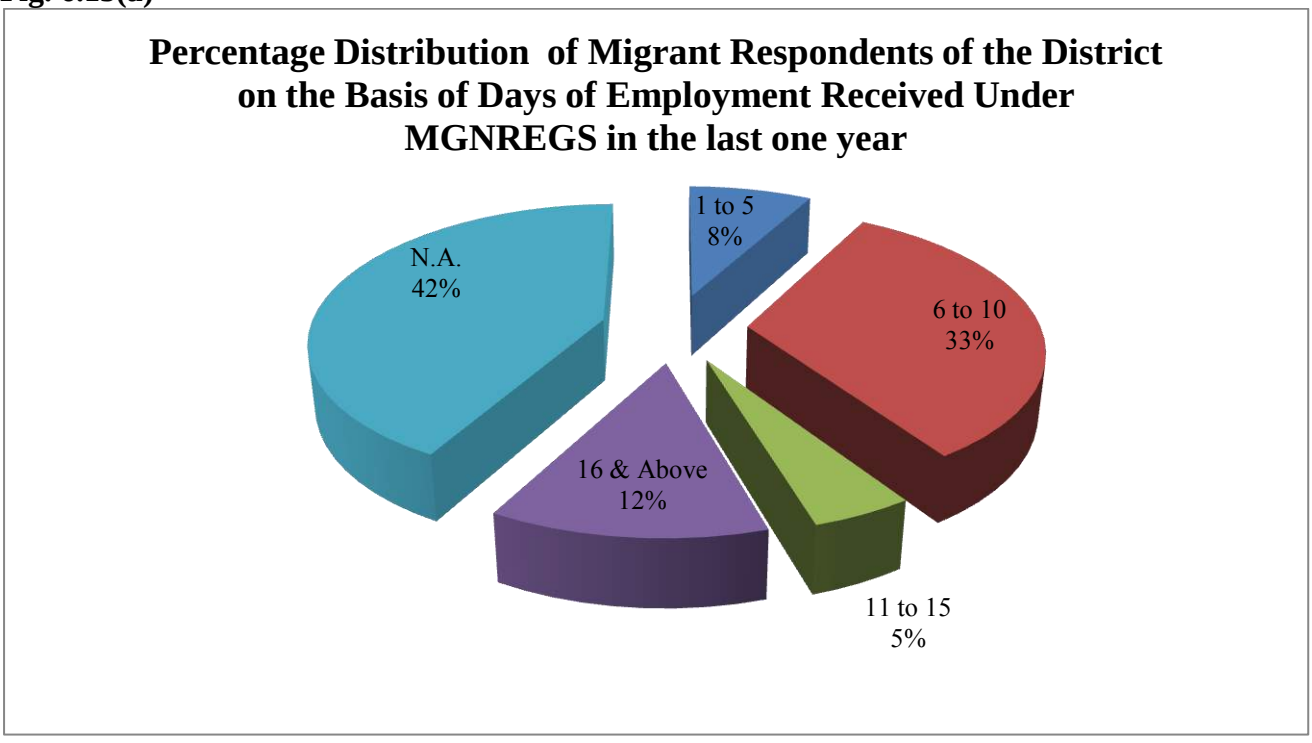
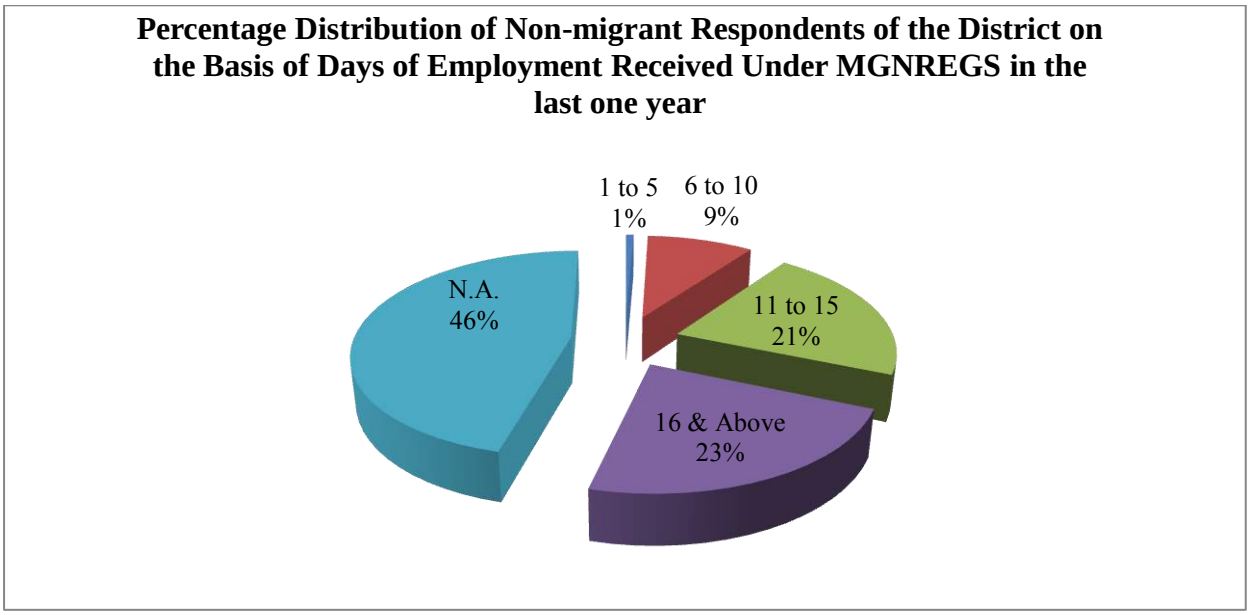


Fig. 6.15(b)



6.7.4 Comparison of Reasons for Migration of Migrants and Reasons for Non-migration of Non-migrants

We have classified here various important factors for migration non-migration separately and compared among those factors. The Table 6.22 shows the distribution of migrants and non-migrants on the basis of reason for migration and reason for non-migration.

Table 6.22: Distribution of Migrants and Non-migrants on the Basis of Reason for Migration and Reason for Non-migration (in %)

Village	Reasons for Migration								Reasons for Non- migration							
	1	2	3	5	6	14	17	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
Vill 1	9.59	60.27	1.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	28.77	100.00	8.00	28.00	28.00	20.00	0.00	12.00	4.00	100.00
Vill 2	9.53	64.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	26.20	100.00	20.00	44.00	4.00	12.00	0.00	12.00	8.00	100.00
Vill 3	88.09	2.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.53	100.00	8.00	60.00	4.00	16.00	0.00	0.00	12.00	100.00
Vill4	9.00	84.85	0.00	6.06	6.06	6.06	0.00	100.00	16.00	56.00	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00	12.00	100.00
Vill 5	22.58	77.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	24.00	52.00	4.00	16.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	100.00
Vill 6	38.71	61.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	4.00	68.00	16.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.00	100.00
Dist. Total	**27.78**	**56.74**	**0.40**	**0.79**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**14.29**	**100.00**	**13.33**	**51.33**	**10.67**	**12.00**	**0.00**	**4.00**	**8.67**	**100.00**

Note: Reason for Migration- 1= In search of employment; 2= In search of better employment; 3= business; 5= Transfer of services/contract; 6= Proximity to place work; 14= Health care use; 17= Migration of the parent/earning member of the family.

Reason for Non-migration- 1= Self-employment in business as well as services; 2= Small or medium size of agricultural land; 3=Marginal family and children due to low age; 4= Hampering family members' education; 5= Employment opportunity for working as casual wage labour-in public works (local area); 6= Social/Political problems in outside (riots, terrorism, bad law and order etc.) ; 7= Others (Govt. service, Major illness like Malaria, Typhoid, Tuberculosis, Retired person, Construction worker like mason etc.)

Source: Field survey.

The data in the above Table reveals that in Cooch Behar district, about 57 percent i.e., the highest percentage of migrants migrated out-side the district or state for in search of better employment followed by in search of employment (about 28 percent), migration of the parent/earring member of the family (about 14 percent), transfer of services/contract (about 1 percent) and business (less than 1 percent). On the other hand, about 53 percent i.e., the highest percentage of non-migrant had small or medium size of agricultural land followed by self-employment in business as well as services (about 13 percent), hampering family members' education (12 percent), marginal family and children due to low age (about 11percent), others like govt. service, major illness like malaria, typhoid, tuberculosis, construction worker (mason) etc. (9 percent) and social/ political problems in outside (riots, terrorism, bad law and order etc. (4 percent). Business and transfer of services or contract being the reasons for migration were found to be insignificant and social/ political problems in outside (riots, terrorism, bad law and order etc) being the reason for non-migration was found to be insignificant. However, there were huge inter-village variations among migrants and non-migrants regarding the various reasons for migration and reasons for non-migration. Thus, it is evident from the above table that the majority of the migrants of the surveyed households migrated outside the district or state due to search for better employment and on the contrary, the majority of non-migrants had small or medium size of agricultural land which is the most important reason for non-migration.