

**CHAPTER-7**  
**CONSEQUENCES OF RURAL OUT-MIGRATION IN THE DISTRICT**

## CHAPTER-7

### CONSEQUENCES OF RURAL OUT-MIGRATION IN THE DISTRICT

#### 7.1. Introduction:

Migrations are an intrinsic part of the new process of globalisation and internationalisation, which is doubtless for international and relative research (Thränhardt, 2012). Migration is the essential character of India's rural livelihood and has been considered as "the step-child of demography" (Bhowmik, 1984). According to Black et al. (2006), "the migration was often seen as a product of poverty in the study regarded migration and development." It has a significant consequence on people's social, economic, demographic, and psychological lives, in the place of origin and as well as in the destination. Migration has an economic root that predominantly affects socio-political and cultural consequences. Rural to urban migrant executes its impact on urban areas. However, it has a tremendous impact on rural areas, and the long-term male out-migration to the urban area significantly changes demographic characteristics such as sex, age, and social composition in the source of origin labour in the rural areas. As a result, the worse effect is witnessed in India's economic and health aspects where Excessive young out-migration from rural areas leaves the burden of older and children who are less effective behind. The study also found that the long-term implications of agriculture labour force storage are likely to result in a decline in rural families' health status, including a rise in mortality and a rise in child farmworkers. The study by Ohankhuele and Opanfunso (2013) focused on the pulled youth migrants to the urban areas, create unavailability of labour forces and agricultural production in the study origin area (Ohankhuele & Opanfunso Dean, 2013).

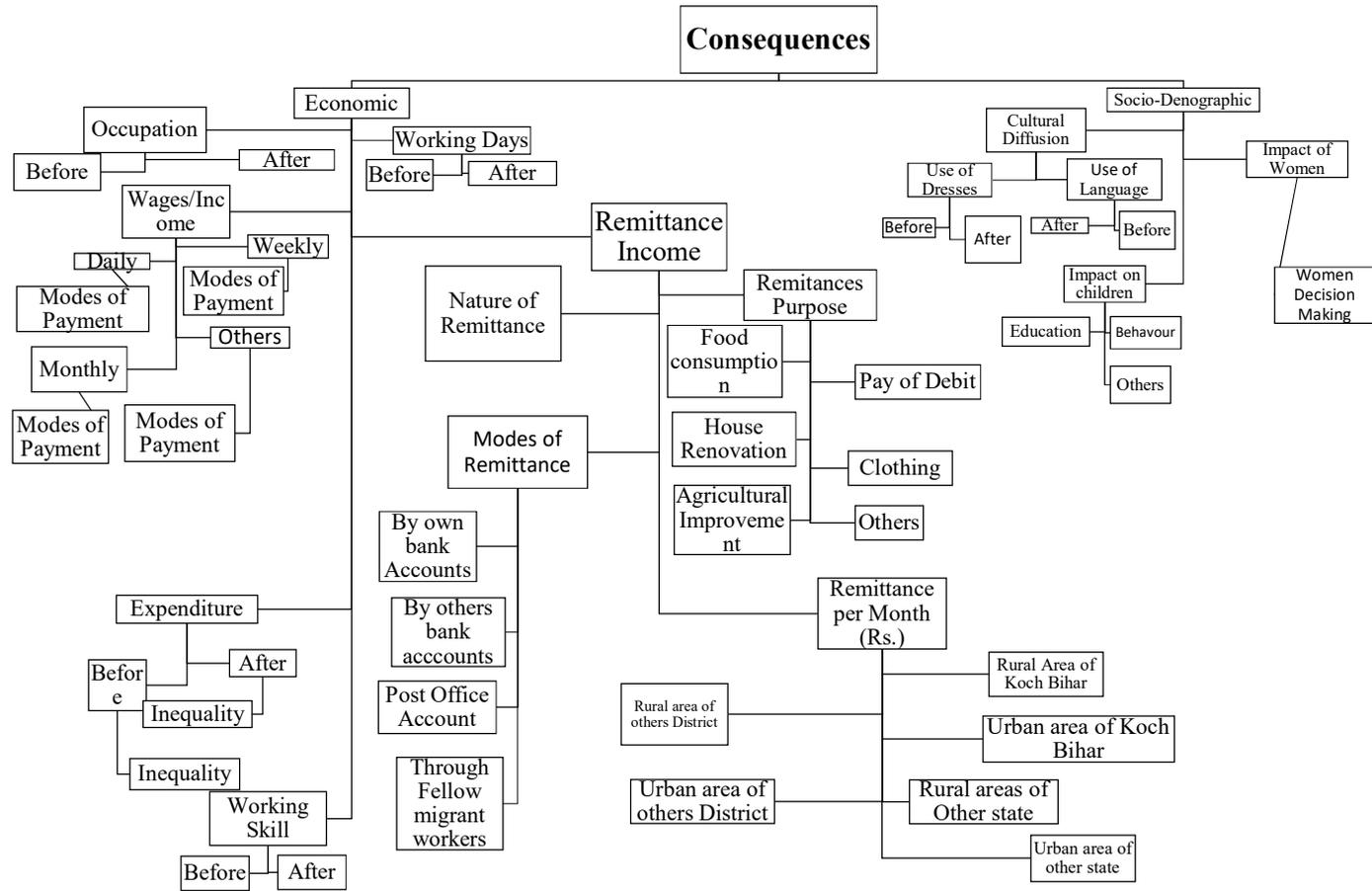
#### 7.2. Consequences of Rural Out-Migration:

The consequences of out-migration are observed in both origins as well as the destination area. The consequence of out-migration generally depends on migration characteristics like the volume of out-migration, out-migration flow, etc. According to Miheretu (2011), "in developed countries, the flow of labour from areas of low marginal productivity to high marginal productivity is normal and is accepted as an ingredient for development by raising labour efficiency at both ends, i.e., places of origin as well as destinations." On the other hand, Oberai (1987) found population migration from low to high income areas for increased income. So, it indicates the benefits of rural-out-migration. Gebru and Beyene (2012) focused on a case study based survey where it shows the weak condition of migrant households by their living condition, educational status, unemployment, etc. They also

identified the adverse effects of migration on livelihood, losing productive labour, and health status. Amrevurayire and Ojeh (2016) reveal that it dramatically impacts socio-economic, demographic, and cultural factors. They found some positive consequences like better job opportunities, better education, remittance back to home, etc., and some negative consequences like reducing agricultural production, reducing farm labour, and reducing the population at the origin. Singapur et al. (2014) reveal the cost and benefits of migration for both the sending and societies. By this study, it may identify the positive and negative impact of both sending and receiving society. An earlier study by Barman and Roy (2019) focused that the migrant household increased the working days in a month after migration. The inequality or disparity of socio-economic conditions among the migrants has been removed after out-migration (Moses et al. 2017). Even we found the study from developed countries like the United States of America (USA), Morrison (1972) studied migration affects rural living standards and employment. It increases economic sustainability after leaving the rural areas, and the majority of the migrants feel that they would spend better livelihood after out-migration. The rural-urban migration affects the rural areas (origin); it impacts urban housing, quality of life, and environment (destination). Bimerew (2015) also found that it has a significant impact on both the origin and destination regions. According to his study, most surveyed respondents reported that the urban area was encountered by the rapid population growth and the problems increased in housing, education, healthcare, job accessibility, and overall urban life.

Migration changes the characteristic of the population in the region of out-migration and the region of in-migration. It changes the population's age and sex composition with the rate of the growth of the population. The proportion of old, children and females increase due to out-migration in the region where most of them are youth population. Consequently, these areas are depleted of the youth population and result in lowered births and lower population growth rates. As a consequence, the proportion of economically dependent population increases as the relative share of economically active working labour forces is reduced, leading to a decrease in rural productivity. Out-migration consequences have been studied before and after the situation in the following framework (figure 7.1).

**Figure 7.1: Consequences of Rural Out-Migration in Koch Bihar District**



Source: Compiled by the Researcher

## 7.2.1. Economic Consequences:

### 7.2.1.1. Occupational Status

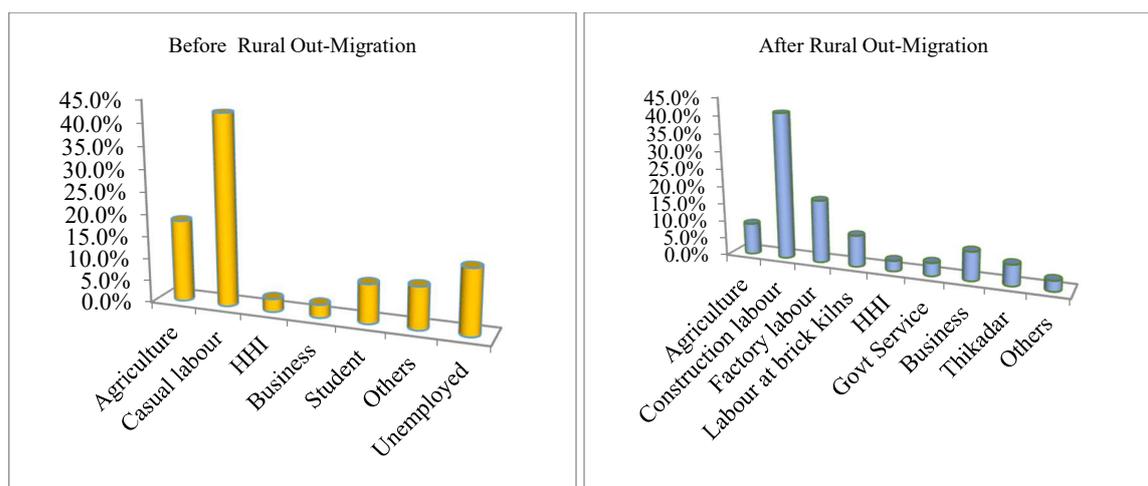
Out-migration affects the occupational status of the migrants. People migrated out and send remittances to their households for their economic prosperity. The study focuses that out-migration's main motive is the improvement of the economic condition through occupational mobility. The duration of the out-migrants to the destination depends on the occupational prestige and income of the migrants (De Jong and Blair, 1994).

**Table 7.1: Percentage Distribution of Occupation Out-Migrants Before and After Out-Migration**

Occupation Before Migration	Percent	Occupation After Migration	Percent
Agriculture	18.4	Agriculture	8.8
Casual labour	42.6	Construction labour	41.2
Household industry	2.9	Factory labour	17.6
Business	2.9	Labour at brick kilns	8.8
Student	8.8	Household industry	2.9
Others	9.6	Govt Service	3.7
Unemployed	14.7	Business	8.1
-	-	<i>Thikadar</i>	5.9
-	-	Others	2.9
Total	100	Total	100.0

Source: Field Study, 2017-2018

**Figure 7.1: Percentage Distribution of Out-Migrants Before and After Rural Out-Migration**



The study found there are different activities of migrants before out-migration in the district is agriculture (18.4%), casual labour (42.6%), household industry workers and business (2.9%), student (8.8%), others (9.6%), and 14.7 percent were unemployed. The result has

been changed after out-migration, we found that the activity of agriculture (8.8%), construction labour (41.2%), factory labour (17.6%), labour at brick kilns (8.8%), household industry workers (2.9%), government service (3.7%), business (8.1%), Thikadar (5.9%) and 2.9 percent in others activity (table 7.1 and figure 7.2). The Chi-square test was statistically significant on out-migrants' activity after out-migration, (6,  $N=272$ ) = 144.721,  $p < .001$ .

### 7.2.1.2. Impact on Working Days

Out-migration has also affected the number of working days before and after rural out-migration. The study found that most out-migrants (43.4%) were worked two days within a week before rural out-migration, whereas only 3.5 percent of out-migrants were worked at least five days a week before out-migration. The following table 7.2 focused that, after out-migration, most migrants (52.9%) are working all the days in a week.

**Table 7.2: Percent Distribution of Number of Days Worked Before and After Rural Out-Migration**

Percent (%)		Number Of Days Work After Migration							Total
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Number of days work Before Migration in a Week	1	.7	0	0	2.9	7.4	5.9	5.9	22.8
	2	.7	0	0	.7	6.6	5.9	29.4	43.4
	3	0	0	0	1.5	2.9	7.4	16.9	28.7
	4	0	0	0	0	.7	0	.7	1.5
	5	0	.7	2.2	0	.7	0	0	3.7
Total		1.5	.7	2.2	5.1	18.4	19.1	52.9	100.0

Source: Field Study, 2017-2018

The Chi-square test was statistically significant on the number of days worked after out-migration,  $\chi^2$  (6,  $N=272$ ) = 201.029,  $p < .001$ , indicating a significant change of working days of rural out-migration in Koch Bihar district.

### 7.2.1.3. Impact on Wages/ Income

The study revealed that out-migration has an enormous scale impact on income, affecting the regional earnings (De Silva et al. 2010) and economic growth (Haque and Kim, 1965). The following focuses that, before out-migration majority (40.4%) out-migrants were collected their weekly wages, whereas 26.5 percent of daily wage collection after work. After migration, the status was changed, which shows 56.6 percent were collected monthly-wise after out-migration.

**Table 7.3: Status of Wages Received Before and After Rural Out-Migration**

Percent (%)		Wages (Rs) Received After Rural Out-Migration				Total
		Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Others	
Wages (Rs) Received Before Out-Migration	Daily	5.1	7.4	11.0	2.9	26.5
	Weekly	1.5	6.6	32.4	0	40.4
	Monthly	0	13.2	6.6	0	19.9
	Others	0	6.6	6.6	0	13.2
Total		6.6	33.8	56.6	2.9	100

Source: Field Study, 2017-2018

The above table 7.3 shows the Chi-square test was statistically significant on the wages received of out-migrants after out-migration,  $\chi^2(3, N=272) = 103.471, p <.001$ , which indicates there was a significant impact on the way of wages collection of rural out-migrants in Koch Bihar district.

**Table 7.4: Modes of Wages Received Before and After Rural Out-Migration**

Percent (%)		Wages received after migration through			Total
		By cash	Bank account	Others	
Wages received before migration through	By cash	33.8	40.4	11.8	86.0
	Bank account	5.1	4.4	.7	10.3
	Others	3.7	0	0	3.7
Total		42.6	44.9	12.5	100

Source: Field Study, 2017-2018

The Field Study, 2017-2018 found that most migrants received their wages before migration through cash (86%), whereas it was only 10.3 percent only through the bank account. The amount has been changed after out-migration; the result shows that 44.9 percent of respondents received their wages through the bank account. From Chi-square test, the result of wages received after out-migration was statistically significant where  $\chi^2(2, N=272) = 26.662, p <.001$ , which indicates there was a significant change in wage receiving processes in the district (Table 7.4).

The out-migration exerts an impact on both employment and wages (Chassamboulli and Palivos, 2013). Dessendre et al. (2002) also discussed in their working paper “the impact of migration on wages: empirical evidence from French youth,” focused on the impact of wages of migration. In another study by Kundu (2013), out-migration has a more significant impact on respondents’ annual income and family welfare development. The

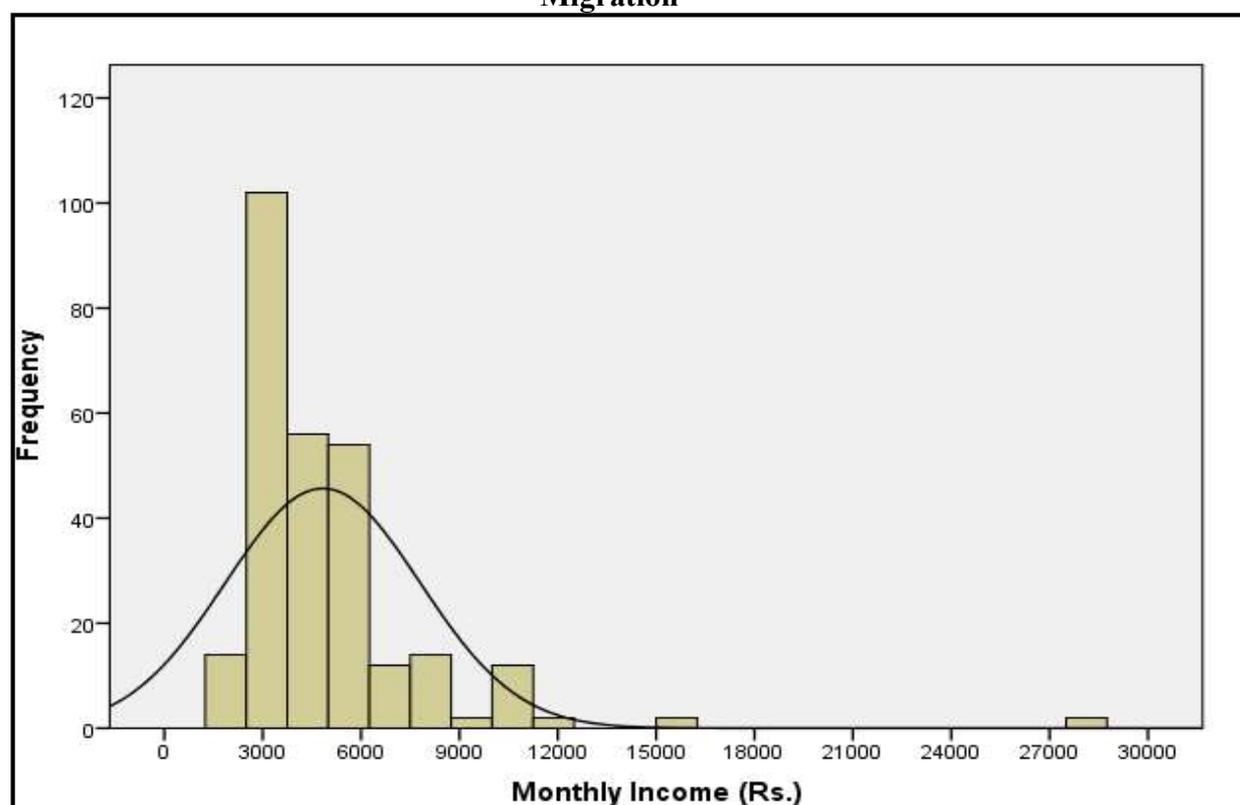
study found that out-migration influences the growth of the host families' per capita income (Friedberg and Hunt, 1995; Jaumotte, 2016).

**Table 7.5: Wages/Income (Rs. Per month) of Out-migrants Before and After Rural Out-Migration**

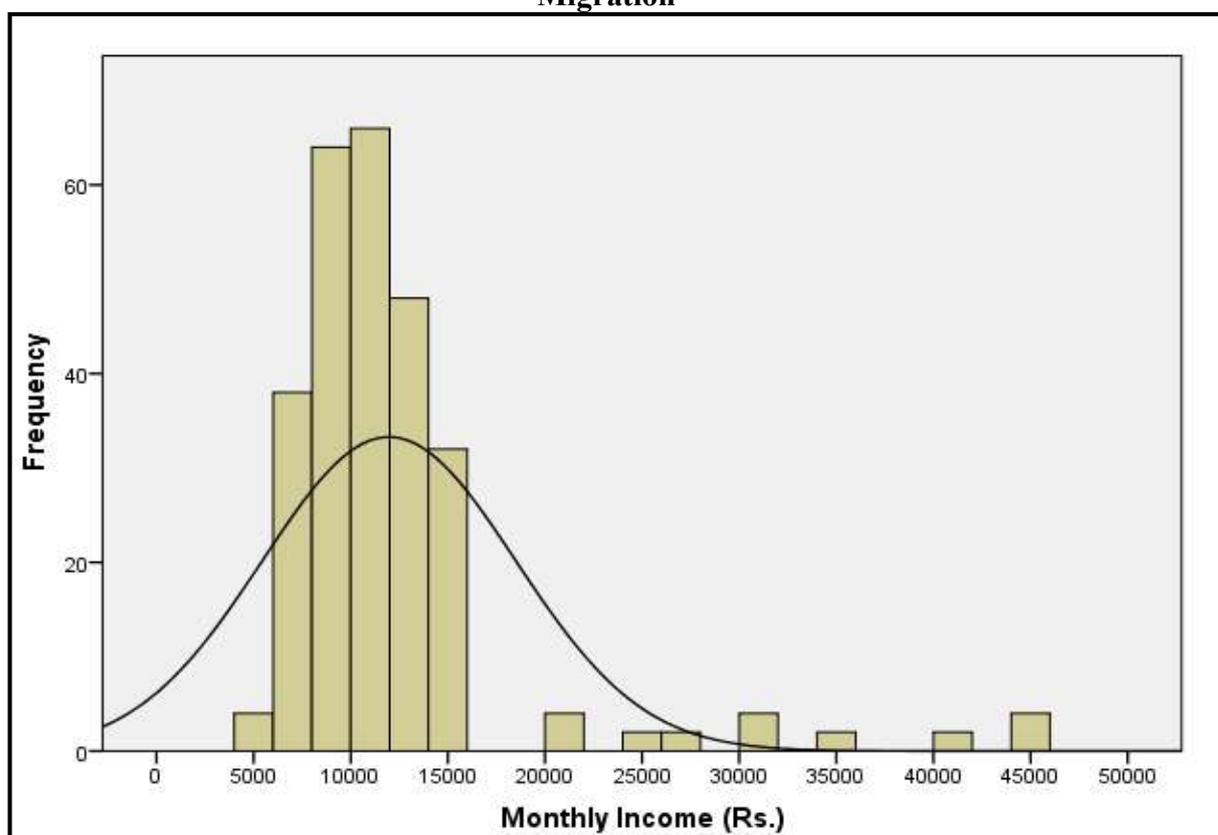
Sl. No.	Wages (rupees)	Before Rural Out-Migration (%)	After Rural Out-Migration (%)
1	<3000	25.0	0
2	3001-5000	53.7	.7
3	5001-7000	8.8	8.1
4	7001-9000	5.9	23.5
5	>9000	6.6	67.6
Total		100.0	100.0

Source: Field Study, 2017-2018

**Figure 7.2: Wages/Income (Rs. Per month) of Out-Migrants Before Rural Out-Migration**



**Figure 7.3: Wages/Income (Rs. Per month) of Out-Migrants After Rural Out-Migration**



From the above table 7.5 and figure 7.3 focused that 53.7 percent of the respondent's wages within rupees 3001 to 5000, whereas it was only more than rupees 9000 for 6.6 percent of respondents. Figure 7.4 has been changed after migration, where it shows 67.6 percent of them earned wages more than rupees 9000 per month.

#### 7.2.1.4. Impact on Expenditure

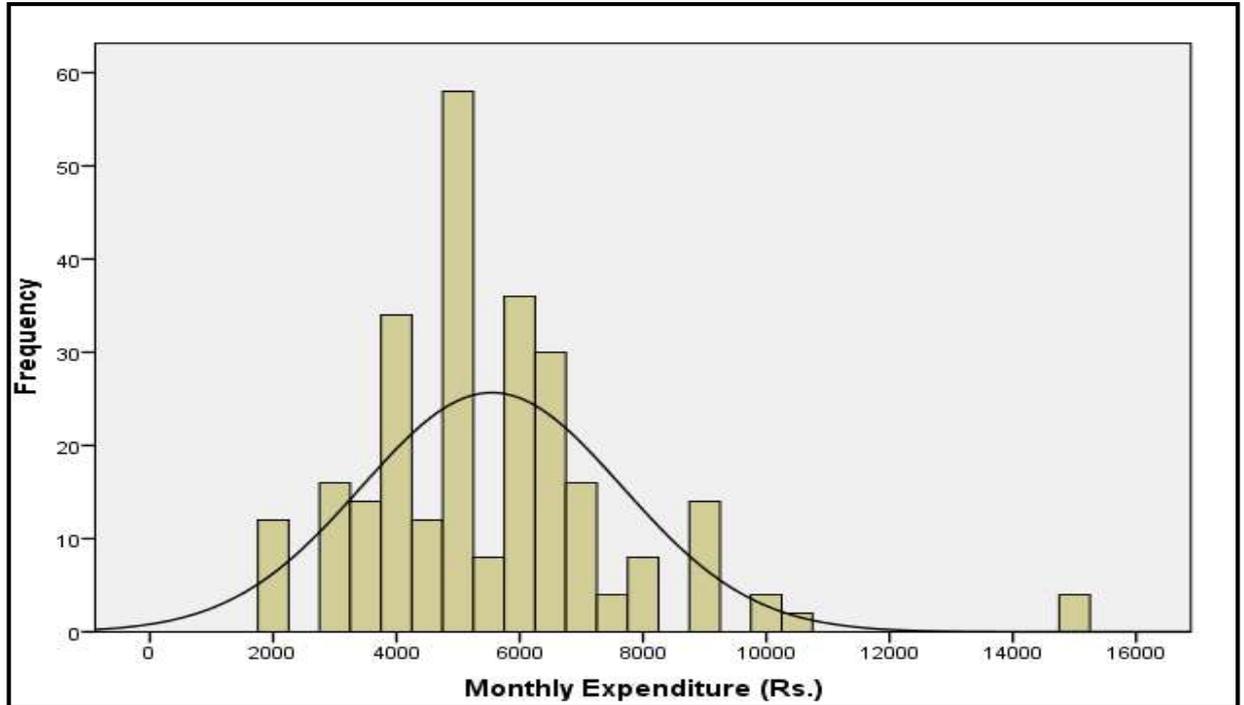
Out-Migration also increases the expenditure on consumption and increases the savings and investment that changes in the lifestyle, impact on dressing and socialising of the family members, and the impact on communication and language.

**Table 7.6: Expenditure (Rs.) of Out-Migrants on Before and After Rural Out-Migration**

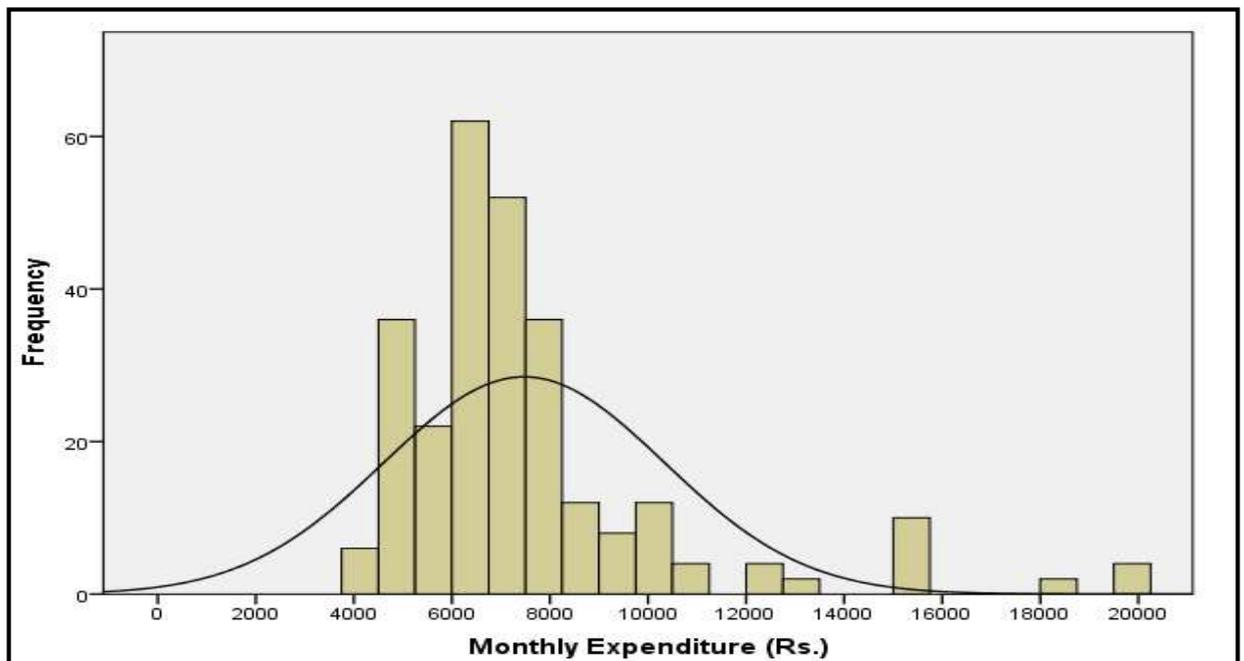
Expenditure (rupees)/month	Before Out-Migration (%)	After Out-Migration (%)
<3000	9.6	0
3001-5000	42.6	15.4
5001-7000	34.6	46.3
7001-9000	9.6	23.5
>9000	3.7	14.7
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017-2018.

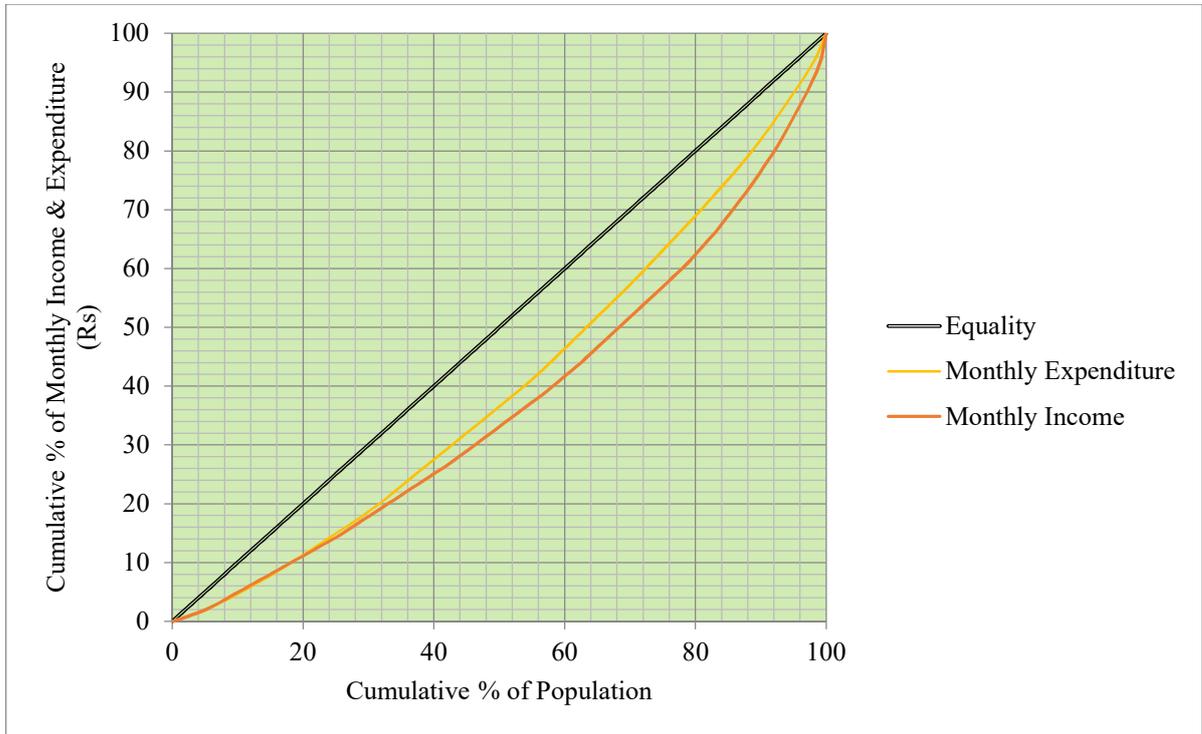
**Figure 7.4: Monthly Expenditure (Rs.) of the Respondents Before Rural Out-Migration**



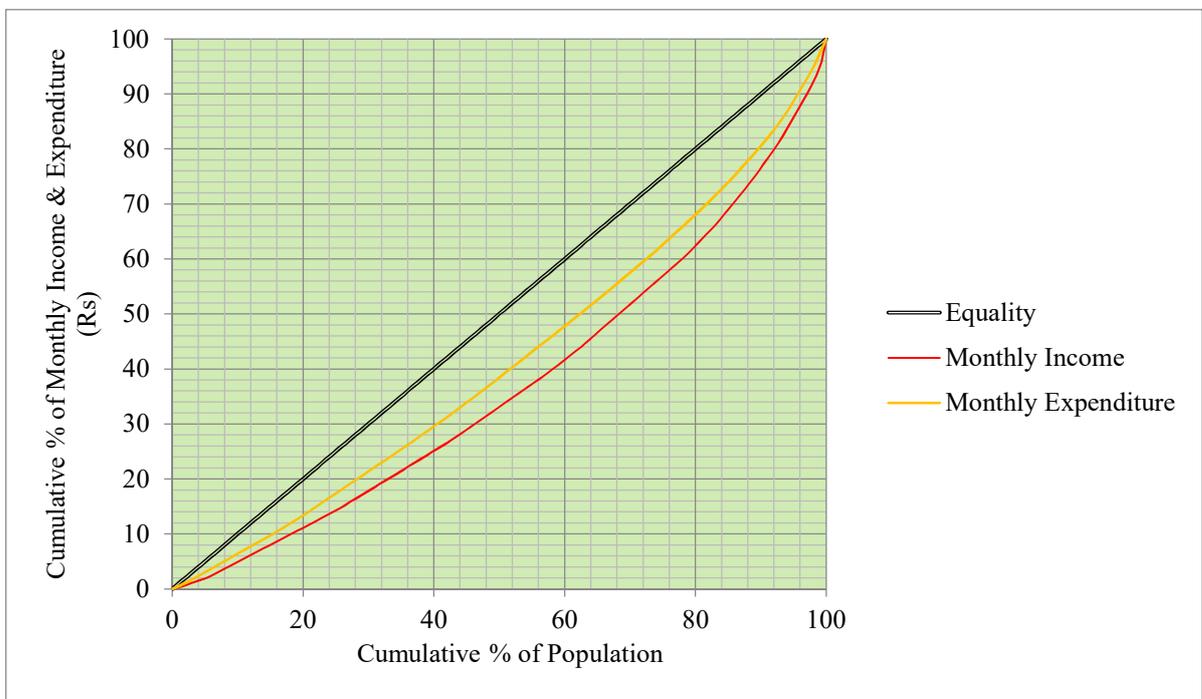
**Figure 7.5: Monthly Expenditure (Rs.) of the Respondents After Rural Out-Migration**



**Figure7.6: Lorenz Curve Showing the Inequality between the Income and Expenditure before Rural Out-Migration, Koch Bihar District**



**Figure7.7: Lorenz Curve Showing the Inequality between the Income and Expenditure after Rural Out-Migration, Koch Bihar District**



Various literatures found that respondent's expenditure of consumption has been relatively increased after out-migration from the origin, which affects the savings of the

migrants. The savings generally depends on the migrant income and expenditure with the nature of out-migration (Murad, 2016; George et al. 2011 and Bauer & Sinning, 2011). The Field Study, 2017-2018 in the district revealed that 42.6 percent of the out-migrants monthly expenditure was rupees 3000.00 to 5000.00 per month before out-migration while it has been increased to 46.3 percent for rupees 5000.00 to 7000.00 per month after out-migration (figure 7.5 and 7.6). The above figure of the Lorenz curve shows that the savings of out-migrants have also increased after out-migration (figure 7.7 and 7.8)

#### **7.2.1.5. Impact on Remittance**

In this case, ‘remittances’ generally refer to money transmitted to villages by the migrants while they are away. The primary aim of their out-migration is remittance. Actually, rural to rural out-migration indicating lower remittances where it has higher from urban to rural migration. The flow of remittances may depend on the links between migrants and their families’ needs (Debnath, 2003). Olney (2015); Hagen-Zanker (2015) revealed that remittance affects the wage at the origin of the migrants and increases household income, leading to poverty. De Haas (2007) also found that remittances increase income and living conditions. There is a positive sign of rural out-migration for the rural Koch Bihar district which is showing rural development by the remittance money. The main limitation of the work is the data unavailability of data related to remittances, and in this situation, this study has been based on primary data in the Koch Bihar district.

The present study focuses that 41.2 percent of the out-migrants are engaged in the construction sector. If the out-migrants settle with their family at the destination, they usually do not need to send the money as per table 7.7. Most of the significant outcome of out-migration is the remittances, which influence the individual and household’s consumption pattern and lifestyle, especially in the district where most out-migrant households reported to have received remittances. The frequency of receiving remittances was on a regular or monthly basis (table 7.7).

**Table 7.7: Nature of Remittance to the Origin from the Rural Out-Migrants**

Nature of remittance	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Monthly	146	53.7	53.7
Quarterly	74	27.2	80.9
Yearly	18	6.6	87.5
Yet to be sent	34	12.5	100
Total	272	100	

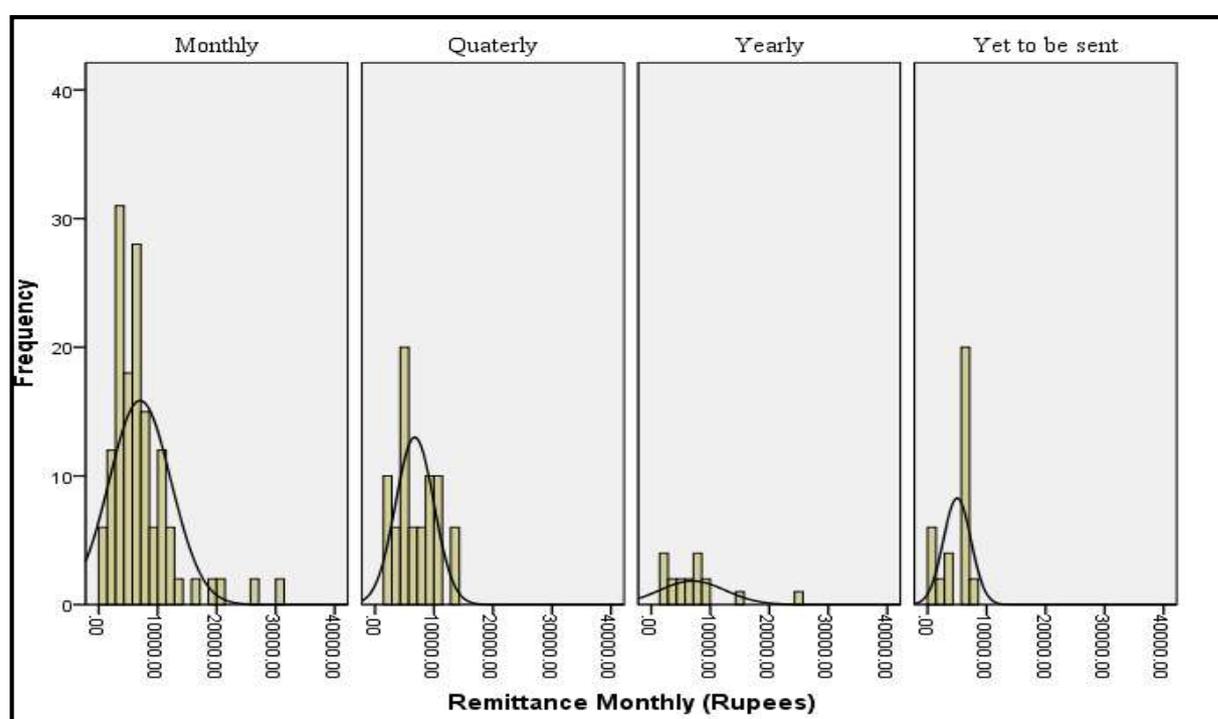
Source: Field Study, 2017-2018

**Table 7.8: Modes of Remittances to the Origin from the Rural Out-Migrants**

Modes of remittance	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
By own bank account	154	56.6	56.6
By other bank accounts	40	14.7	71.3
Post office	26	9.6	80.9
Through fellow migrant workers	52	19.1	100.0
Total	272	100	

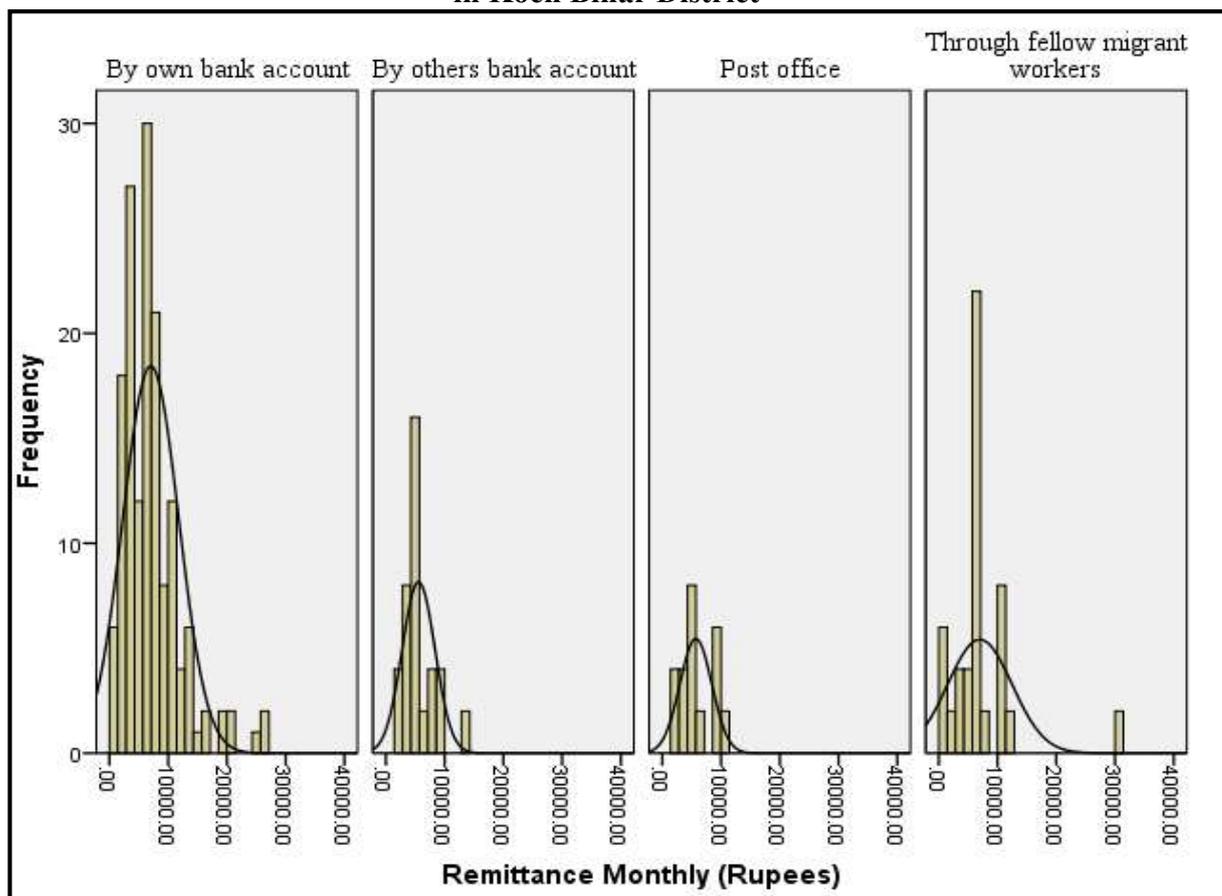
Source: Field Study, 2017-2018

**Figure 7.8: Nature of Remittance to the Origin from the Rural Out-Migrants in Koch Bihar District**



The above table 7.7 and histogram show that 53.7 percent of the migrant respondents send money every month to their home, while 27.2 percent send money quarterly and 6.6 percent yearly (figure 7.9). It also clears that 87.5 percent of the total sample out-migrants family members are the recipients of such remittance, from the Chi-test  $\chi^2 (3, N=272) = 143.765, p < .001$  and  $H_0$  rejected which indicating that the migrants are not equal concerning the nature of remittances.

**Figure 7.9: Modes of Remittances to the Place of Origin from the Rural Out-Migrants in Koch Bihar District**



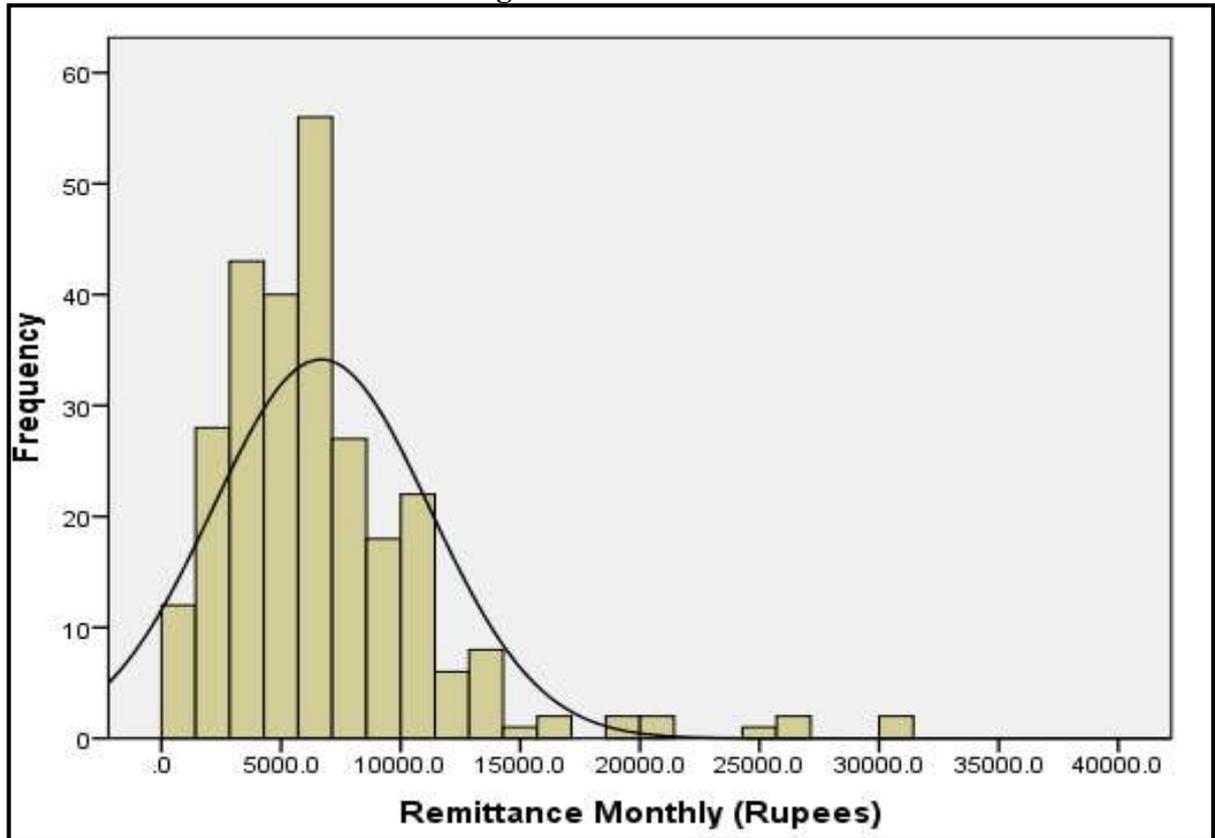
It is also clear that most out-migrants (56.5%) send money through their bank account while 14.7 percent of them send it by others bank account. 19.1 percent of the out-migrants send their money to the family at the origin through fellow migrant workers. From the Chi-test  $\chi^2 (3, N=272) = 150.0, p < .001$  and  $H_0$  rejected, which indicating that the migrants are not equal concerning the modes of remittances.

**Table 7.9: Remittances to the Place of Origin per Month (Average) from the Rural Out-Migrants**

Amount (Rupees)/month	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
<3000	56	20.6	20.6
3001-5000	62	22.8	43.4
5001-7000	62	22.8	66.2
7001-9000	40	14.7	80.9
>9000	52	19.1	100.0
Total	272	100.0	

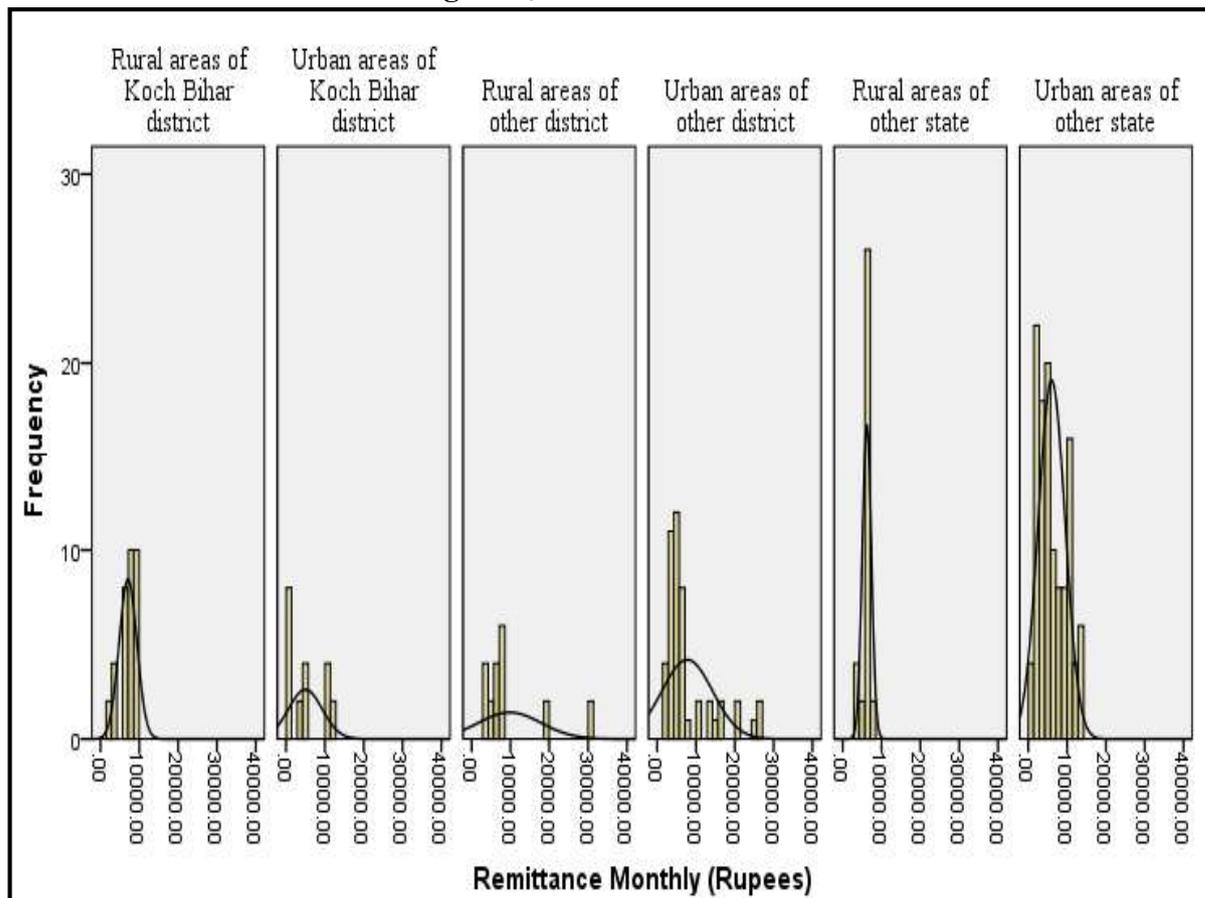
Source: Field Study, 2017-2018

**Figure7.10: Remittances to the Place of Origin per Month (Average) from the RuralOut-Migrants in Koch Bihar District**



The above table 7.9 and figure 7.11 shows the sample study on monthly remittance that 45.6 percent of the out-migrants send money rupees 3000.00 to 7000.00 per month while 20.6 percent of them send money less than rupees 3000.00 per month, which is a meagre amount. 14.7 percent of the respondents send money rupees 7000.00 to 9000.00 per month, while only 19.1 percent of the migrant send money more than rupees 9000.00 per month, from the Chi-test  $\chi^2 (4, N=272) = 6.088, p < .001$  and  $H_0$  accepted which indicating that the migrants are equal concerning the remittances to the origin per month (average). According to Debnath (2003), there is “no absolute correlation between savings and economic change can be established. But economic change and development do depend to a large extent on the proper and adequate utilisation of savings.”

**Figure 7.11: Monthly Remittances According to the Place of Destination from Rural Out-Migrants, Koch Bihar District**



**Table 7.10: Monthly Remittances According to their Destination**

Average remittance per month (Rs.)	Choice of Destination (%)						Total (%)
	Rural areas of Koch Bihar district	Urban areas of Koch Bihar district	Rural areas of other districts	Urban areas of other districts	Rural areas of other states	Urban areas of other states	
<3000	1.5	2.9	0.0	2.9	.7	12.5	20.6
3001-5000	.7	1.5	1.5	7.4	1.5	10.3	22.8
5001-7000	2.9	.7	2.2	2.9	9.6	4.4	22.8
7001-9000	6.6	0.0	2.2	0.0	.7	5.1	14.7
>9000	.7	2.2	1.5	4.4	0.0	10.3	19.1
Total	12.5	7.4	7.4	17.6	12.5	42.6	100.0

Source: Field Study, 2017-2018

Figure 7.12 and table 7.10 indicating a variation of nature of remittances according to their place of destination. The above histogram shows that the other state's remittances, like Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Kerala, Rajasthan, Arunachal Pradesh, etc., were higher than the remittances from within the state. Remittances from the other state to the district were around up to rupees 20,000 per month, while it was only within rupees 10,000 per month in

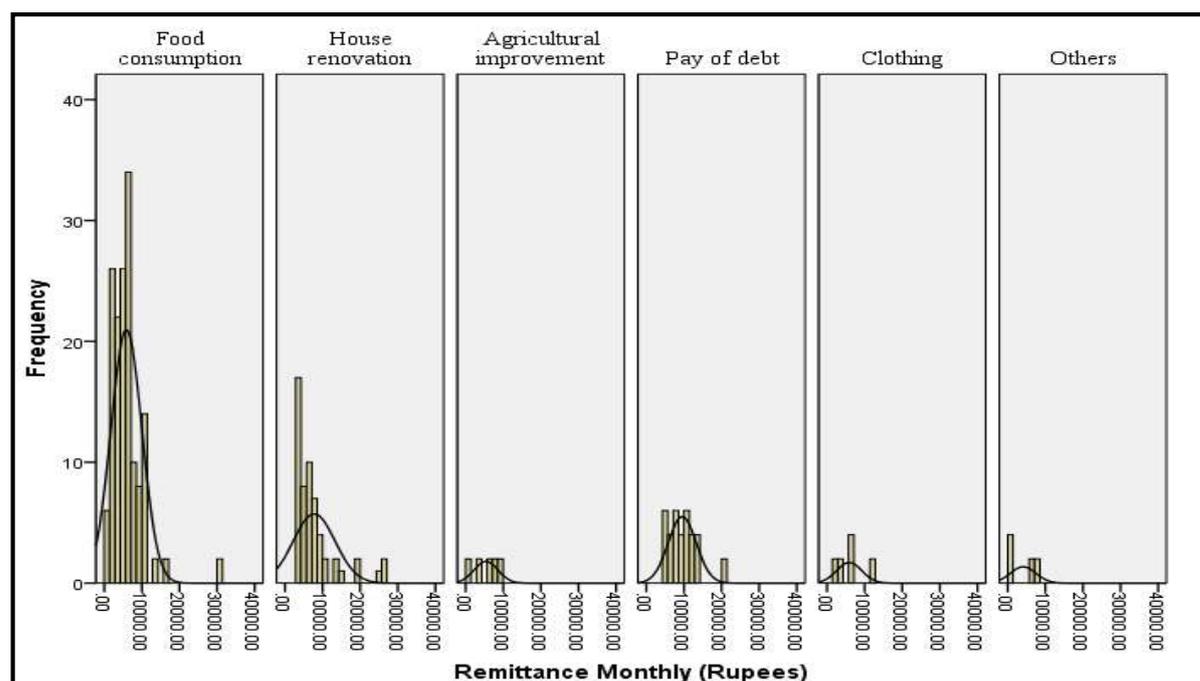
rural areas within the district (figure 7.12). From the Chi-test  $\chi^2 (20, N=272) = 147.234, p <.001$  and  $H_0$  rejected, indicating that the monthly remittances of migrants are not equal according to their destination.

**Table 7.11: Main Purpose of Remittance from the Rural Out-Migrants**

Purpose	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Food consumption	152	55.9	55.9
House renovation	56	20.6	76.5
Agricultural improvement	10	3.7	80.1
Pay of debt	36	13.2	93.4
Clothing	10	3.7	97.1
Others	8	2.9	100.0
Total	272	100.0	

Source: Field Study, 2017-2018

**Figure 7.12: Main Purpose of Remittance from the Out-Migrants In Koch Bihar District**



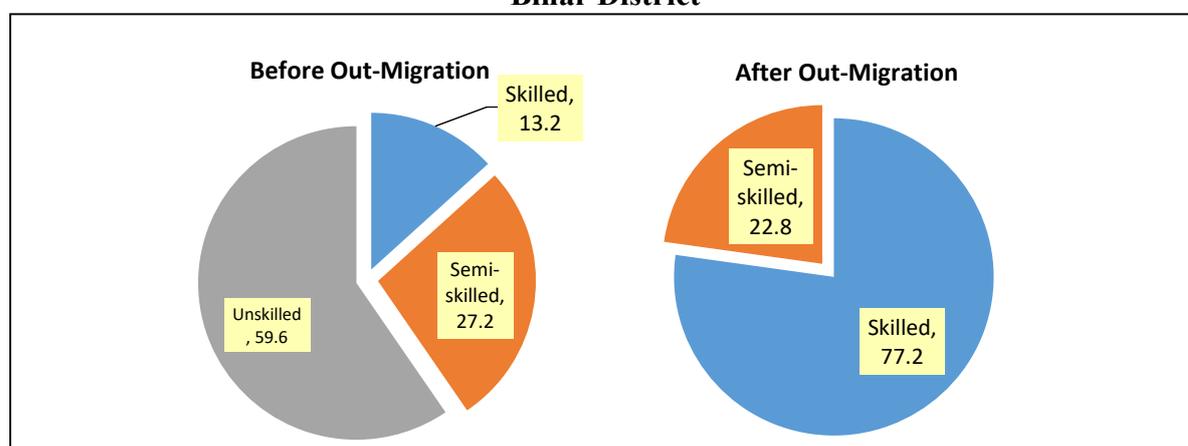
Above table 7.11 focuses that 55.9 percent of out-migrants are spent their remitted money for the purchase of food, while 20.6 percent is spent on their house renovation at the origin of the Koch Bihar district. Fifty percent of the migrated respondents have to take debt for their different purposes. In this case, 13.2 percent of respondents send their money to the origin for debt payment, while only 3.7 percent of them spent their money on agricultural development in the district. From the Chi-test  $\chi^2 (5, N=272) = 341.235, p <.001$  and  $H_0$

rejected, which indicating that the migrants are not equal concerning their primary purpose of remittances.

### 7.2.1.6. Impact on Working Skill

The survey focuses that out-migration affects the skill of the migrants. The ‘skill’ is defined as the occupational attainment of skill, and there is no single need methodology for skill needs analysis (according to the International Labour Organisation). Most people are dependent on agriculture activities and engaged in informal activities in Koch Bihar district and have low skill working-age peoples emigrated from in rural areas. The results show that 59.6 percent of out-migrants are unskilled, while only 13.2 percent are skilled before out-migration from Koch Bihar district (Table 7.12).

**Figure 7.13: Type of Skill Before and After Out-Migration of the Out-Migrants, Koch Bihar District**



After out-migration, 77.2 percent of out-migrants changed into skilled labour, and the remaining 22.8 percent are changed into semi-skilled labour. From the Chi-test,  $\chi^2 (2, N=272) = 92.147, p <.001$  and  $\chi^2 (1, N=272) = 80.529, p <.001$  of before and after out-migration, the hypothesis  $H_0$  rejected which indicating that the migrants are not equal concerning their skill of work.

**Table 7.12: Type of Skill Before and After Out-Migration of the Out-Migrants**

Time	Skill	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Before Out-Migration	Skilled	36	13.2	13.2
	Semi-skilled	74	27.2	40.4
	Unskilled	162	59.6	100.0
After Out-Migration	Total	272	100.0	
	Skilled	210	77.2	77.2
	Semi-skilled	62	22.8	100.0
	Total	272	100.0	

Source: Field Study, 2017-2018

## 7.2.2. Socio-Demographic Consequences:

Rural out-migration helps rural people for improve their social lives in culture, language and customs, which improvethier quality of life. According to Zachariah et al. (2000), it has direct and indirect consequences on the demography of the population at origin and the destinations. The demographic consequences of rural out-migration change the demographic structure, which is identified by the rate of out-migration from the origin to the destination over different times. It proved that it also affects the inter-regional population, which identified the demographic potential to generate migration (Plane, 1992).

### 7.2.2.1. Impacts on Cultural Diffusion

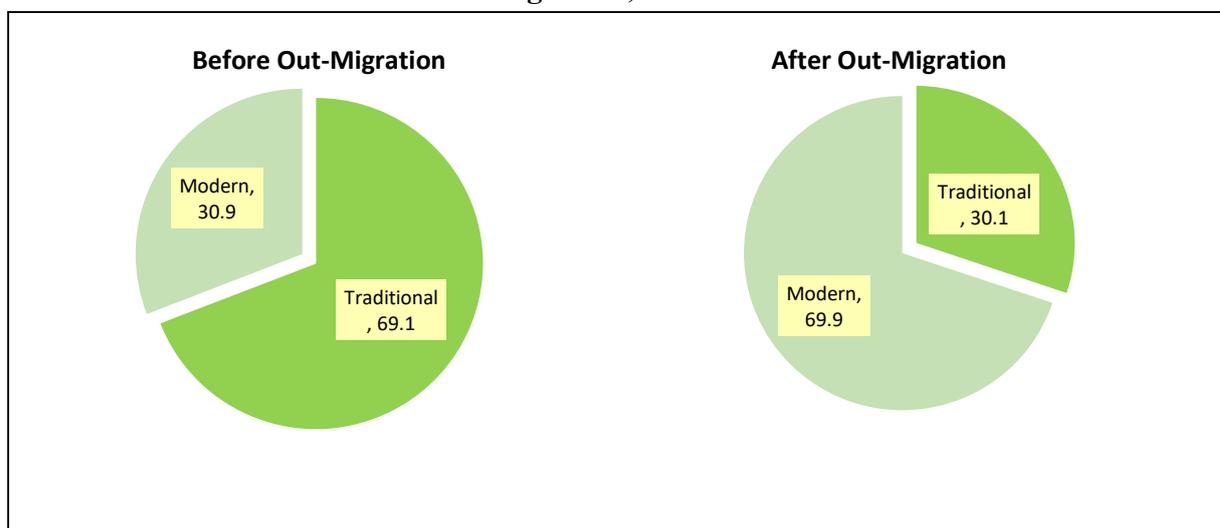
Out-migration “results in intermixing of diverse cultures and leads to the evolution of composite culture, which breaks the narrow thoughts and widens the people’s mental horizon” (Bala, 2017).Out-migration may have a significant effect on cultures and societies. It also affects both origin and destination where the skills of the migrants, and the lengths of time involved.

**Table 7.13: Use of Dresses at Before and After Rural Out-Migration**

Time of Out-Migration	Use of Dresses	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Before	Traditional	188	69.1	69.1
	Modern	84	30.9	100.0
After	Traditional	82	30.1	30.1
	Modern	190	69.9	100.0
	Total	272	100.0	

Source: Field Study, 2017-2018

**Figure 7.14: Percentage Distribution of Migrants for the Use of Dresses at Before and After Out-Migration, Koch Bihar District**



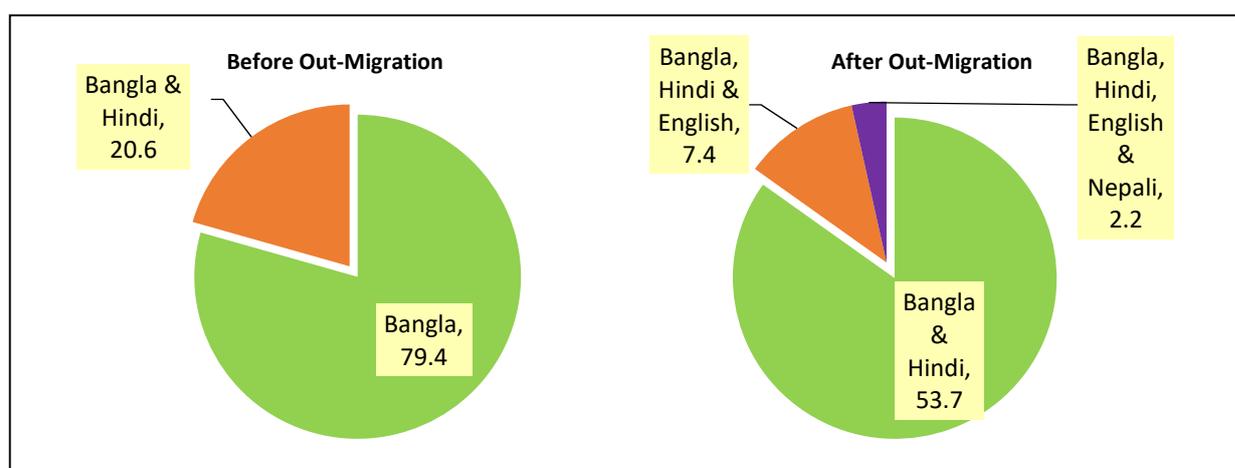
According to Richerson and Boyd (2008), migration is an “engine for social change” where “the movement of people into societies that offer a better way of life is a more powerful driver of cultural evolution than conflict and conquest.” There are positive changes that have been observed in the society for the cultural relationships over time due to out-migration (Lanati and Venturini, 2018; Romaniszyn, 2004). Due to the out-migration from the rural area, the cultural diffusions have been observed in their dresses, languages, food behaviour, hair-style, etc., which will differ from the non-migrants in the study area (Nan, 2011). The above table 7.13 presents that 69.1 percent of the out-migrant was used traditional dresses<sup>1</sup> before out-migration, but it has been changed into 30.1 percent after out-migration and relative increase the use of modern<sup>2</sup> dresses among the migrant peoples (figure 7.15).

**Table 7.14: Percentage Distribution of the Languages Known Before and After Out-Migration**

Out-Migration	Languages Known	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Before Out-Migration	Bengali	216	79.4	80.0
	Bengali & Hindi	56	20.6	100
	Total	272	100.0	
After Out-Migration	Bengali	100	36.8	36.8
	Bengali & Hindi	146	53.7	90.4
	Bengali, Hindi & English	20	7.4	97.8
	Bengali, Hindi, English & Nepali	6	2.2	100
	Total	272	100	

Source: Field Study, 2017-2018

**Figure 7.15: Percentage Distribution of the Languages Known Before and After Out-Migration, Koch Bihar District**



<sup>1</sup>The traditional dresses for men are “*Angsha* and *Jama* or inners, *kurta*, *lungi* while for women are *bukuni-patani*; *Agran*; *Angsha*; *Chadar* a piece of cloth tied around the chest that extends up to the knee” (source:Wikipedia).

<sup>2</sup> Western wear generally known as modern dress.

Several studies show that language is one of the critical contact barriers to the out-migrants in their destination (Piller, 2016; Heugh, 2017; Pot et al. 2018 and Jaeger et al. 2019), and overcoming this barrier is a necessary consequence of out-migration which bringing the economic benefit as well as social benefits (Wang et al. 2018). The study found that the official language in the district is Bengali, and the additional official language is English, whereas about 80 percent of the peoples using the Bengali language as communication. The district majority (50.01 %) population belongs to Scheduled Caste (SC) population, whereas a large number of the population using *Rajbanshi*<sup>3</sup> language like Bengali (Census, 2011). The above table 7.14 and figure 7.16, indicating that 79.4 percent of the migrated respondents known only the Bengali language before out-migration while it has to changed 53.7 percent for both the Bengali and Hindi language after out-migration. Besides Hindi, they have to learn English, Nepali languages.

#### **7.2.2.2. Decision Making and Responsibilities Adopted by Rural Women**

The effect of male out-migration from the origin on the females has positive and negatives impacts. The out-migration has increased the household income at the village and also increased their social status. It proved that the work burden has also been increased among the women in the village (Grawert, 1992). Moreover, at the same time, women's decision-making on household expenses and purchases at the village indicates women's empowerment (Jetley, 1987; Singh, 2018). Women empowerment reveals the significant concerns for decision-makers in the developing country, which is essential for society's overall development (Bose et al. 2017; Maity et al. 2018). McEvoy (2008) suggested that male out-migration has become an important livelihood strategy that significantly impacts women's lives. The absence of males at their origin changes role and responsibilities (Maharjan et al. 2012; Kakati, 2014; Fakir and Abedin, 2020) of women, not the exception to the Koch Bihar district. It affects decision-making, household welfare decision, agriculture decision, food preparation, a financial decision, child care, etc. (Pedraza, 1991; Das, 2019). The study reveals that out of 68.3 percent of total out-migrant respondents, 60.3 percent are male, and the remaining 8.0 percent are female respondents. So, it has been clear that the district out-migration is generally dominated by the male labour out-migration (Barman and Roy, 2019). The following table 7.15 reveals that 22.1 percent of women perform their duties as the head of the migrant families, while 58.8 percent are migrants parents. Out of

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<sup>3</sup>The majority of scheduled caste people reveals from class of the *Rajbanshi* community and they demand the Bengali intellectual that *Rajbanshi* language is a dialect of Bengali language and claimed it is a standard independent language like Bengali.

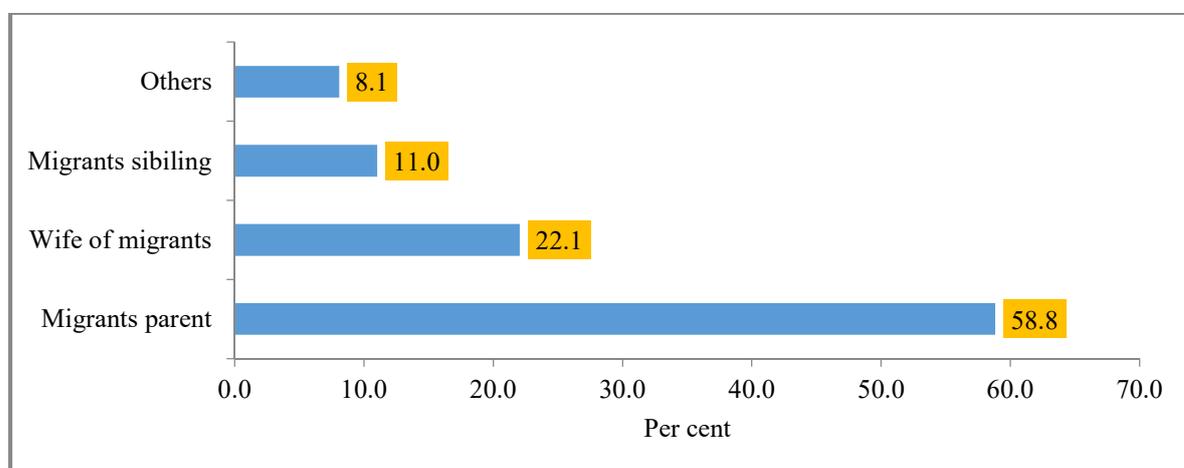
all, 11.0 percent of them are migrants siblings who have to take their duties a family heads in Koch Bihar district.

**Table 7.15: Decision Makers of the Family During the Absence of the Migrants**

Sl. No.	Guardian	Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
1	Migrants parent	160	58.8	58.8
2	Wife of migrants	60	22.1	80.9
3	Migrants Siblings	30	11.0	91.9
4	Others	22	8.1	100
	Total	272	100	

Source: Field Survey, 2017-2018

**Figure 7.16: Decision Makers of the Family During the Absence of Migrants**



### 7.2.2.3. Impact on Children

Rural out-migration has a significant impact on children’s lives in both the “positive and negative” experience. It also affects children’s “academic performance, children, social behaviour, and emotional well-being” (Gomez, 2015). There are some negative impacts of out-migration on educational achievement when they have performed their family migration (Chen et al. 2014) and sometimes their parental absence (Battistell and Conaco, 1998). Roy et al. (2015), in their case of India, the impact of out-migration of parents on the ages of children between 6 to 14 years and they are dropped out from schooling, and they found that the impact on the attendance in the school was mostly positive; they have poor performance in studies, discipline, etc. Table 7.16 shows an average rate of out-migration per family in the district is 1.34 persons, while the male out-migration average per family is 1.14 and 0.94 persons for females. So, this indicating there huge gender differences for out-migration in Koch Bihar district.

**Table 7.16: Distribution of Number of Rural Out- Migrants from the Migrant Households**

Gender of Migrated Persons	Sum	Mean Statistic	Percent
Male	309	1.14	84.658
Female	56	.90	15.342
Total Migrants family, N=272	365	1.34	100.000

Source: Field Survey, 2017-2018

**Table 7.17: Impact of Out-Migration on Children Schooling from Migrant Households**

Child Dropped out from Schooling	Migrated With Family (%)		Total (%)
	Yes	No	
Yes	2.9	0.0	2.9
No	.7	96.3	97.1
Total	3.7	96.3	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2017-2018

The above table 7.17 reveals that the out-migration from the district negatively impacted children's schooling. It shows that overall, 3.7 percent of children are migrated with their families, and out of the 3.7 percent are dropped out from their schooling while only 0.7 percent did not drop out from schooling. So, the results clarify that parental migration with the child is the risk factor for school dropout among the children (Giannelli, 2010; Pufall et al. 2015). The result of the Chi-test from the above table 7.16,  $\chi^2(1, N=272) = 215.952, p < .001$  and  $H_0$  rejected, which indicating that the child out-migration have a significant impact on school education of Koch Bihar district. As a result, the children enter into the employers and contractors' labour work and by their parents or guardians (Iversen, 2002; Ananga, 2013; Deep, 2017).

### 7.2.3. Other Consequences

As per discussion earlier, out-migration has created employment opportunities to the destination, increasing economic sustainability among out-migrants. They have also increased the consumption of expenditure. The out-migration changed the working skill of the migrants and relatively increased their monthly income. The massive in-migration to the urban areas increases the competition of jobs among the migrants, and sometimes migrants are exploited. Several studies (Murty, 1977; Ghosh & Shah, 2004; Jahan, 2012; Awumbila et al. 2014) focused that migration increased the slum in urban areas where peoples face many problems unhygienic condition, lack of drinking water, sanitisation, and so on.

#### 7.2.3.1. Impact on the Working Place

There is a significant impact of migration at the destination. The in-migration of any place generally depends on the quality of working and working places (Findlay and Rogerson,

1993; Fotheringham et al. 2000; Whisler et al. 2008) out-migration force peoples do out-migrate from their origin.

**Table 7.18: Impact on Sanitation Facilities at Staying Places of the Out-Migrants**

Sanitation Facility	Out-Migrants are Staying in (%)				Total (%)
	Owner's home	Rented house	Worksite	Other	
Excellent	0.0	2.2	2.2	0.0	4.4
Good	1.5	8.8	14.0	9.6	33.8
Fair	2.9	10.3	32.0	3.7	48.9
Poor	2.9	5.1	4.0	.7	12.9
Total	7.4	26.5	52.2	14.0	100.0

Source: Field Study, 2017-2018.

The above table 7.18 indicates that out of all migrants, 52.2 percent of them stay at the workplace while only 26.5 percent of them are staying rented house and 7.4 percent are the owner's home at the destination. Out of all, 32 percent answered they haveadequate sanitation facility at the worksite, while 4 percent said sanitation facility at the working site was lacking. Only 2.2 percent of them had excellent sanitation facilities at the worksite. Similarly, at the rented house having the same condition, most of them were told they have a fair sanitation facility. The calculation from Chi-test from the above table 7.18,  $\chi^2(9, N=272) = 50.427, p <.001$  and  $H_0$  rejected, which indicating that there was significant variation among the sanitation facility at the destination.

**Table 7.19: Impact on Drinking Water Facilities at Staying Places of the Out-Migrants**

Drinking water facility	Out-Migrants are staying in (%)				Total (%)
	Owner's home	Rented house	Worksite	Other	
Excellent	0.0	0.0	.7	0.0	.7
Good	0.0	2.9	10.3	6.6	19.9
Fair	.7	14.0	25.0	7.4	47.1
Poor	6.6	9.6	16.2	0.0	32.4
Total	7.4	26.5	52.2	14.0	100.0

Source: Field Study, 2017-2018.

Out-migration imparts the population growth at the destination (Pradhan, 2004), which has a significant impact on like drinking water facility and the human body needs safe and adequate drinking water (Confalonieri et al. 2007). Above table 7.19 indicating overall, 47.1 percent of respondents told the fair facility of drinking water at the destination's staying place. Out of all, only 0.7 percent of them stay at the working site having excellent drinking water facilities while out of total 32.4 percent 16.2 percent at the worksite, 9.6 percent at the

rented house and 6.6 percent at the owner's home having poor drinking water condition at the destination. Chi-Square test shows  $\chi^2(9, N=272) = 62.908, p <.001$  and  $H_0$  rejected, indicating significant variation among the drinking water facility at the destination.

### **7.3. Conclusion:**

The out-migration has affected the district's total population every decade, which has signed on the population growth. The out-migration trends from Koch Bihar district include the male-dominant, which directly impacts the district's sex-ratio. Due to overrate of male out-migration, the district has to reduce the working-age population and relatively increased the dependent elderly and children in Koch Bihar district. The increase of the dependent population not only affects demography but also affects the economy in the district. In this case, the out-migration has a significant impact on the women where maximum numbers of married men are migrated from the district. As per the analysis, according to Zachariah et al. (2000), the consequences of out-migration affect both "positive and negatively on fertility where migration affects the birth rate at the origin for increase and decrease of birth rate." In the current scenario, the vast numbers of males are out-migrated to outside in the district and state it increases the postponement of marriages, this kind of behavioural changes increase the age of marriage and affect the fertility.

So, the study clears that out-migration affects only the employments of migrants to secure their earning also. The majority of the household has received remittances from the migrants to their origin at the household. The household expenditure at the origin, such as food, health, cloth, etc., depends on the destination's remittance income. The remittance income provides food security among the households in Koch Bihar district. Major findings are;

1. The study found there are different activities of migrants before out-migration in the district is agriculture (18.4%), casual labour (42.6%), household industry workers and business (2.9%), student (8.8%), others (9.6%), and 14.7 percent were unemployed. The result has been changed after out-migration, we found that the activity of agriculture (8.8%), construction labour (41.2%), factory labour (17.6%), labour at brick kilns (8.8%), household industry workers (2.9%), government service (3.7%), business (8.1%), Thikadar (5.9%) and 2.9 percent in others activity.
2. Out-migration has also affected the number of working days before and after rural out-migration. The study found there were the majority of out-migrants (43.4%) were worked two days within a week before rural out-migration whereas only 3.5

percent of out-migrants were worked at least five days in a week before out-migration while after out-migration, the majority of migrants (52.9%) are working all the days in a week.

3. Before out-migration majority (40.4%) out-migrants were collected their weekly wages, whereas it was 26.5 percent of daily wage collection after work. After migration, the status was changed, which shows 56.6 percent were collected monthly-wise after out-migration.
4. The Field Study, 2017-2018 found that most migrants received their wages before migration through cash (86%), whereas it was only 10.3 percent only through the bank account. The amount has been changed after out-migration; the result shows that 44.9 percent of respondents received their wages through the bank account
5. 53.7 percent of the respondent's wages within rupees 3001 to 5000, whereas it was only more than rupees 9000 for 6.6 percent of respondents which has been changed after migration, and shows 67.6 percent of them earned wages more than rupees 9000 per month.
6. The Field Study, 2017-2018 in the district revealed that 42.6 percent of the out-migrants monthly expenditure was rupees 3000.00 to 5000.00 per month before out-migration while it has been increased to 46.3 percent for rupees 5000.00 to 7000.00 per month after out-migration
7. Study shows that 53.7 percent of the migrant respondents are sending money every month to their home while 27.2 percent send money quarterly and 6.6 percent yearly. It also clears that 87.5 percent of the total sample migrants' family members are the recipients of such remittance.
8. It is also clear that most out-migrants (56.5%) send money through their bank account while 14.7 percent of them send it by others bank account. 19.1 percent of the out-migrants send their money to the family at the origin through fellow migrant workers.
9. The other state's remittances, like Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Kerala, Rajasthan, Arunachal Pradesh, etc., were higher than the remittances from within the state. Remittances from the other state to the district were around up to rupees 20,000 per month, while it was only within rupees 10,000 per month in rural areas within the district.

10. 55.9 percent out-migrants are spent their remitted money for the purchase of food, while 20.6 percent is spent on their house renovation at the origin of Koch Bihar district. Fifty percent of the migrated respondents have to take debt for their different purposes. In this case, 13.2 percent of respondents send their money to the origin for the debt payment, while only 3.7 percent of them spent their money on agricultural development in the district.
11. The results show that 59.6 percent of out-migrants are unskilled while only 13.2 percent are skilled before out-migration, which changes to 77.2 percent of out-migrants into skilled labour and the remaining 22.8 percent cent are changed into semi-skilled labour.
12. 69.1 percent of the out-migrant was used traditional dresses before out-migration, but it has been changed into 30.1 percent after out-migration and relative increase the use of modern dresses among the migrant peoples.
13. 79.4 percent of the migrated respondents known only Bengali language before out-migration while changing 53.7 percent for both the Bengali and Hindi language after out-migration. Besides Hindi, they have to learn English, Nepali languages.
14. 22.1 percent of women perform their duties as the head of the migrant families, while 58.8 percent are migrants parents. Out of all, 11.0 percent of them are migrants siblings who have to take their duties a family heads in Koch Bihar district.
15. The study foundthat parental migration with the child is the risk factor for school dropout among the children.
16. Out of all migrants, 52.2 percent stay at the workplace, while only 26.5 percent of them stay in rented houses, and 7.4 percent are the owner's home at the destination. Out of all, 32 percent answered they have adequate sanitation facility at the worksite, while 4 percent said sanitation facility at the working site was lacking. Only 2.2 percent of them had excellent sanitation facilities at the worksite. Similarly, at the rented house having the same condition, most of them were told they have a fair sanitation facility.
17. The study reveals that 47.1 percent of respondents told the fair facility of drinking water at the destination's staying place. Out of all, only 0.7 percent of them stay at the working site told excellent drinking water facility while out of total 32.4 percent 16.2 percent at the worksite, 9.6 percent at the rented house and 6.6 percent at owner's home having poor drinking water condition at the destination.

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