

## DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the Ph. D. thesis entitled **“AN ENQUIRY INTO THE CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION IN WEST BENGAL WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO COOCH BEHAR DISTRICT”** submitted by me for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Economics is a record of independent work carried out by me during the period of my study, under the supervision of Dr. Kanak Kanti Bagchi, Professor, Department of Economics, University of North Bengal and that no part of this thesis has formed the basis for the award of any degree or fellowship previously.

Place: University of North Bengal.

Date: 20.10.2022

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## CERTIFICATE

I certify that Sujit Majumdar has prepared the thesis entitled: "AN ENQUIRY INTO THE CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION IN WEST BENGAL WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO COOCH BEHAR DISTRICT", for the award of Ph. D. degree of the University of North Bengal, under my guidance. He has carried out the research work at the Department of Economics, University of North Bengal. No part of this thesis has formed the basis for the award of any degree or fellowship previously.

  
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AN ENQUIRY INTO THE CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION IN WEST BENGAL WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO COOCH BEHAR DISTRICT

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A Thesis submitted to the University of North Bengal For the Award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Economics By Sujit Majumdar Under the Supervision of Prof. Karak Kanti Bagchi, Professor, Department of Economics, N.B.U. Department of Economics University of North Bengal

November, 2022

CHAPTER-I INTRODUCTION 1.1 Statement of the Problem Migration is the temporary or permanent movement of people from one place to another in order to find work or better living conditions. It can be over a short or long distance, voluntary or forced, national or international. Migration from rural areas to urban areas is a age-long phenomenon. The process of such migration is continuous. The root cause of rural to urban migration is said to be inequality of employment and other opportunities between rural and urban areas. The growth of urbanization happens due to economic growth and development and also the progress of civilization in urban areas. Different types of opportunities like that of employment, better health, better education etc. and various types of amenities such as recreational facilities, safe drinking water, street lighting etc. are concentrated in urban areas. The rural people of working age whether literate or illiterate are paying attention to urban areas with the lure of these opportunities. Among the above noted different types of opportunities, the most important is employment opportunity to the rural young people of working age. In a developing country like India, opportunities in urban areas and its peripheries are not only greater but the levels of income are also much higher. There are a number of theories of migration. Among of them, the most admired and influential theory of rural-urban migration is that of Harris-Todaro Model named after John R. Harris and Michael Todaro. The Harris-Todaro Model endeavored to explain the phenomenon of persistence rural-urban migration in developing countries despite the incidence of high unemployment rate in urban centres. To explicate the accelerated rural-urban migration in the face of rising urban unemployment, this model postulates that the migration decision is primarily an economic one and that it acts in response to difference in expected earning between rural and urban areas (Harris and Todaro 1970). In other words, this model shows off that rural-urban migration will be continued as long as expected wage rate in the urban sector is greater than the wage rate in the rural sector, i.e.  $W_e > W_r$ . Now, in contrast to earlier models of one-

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## APPENDICES

Appendix-A	Published Paper in Journal
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Appendix-B	Certificate of Presented Paper in the National Seminar
Appendix-B.1	<u>Certificate Details</u> : I. GC (SAP) DRS –II NATIONAL SEMINAR on “Regional Issues Concerning Development and Women in Development” (March 21, 2013) – Organised by the Department of Economics, University of North Bengal. <u>Presented Paper</u> entitled: “The Impact of MGNREGA on Out-Migration and Poverty Reduction in Rural Economy: A Case Study of Cooch Behar District in West Bengal”.
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## ACRONYMS

A.D.	Anno Domini
AEC	Adult Education Centre
AIEP	Adult Individual Educational Plan
APL	Above Poverty Line
BPL	Below Poverty Line
B.W	Black and White
CD	Community Development
EGS	Employment Guarantee Scheme
HYV	High-yielding Variety
J&K	Jammu and Kashmir
LDCs	Less Developed Countries
MGNREGA	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
MGNREGS	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
MIG	Migrant
M. Phil	Master of Philosophy
NBU	North Bengal University
NFEC	Non-formal Education Course
N-MIG	Non-Migrant
NREGA	National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
NSS	National Sample Survey
NSSO	National Sample Survey Office
OBC	Other Backward Class
Ph. D.	Doctor of Philosophy
RRBs	Regional Rural Banks
SC	Scheduled Caste
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
ST	Scheduled Tribe
TLC	Teaching and Learning Committee

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TV		Television
UPA		United Progressive Alliance

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**LOCATION MAP OF STUDY AREA (COOCH BEHAR DISTRICT)**

