

# A Comprehensive Study of Social and Economic Dimensions of Rural Urban Migration in Bihar

Prof (Dr) Rashmi Akhoury<sup>1</sup>, Juhi Prasad<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>P.G. Department of Economics, College of Commerce, Arts and Science, Patna -20, A constituent unit of Patliputra University, Patna

<sup>2</sup>NET Qualified, Research scholar, P.G. Department of Economics, Patliputra University, Patna -20

## Abstract

Bihar with about 92,000,000 rural population and 11,000,000 urban population has always been in limelight as the state with second highest out migration in India. However this fact has overshadowed inner migration within different districts of Bihar especially to its capital city Patna. The aim of this article is to study how socio-economic causes have led to heavy migration to capital city of Patna. It discusses the multifaceted problems which this migration has created. The article also tries to suggest multidimensional remedial measures (economic political social) to overcome this problem and improve the plight of capital city Patna.

**Keywords-** urban rural migration, Social economic causes of migration, social economic problems of migration, remedial measures political social and economic.

## INTRODUCTION

Rural-urban migration is basically labour migration. It is thought to be the consequence of unequal development wherein people from 'backward' regions move to 'development' regions. These developed regions may either be prosperous rural areas or expanding urban areas where the people from the regions of less employment income opportunities flock.

Bihar is one of the states of India from where the out-migration from the rural areas has taken place. Apart from the out-migration from rural areas, Patna Town is a witness of heavy in-migration from the rural areas of other districts of Bihar which results in variety of problems and imbalances viz., problems of urbanization, slums, pollution, unemployment and many other institutional, social, cultural and educational problems. Hence, a multiform attack should be organized to check the rural-urban migration. In present paper, some remedial measures have also been suggested to make the migration process more systematic, organized and less cumbersome.

Migration is a very important subject of study and research in a backward economy. The subject of migration has attracted the attention of increasing number of social scientists. In a backward region, migration means migration of labour from less developed areas to more developed areas. "Rural to urban migration", the most important of the migration streams, is generally attributed to pull factors like the difference between average income opportunities in the urban and rural areas.

## OBJECTIVES

1. To analyse the causes of socio-economic problems and social unrest in rural areas of undivided Bihar

where from large number of rural people are rushing towards Patna Town. More emphasis has been laid down on economic and social factors, which have forced people of different categories to leave their places of origin and move to Patna Town

2. To study the Socio-economic factors which have attracted the people of the rural areas to the urban centres have also been given due consideration.
3. To highlight the impact of out-migration of people from the rural areas and the people living in those areas.
4. To know on the consequences of rural-urban migration in Patna Town.

## METHODOLOGY

The present study is an empirical study by applying sociological methods to test the socio-economic crisis, social problems of rural-urban migration in Bihar. The sociological method consists a social survey through a structural questionnaire. A sample survey has been conducted in different localities of Patna Town. The present study aims to examine the different variables of socio-economic problems of rural-urban migration and correlation among them. Sampling is based on random sampling.

Samples for the study have been collected through interview based on randomly sampling method and the utmost care has been taken to avoid any biasness'. A comprehensive questionnaire has been framed and the questions are related to personal information e.g. family background, age, sex structure, material status, family organization, causes of migration, socio-economic changes and social unrest developed in the study area and increasing rural-urban migration, etc. The survey has covered 500 rural-urban migrants without any discrimination of age, occupation, caste, religion and sex. Hence, the source of information is based on primary data.

## SELECTION OF STUDY AREA

As regards the geographical coverage, Patna Town in Bihar was selected for fieldwork. The choice of Patna was influenced due to many reasons. Patna, the heartland and state capital of Bihar is becoming thickly populated and facing several threat of migration day by day.

## LOCATION AND STUDY DESIGN

The study was carried out in Patna Town. It was expected that the problems and the attitudes of respondent migrants might differ in nature as the exposure of migrants from different villages and Blocks might have different movements in the society. Thus, the study not only shows how much migrants have helped in highlighting their problems but it also provides it impact on various types of migrant population who differ in their socio-economic criteria.

In this context, a questionnaire was developed to assess the various aspects of migrants mentioned above and was self-administered to the migrants of Patna Town.

## SAMPLE SIZE

To examine the different variable of rural-urban migration from various districts of Bihar, sampling has been the basis on random sampling. A sample survey has been conducted through questionnaire concerning socio-economic and political conditions of migrants to Patna from various districts of undivided Bihar. The survey has covered 500 respondents, selected at random basis for the study as random samples. All the selected respondent migrants were taken aside and questionnaire was

self-administered. The respondent migrants selected were of right age and without any discrimination for highlighting their socio-economic and political conditions.

### FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

The present research work is an attempt to study the socio-economic and political conditions of migrants to Patna from other districts of Bihar.

Bihar, one of the most populous states of India, is economically the most backward. Although a very high proportion below poverty line, Bihar has the lowest per capita income among the major states of India and also fares very badly with respect to most of the other socio-economic indicators.

In this situation, migration only to a particular place in a backward state will further increase population pressure, affect law and order situation and create other problems. Patna is the capital of Bihar where persons are migrating heavily from other districts of Bihar, which will create its own problems.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### DISTRICT-WISE BREAK UP OF MIGRANTS

Table 1 shows the position of district-wise migrations to Patna from various districts of Bihar. It shows that the highest percentage of migrants to Patna is 9.6 per cent which belongs Darbhanga followed by Hazaribagh with 8.8 per cent, Jahanabad and Ranchi both with 8.4 percent while the lowest percentage (0.4 per cent) belongs to Muzaffarpur.

**Table 1 District-wise Break up of Migrants**

District	No. of Persons	Per cent
Araria	4	0.8
Aurangabad	20	4.0
Bhagalpur	8	1.6
Bhojpur	30	6.0
Buxar	14	2.8
Chapra	4	0.8
Daltenganj	8	1.6
Darbhanga	48	9.6
East Champaran	14	2.8
Gaya	38	7.6
Gopalganj	4	0.8
Hazaribagh	44	8.8
Jehanabad	42	8.4
Jamui	14	2.8
Madhubani	16	3.2
Mirzapur	6	1.2
Motihari	4	0.8
Munger	10	2.0
Muzaffarpur	2	0.4
Nalanda	12	2.4
Nawada	20	4.0

District	No. of Persons	Per cent
Palamu	4	0.8
Patna	2	0.4
Purnia	22	4.4
Ranchi	42	8.4
Rohtas	18	3.6
Samastipur	4	0.8
Sitamarhi	24	4.8
West Champaran	6	1.2
Total	500	100.0

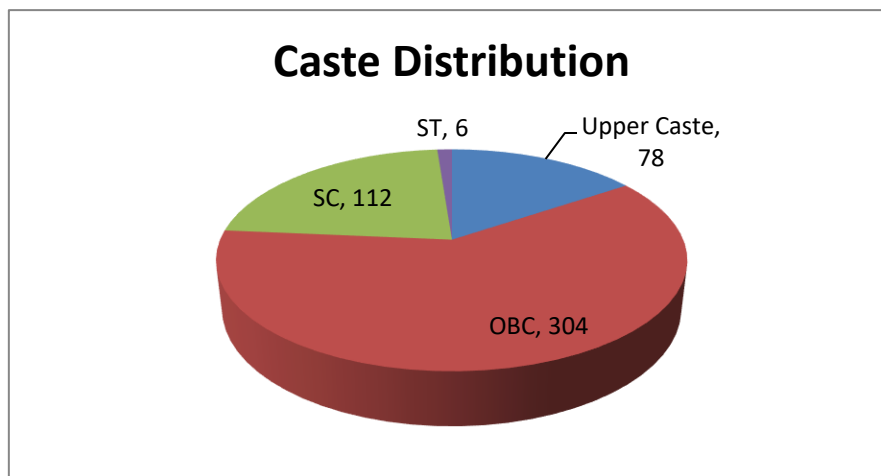
## SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

### Caste Distribution

Table 2 shows caste-wise distribution of migrants to Patna from other districts of Bihar. The table reveals that OBC respondents have the highest percentage i.e. 60.8 per cent among the migrants followed by Scheduled Caste with 22.4 per cent while percentage of Scheduled Tribe is only 1.2 per cent.

**Table 2 Caste Distribution.**

Caste	No of persons	Per cent
Upper Caste	78	15.6
OBC	304	60.8
SC	112	22.4
ST	6	1.2
Total	500	100.0



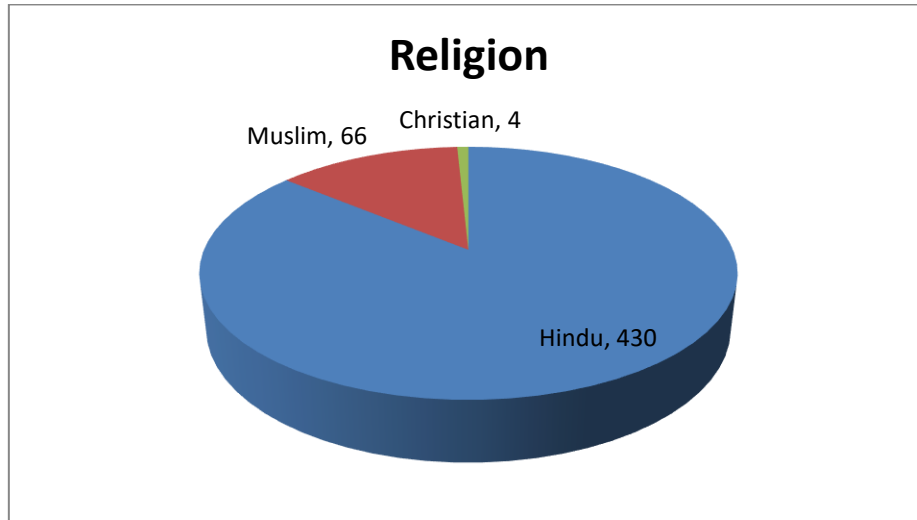
## RELIGION

Table 3 show the religion of migrants. It is clear from the table that 86 per cent of the migrants are Hindu followed by Muslims with 13.2 per cent while 0.8 per cent of the migrants belong to Christian in the study.

**Table 3 Religion**

Religion	No of persons	Per cent
----------	---------------	----------

Hindu	430	86.0
Muslim	66	13.2
Christian	4	0.8
Total	500	100.0



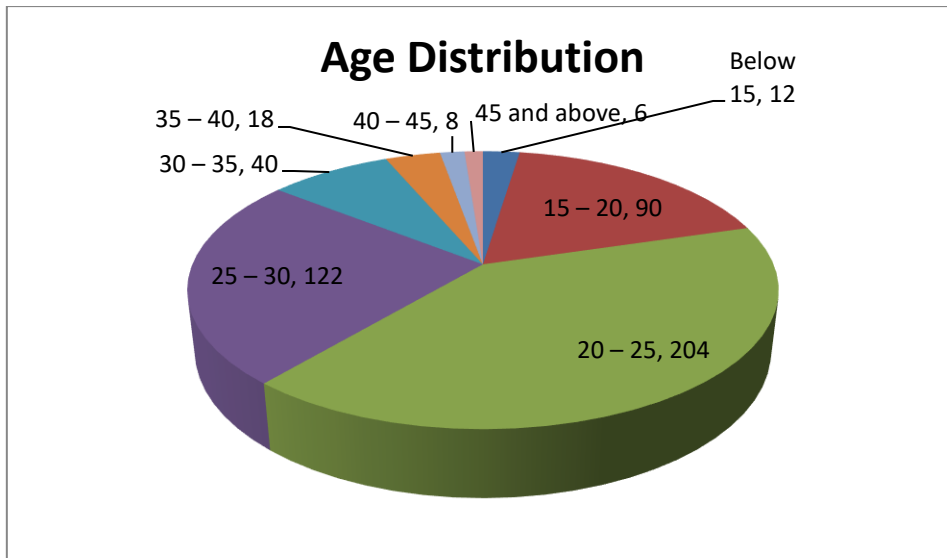
### AGE DISTRIBUTION

Table 4 shows age groups of migrants with their percentage. It reveals that 65.2 per cent of the migrants belong to age groups of 20-25 and 25-30 years while 18 per cent of the migrants belong to 15-20 years of age group.

**Table 4 Age Distribution**

Age Group (in years)	No of persons	Per cent
Below 15	12	2.4
15 – 20	90	18.0
20 – 25	204	40.8
25 – 30	122	24.4
30 – 35	40	8.0
35 – 40	18	3.6
40 – 45	8	1.6
45 and above	6	1.2
Total	500	100.0

The study further reveals that migrants below 15 years of age and 40 years and above are 2.4 per cent and 2.8 percent respectively.



**SEX DISTRIBUTION**

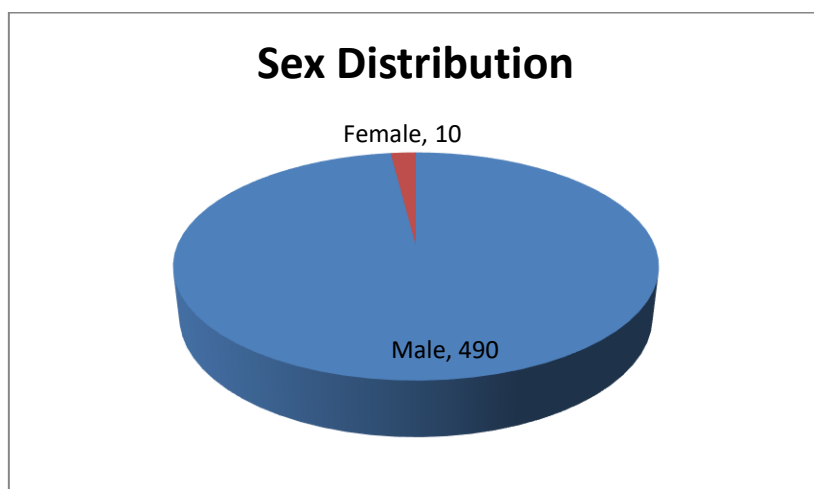
In sex-wise study of migrants, the study reveals that 98 per cent of the total migrants belong to male while only 2 per cent belong female, as it is clear from the Table 5.

**MARITAL STATUS**

The study reveals that the percentage of married persons migrating to Patna is very high in comparison to unmarried persons. Table. 6 shows that 86 per cent of the migrating persons are married while only 14 per cent are unmarried.

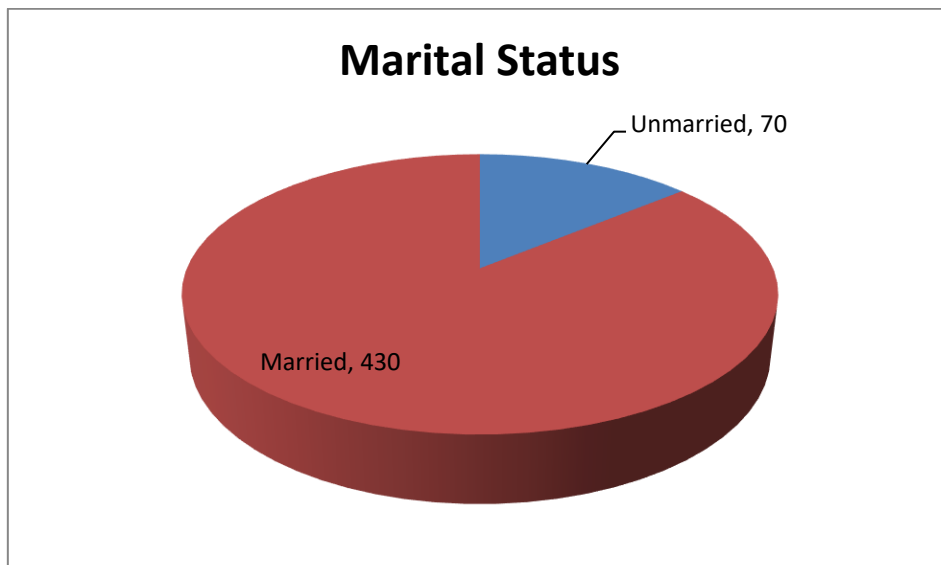
**Table 4 Sex Distribution**

Sex	No. of persons	Per cent
Male	490	98.0
Female	10	2.0
Total	500	100.0



**Table 6 Marital Status**

Status	No. of persons	Per cent
Unmarried	70	14.0
Married	430	86.0
Total	500	100.0



**EDUCATIONL LEVEL**

Table 7 depicts the picture of education of migrants to Patna. It reveals that about 80 per cent of the respondents have education status upto only Middle while 11.6 per cent of the respondents are matriculate/ secondary passed.

**Table 7 Level of Education**

Education Level	No. of persons	Per cent
Illiterate	28	5.6
Below Primary or Informal Education	100	20.0
Primary	132	26.4
Middle	166	33.2
Matric/ High School/ Secondary	58	11.6
Higher Secondary/ Pre-university/ intermediate	12	2.4
Degree (Graduation level)	4	0.8
Total	500	100.0

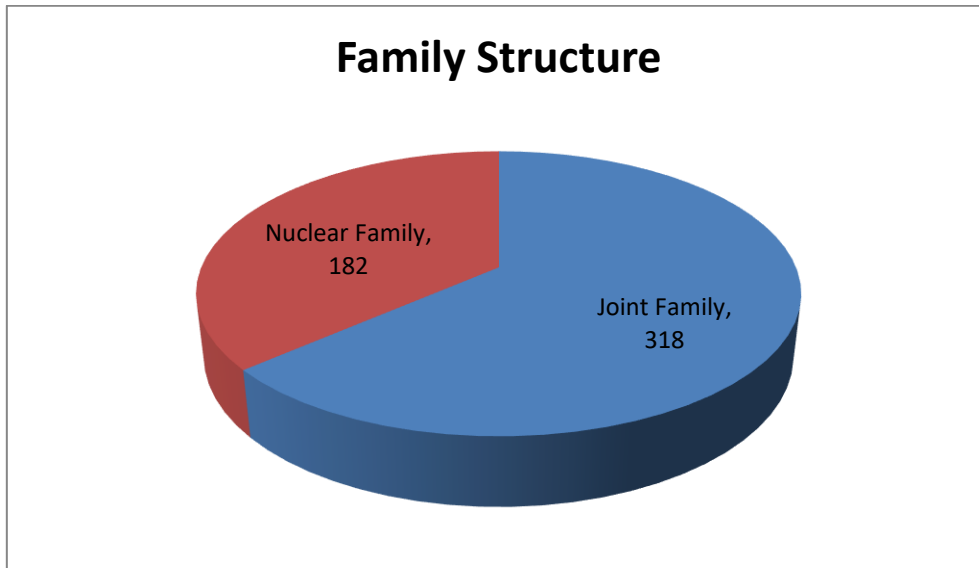
The study further reveals that only 2.4 per cent of the respondents are having education of Higher Secondary while 5.6 per cent of the respondents are completely illiterate.

**FAMILY STRUCTURE**

In course of study, the family structure of the migrants has also been taken into consideration. Table 8 reveals that 63.6 per cent of the respondents have joint family while 36.4 per cent have nuclear family.

**Table 8 Family Structure**

Type of Family	No. of persons	Per cent
Joint Family	318	63.6
Nuclear Family	182	36.4
Total	500	100.0



**MIGRATION N THE BASIS OF TIME PERIOD**

Further the study has been made on the basis of time period of migration i.e., long term and short term migration. Out of the total 500 respondents, 234 respondents are under long-term migration while 266 respondents are under short-term migration. Hence, the study has been done first on the basis of long term migration followed by short-term migration.

**Long-Term Migration**

In this section, the various important items of long-term migration have been taken into consideration. They are mentioned below:

**REASON FOR MIGRATION**

Under long-term migration, the study has been continued with the major reasons of migration. Table 9 reveals that among different reasons of migration, good income/wage is on the top. About 26.5 per cent of the respondents seek good income/ wage followed by other factors with 23.6 per cent which includes factors like family tension, motivation from others, fear of schooling, etc.

The study further reveals that about 17.5 per cent of the respondents have migrated due to tension in villages while 12.8 per cent of the respondents are not having work/ wage according to their social status.

**Table 9 Reasons for Migration**

Reasons	No. of persons	Per cent
For Good Income /Wage	62	26.5
Economic Condition is measurable of the family	20	8.5
For good employment	26	11.1



In village do the work/ wage against the own social	30	12.8
Tension of Village	41	17.5
Other*	55	23.6
Total	234	100.0

\*Family tension, motivation from others, Fear of schooling, etc.

### SOURCES OF MIGRATION

Besides reasons of migration, it is also important to study the various sources of migration through which people migrated to the state capital of Bihar.

**Table 10 Source of Migration**

Sources	No. of persons	Per cent
Self knowledge	40	17.1
By outside contractor	4	1.7
By middlemen/agent	4	1.7
Relatives	120	51.3
With group f villages	14	6.0
pre-service engagement	52	22.2
Total	234	100.0

Table 10 reveals that 51.3 per cent of the respondents have been migrated through their relatives, 22.2 per cent respondents through pre-service engagements and 17.1 per cent persons through self-knowledge. Only 1.7 per cent of the migrants have been migrated each through middlemen and contractors.

### PRESENT OCCUPATION

Table 11 shows the present occupation of long-term migrants. The table reveals that 32.5 per cent of the migrants are engaged in small business/ trade/ construction, 29.1 per cent are salaried people in private jobs and 23.1 per cent are engaged as casual labour in non-agriculture sector. The study further reveals that only 2.5 per cent of the migrants are engaged in their traditional caste occupation.

**Table 11 Present Occupation**

Occupation	No. of persons	Per cent
Casual labour in non-agriculture	54	68
Salaried (private)	68	29.1
Individual/ personal service (Jajmani/ caste occupation)	6	2.5
Small Business/Trade/ Construction	76	32.5
Others*	30	12.8
Total	234	100.0

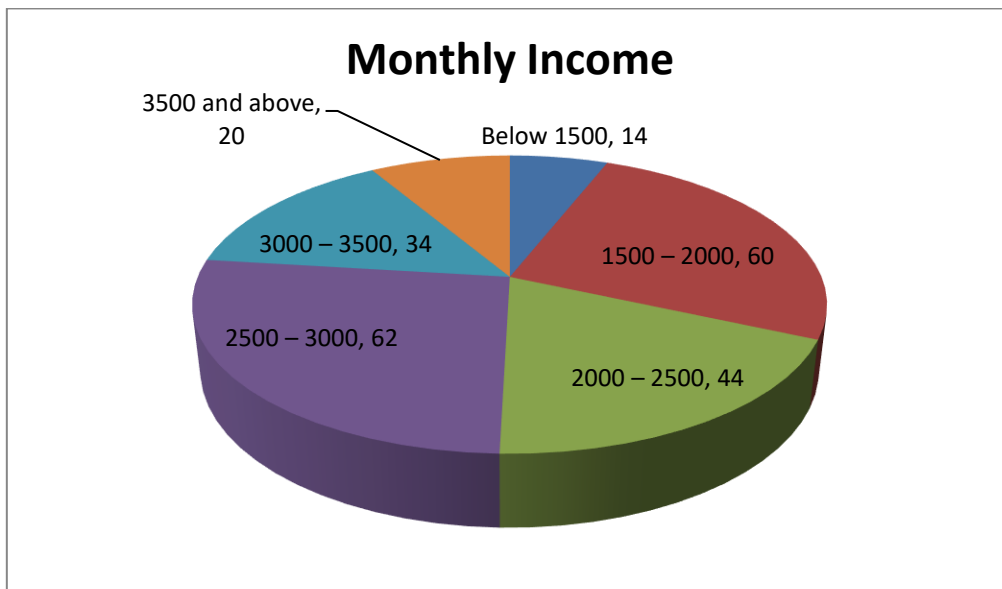
\*Casual Labour in agriculture, Attached labour, Self-business based on agriculture and allied activities, animal husbandry, poultry, aqua-culture, etc.

**INCOME (MONTHLY)**

Income is one of the most important aspects of migrants. Table 12 shows the monthly income of long-term migrants in Patna.

**Table 12 Monthly Income**

Income (Rs.)	No. of persons	Per cent
Below 1500	14	6.0
1500 – 2000	60	25.6
2000 – 2500	44	18.9
2500 – 3000	62	26.5
3000 – 3500	34	14.5
3500 and above	20	8.5
Total	234	100.0



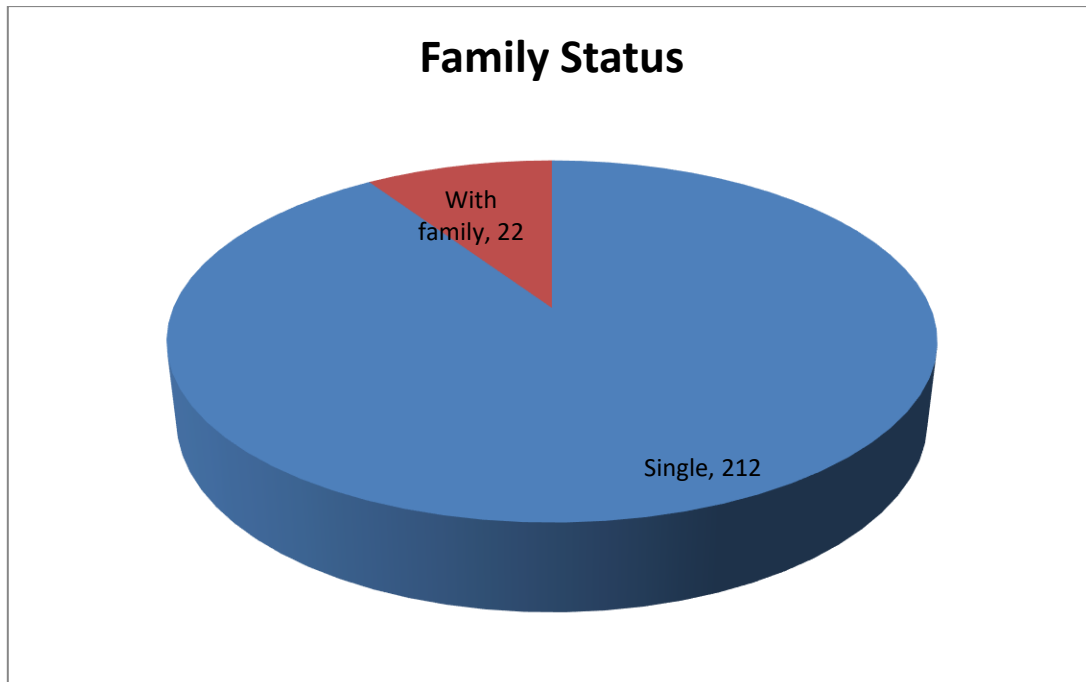
The table reveals that the highest 26.5 per cent of the respondents move in income group of R. 2,500 – Rs. 3,000 while 45.4 per cent of the respondents belong are having their income over Rs. 3,500 and above and 6 per cent migrants have income below Rs. 1,500.

**FAMILY STATUS**

During the course of study, it is found that more than 90 per cent of the migrants live single and only 9.4 per cent of the respondents live with their families as is evident from Table – 13. Hence, majority of them want to avoid the busy and costly city life and perfect their families to live in home districts.

**Table 13 Family Status**

Status	No. of persons	Per cent
Single	212	90.6
With family	22	9.4
Total	234	100.0



### Short Term Migration

Under short-term migration also, the same grounds have been taken into consideration. The important items are mentioned below :

### REASONS FOR MIGRATION

Under short-term migration, the study has been accelerated with the reasons of migration. Table 14 shows that among different reasons of short-term migration good income/wage hold the first position with its share or 62.4 per cent while only 3.0 per cent of the respondents have migrated due to good employment. The share of other factors is 23.3 per cent, which includes family tension, motivation from others, fear of schooling, work not suitable according to social status.

**Table 14 Reasons for Migration**

Reasons	No. of persons	Per cent
For Good Income/Wage	166	62.4
Economic condition is measurable of the family.	20	7.5
For good employment	8	3.0
Village Tension	10	3.8
Others	62	23.3
Total	266	100.0

\*Family tension, motivation from others, Fear of schooling, Work not suitable according to social status, etc.

### SOURCE OF MIGRATION

The study further reveals how migration has proceeded through various sources, which is clear from Table 15.

**Table 15 Source of Migration**

Sources	No. of persons	Per cent
Self knowledge	84	31.6
By middlemen/agent	4	1.5
Relatives	164	61.7
With group of villagers	7	2.6
Pre-service engagement	7	2.6
Total	266	100.0

The main source of proceeding migration are relatives 61.7 per cent followed by self-knowledge with 31.6 per cent while only 1.5 per cent of the respondents have migrated through middlemen/agent.

**PRESENT OCCUPATION**

Table 16 shows the present occupation of short-term migration in Patna, Bihar. The table reveals that 36.1 per cent of the migrants are engaged in casual labour in non-agriculture, 12.1 per cent are engaged in self-business based on agriculture and allied activities while only 9.0 per cent of them are engaged in personal service like Jajmani and case occupation.

**Table 16 Present Occupation**

Occupation	No. of persons	Per cent
Casual labour in agriculture	4	1.5
Casual labour in non-agriculture	96	36.1
Salaried (private)	20	7.5
Self-business based on agriculture and allied activities	32	12.1
Small Business/ trade/ construction	96	13.5
Personal service (Jajmani/ caste occupation)	24	9.0
Others*	54	20.3
Total	266	100.0

\*Attached labour, animal husbandry, poultry, aqua-culture, collection of fodder from nearby areas and selling, etc.

The study further reveals that the share of other occupations is 20.3 per cent which includes attached labour, animal husbandry, poultry, aqua-culture, collection of fodder from nearby areas and its selling.

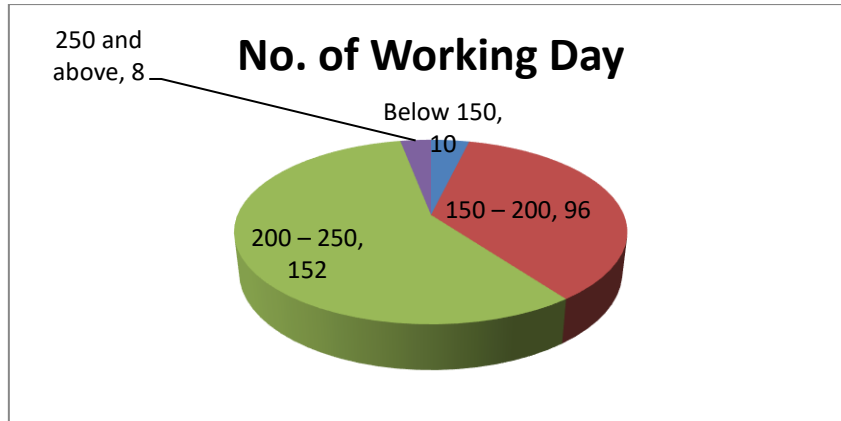
**WORKING DAYS (YEARLY)**

Table 17 shows the number of working days (yearly) of short-term migrants in Patna. The table makes it clear that the highest 57.1 per cent of the respondents work between 200-250 days and 36.1 of the respondents work between 150-200 days in a year.

**Table 17 No. of Working Days**

Working Days	No. of persons	Per cent
Below 150	10	3.8
150 – 200	96	36.1
200 – 250	152	57.1

250 and above	8	3.0
Total	266	100.0



Hence, it can be deduced that 93.2 per cent of the migrants have their working days between 150 – 250 days in a year. The study also reveals that only 3.0 per cent of the respondents have working days below 150 days in a year.

### WORKING HOURS

In course of study, the discussion about average working hours is also important with number of working days in a year.

**Table 18 Average Working Hour (Per Day)**

Hours	No. of persons	Per cent
Less than 4	8	3.0
4 – 8	42	15.8
8 – 10	152	57.1
10 and above	64	24.1
Total	266	100.0

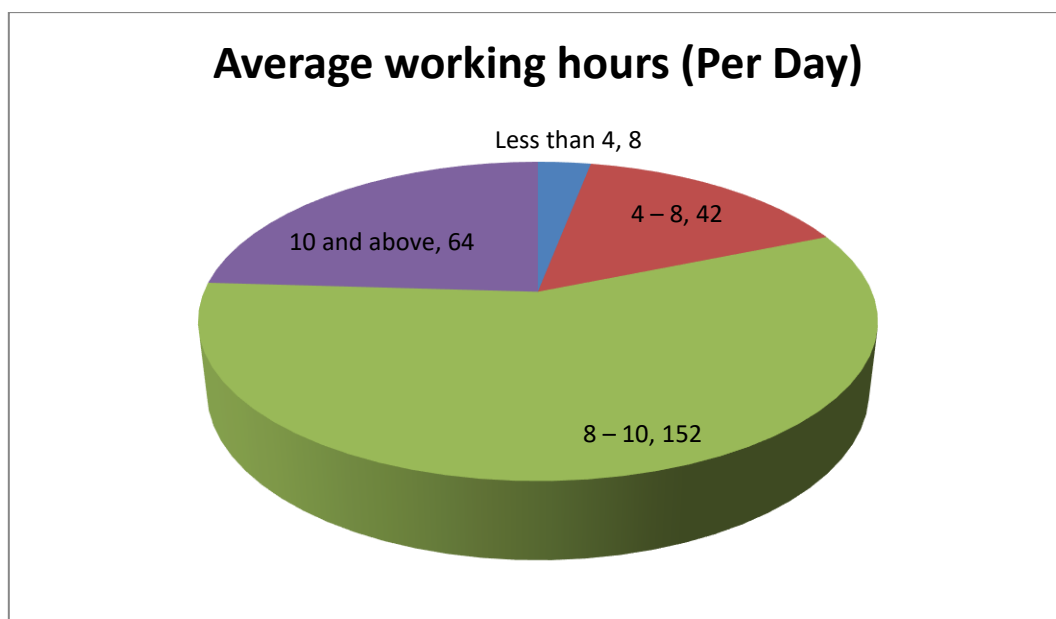


Table 18 reveals that about 81.2 per cent of the migrants work for more than 8 hours per day. The percentage of migrants working for less than 8 hours is about 18.8 per cent in while percentage migrants working for less than 4 hours is 3.0 per cent.

**WAGE DISTRIBUTION (PER DAY)**

As wage is one of the most important factors, it is necessary and vital to study the wage distribution of the migrants.

**Table 19 Wage per day**

Wage (Rs.)	No. of persons	Per cent
Below 70	26	9.8
70 – 80	140	52.6
80 – 90	18	6.8
90 – 100	10	3.8
100 – 110	32	12.0
110 and above	40	15.0
Total	266	100.0

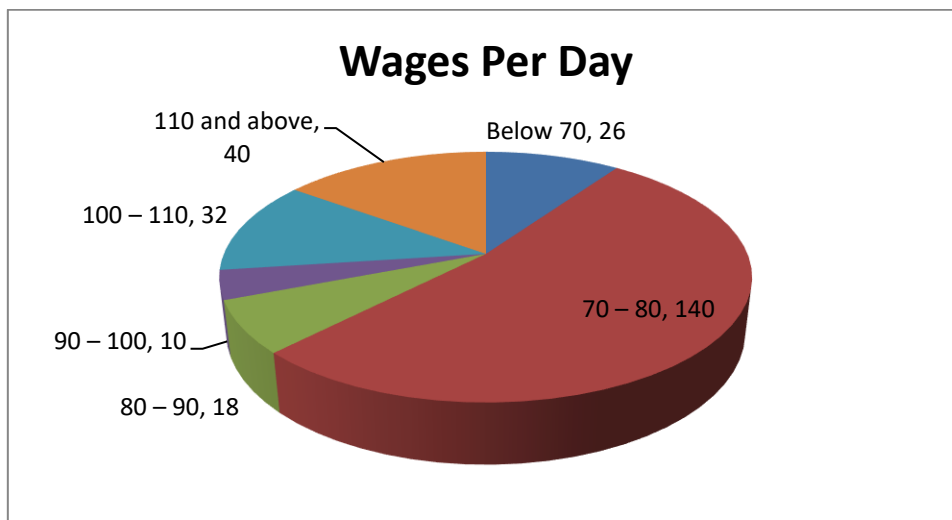


Table 19 shows that 52.6 per cent migrants get their wages between Rs. 70 – Rs. 80 per day. The table further reveals that 62.4 per cent of the respondents have their wages below Rs. 80 per day while only 27.0 per cent of the migrants have their wages above Rs. 100 per day.

**EFFECTS OF MIGRATION**

A study of effects of migration on various items has also been done. Table 20 reveals that 98.4 per cent of the migrants reported increase in family income, 96.8 per cent of the migrants have reported improvement in food status, 92.8 per cent have reported improvement in housing and other facilities.

The table further reveals that 65.6 per cent of the migrants have reported increase in total expenditure during festivals, marriage, etc. 58 per cent of them reported increase in wage level, 66.8 per cent reported emergence of new skills, 59.2 per cent of the migrants reported to implement the skill in villages while 97.2 per cent have supported the usefulness of migration for the family.

**Table 20 Effect of Migration**

Variables	Per cent
Did the family income increase	98.4
Food status improved	96.8
Living status improved	92.8
Housing and other facilities such as toilet, hand pump, etc. have improved	64.0
Total expenditure increased during festivals, marriages, etc.?	65.6
Did wage level increase in village?	58.0
Is migration led to the emergence of new skills?	66.8
If yes, this skill can be implemented in village	59.2
In total, migration has been useful for the family	97.2

## POLITICAL NETWORK

Table 21 shows the political network of respondent migrants in Patna.

**Table 21 Political Network**

Items relate to network	Per cent
Do you know any union/party	47.2
Is any union/ party active in your area/ village	13.6
If yes, name the union/ party	52.6
Are you associated with that union/ party	5.4
Is there any benefit to attach with union/party	0.4

The table reveals that 47.2 of the migrant respondents have knowledge about the union or party while 13.6 per cent of the respondents have informed about active union/ party in their area/ village. The table further reveals that 5.4 per cent of the total respondents are associated with that party/ union while only 0.4 per cent have reported benefit from such attachment.

## CONCLUSION OF THE STUDY

The investigator has made an extensive use of primary data, which has been drawn from a comprehensive survey of 500 migrants in Patna with the help of a questionnaire during the year 2017-18 and 2018-19. The attempt has enabled the investigator to examine the socio-economic and political condition of migrants to Patna from other districts of Bihar. On the other hand, such type of migration in Patna itself is creating a variety of problems like over population, law and order situation, heavy out-migration of people from rural areas, etc.

The following are the general conclusion which may be drawn from the study:

1. In district-wise migrants to Patna from various districts of Bihar, the study reveals that the highest percentage of migrants to Patna is 9.6 per cent, which belongs Darbhanga followed by Hazaribagh with 8.8 per cent, Jahanabad and Ranchi bot with 8.4 per cent each while the lowest percentage (0.4 per cent) belongs to Muzafarpur (Table 1)
2. The caste-wise distribution of migrants to Patna from other districts of Bihar reveals that OBC respondents have the highest percentage i.e. 60.8 per cent among the migrants while percentage of Scheduled Tribe is the lowest i.e. only 1.2 per cent (Table 2)

3. The study further shows that 86 per cent of the migrants are Hindu, followed by Muslims with 13.2 per cent while 0.8 per cent of the migrants belong to Christian in the study (Table 3). The trend of migration in other religions has been observed very low.
4. The study of age groups of migrants with their percentage reveals that 65.2 per cent of the migrants belong to age groups of 20 – 25 and 25 – 30 years while 18 per cent of the migrants belong to 15 – 20 years of age group while the migrants below 15 years of age and 40 years and above are 2.4 per cent and 2.8 per cent respectively (Table 4)
5. In sex-wise study of migrants, the study reveals that 98 per cent of the total migrants belong to male while only 2 per cent belong female (Table 5).
6. Regarding marital status of migrants, it has been observed that 86 per cent of the migrating persons are married while only 14 per cent are unmarried (Table 6)
7. Regarding level of education among migrants, the study reveals that about 80 per cent of the respondents have education status upto only Middle while 11.6 per cent of the respondents are matriculate/ secondary passed. The study further reveals that only 2.4 per cent of the respondents are having education above Higher Secondary while 5.6 per cent of the respondents are completely illiterate (Table 7)
8. While studying the family structure of the migrants, it has been observed that 63.6 per cent of the respondents have joint family while 36.4 per cent have nuclear family (Table 8).
9. Further the study has been made on the basis of time period of migration i.e. long term and short term migration. Out of the total 500 respondents, 234 respondents are under long-term migration while 266 respondents are under short-term migration. Hence, the study has been done first on the basis of long term migration followed by short-term migration with their major variables.
10. Under long-term migration, the study reveals that among different reasons of migration, good income/ wage is on the top. About 26.5 per cent of the respondents seek good income/ wage followed by other factors with 23.6 per cent while includes factors like family tension, motivation from other, fear of schooling, etc. The study further reveals that about 17.5 per cent of the respondents have migrated due to tension in village while 12.8 per cent of the respondents are not having work/ wage according to their social status (Table 9)
11. Besides reasons of migration, an attempt has also been made to study the various sources of migration through which people migrated to the state capital of Bihar. It reveals that 51.3 per cent of the respondents have been migrated through their relatives, 22.2 per cent respondents through pre-service engagements and 17.1 per cent persons through self-knowledge. Only 1.7 per cent of the migrants have been migrated each through middlemen and contractors. (Table 10)
12. Regarding the present occupation of long-term migrants, the study reveals that 32.5 per cent of the migrants are engaged in small business/ trade/ construction, 29.1 per cent are salaried people in private jobs and 23.1 per cent are engaged as casual labour in non-agriculture sector. The study further reveals that only 2.5 per cent of the migrants are engaged in their traditional caste occupation (Table 11).
13. So far as the income of the migrants is concerned, we found that the highest 26.5 per cent of the respondents belong to income group of Rs. 2,500 – Rs. 3,000 while 45.4 per cent of the respondents move in income range between Rs. 2,000 – Rs. 3,000. The study further presents that only 8.5 per cent of the respondents are having their income over Rs. 3,500 and above and 6 per cent migrants have income below Rs. 1,500 (Table 12).



14. During the course of study, it is found that more than 90 per cent of the migrants live single and only 9.4 per cent of the respondents live with their families (Table 13). Hence, majority of them want to avoid the busy and costly city life and prefer their families to live in home districts.
15. Under short-term migration also, an attempt has been made to study the reasons of migration. It has been found that among different reasons of short-term migration, good income/wage holds the first position with its share of 62.4 per cent while only 3.0 per cent of the respondents have migrated due to good employment. The share of other factors is 23.3 per cent, which includes family tension, motivation from others, fear of schooling, work not suitable according to social status (Table 14).
16. We have further tried to find out the main sources of short-term migration like long-term migration. In course of study, it has been found that the main sources of proceeding migration are relatives 61.7 per cent, followed by self-knowledge with 31.6 per cent while only 1.5 per cent of the respondents have migrated through middlemen/ agent (Table 15).
17. While studying the present occupation of short-term migration in Patna, Bihar, we have observed that 36.1 per cent of the migrants are engaged in casual labour in non-agriculture, 12.1 per cent are engaged in self-business based on agriculture and allied activities while only 9.1 per cent of them are engaged in personal service like Jajmani and caste occupation (Table 16). The study further reveals that the share of other occupations is 20.3 per cent which includes attached labour, animal husbandry, poultry, aqua-culture, collection of fodder from nearby areas and its selling.
18. While studying the number of working days (yearly) of short-term migrants, it clear that the highest 57.1 per cent of the respondents work between 200-250 days and 36.1 of the respondents work between 150-200 days in a year (Table 17). Hence, it can be deduced that 93.2 per cent of the migrants have their working days between 150-250 days in a year. The study also reveals that only 3.0 per cent of the respondents have working days below 150 days in a year.
19. In course of study, the discussion about average working hours has also been taken into consideration. The study reveals that about 81.2 per cent of the migrants work for more than 8 hours per day. The percentage of migrants working for less than 8 hours is about 18.8 per cent in while percentage migrants working for less than 4 hours is 3.0 per cent (Table 18)
20. We have also tried to find out wage distribution of the migrants. The study shows that 52.6 per cent migrants get their wages between Rs. 70 – Rs. 80 per day. The table further reveals that 62.4 per cent of the respondents have their wages below Rs. 80 per day while only 27.0 per cent of the migrants have their wages above Rs. 100 per day (Table 19)
21. During the study, an attempt has also been made to study of effects of migration n various items. The investigator has found that 98.4 per cent of the migrants reported increase in family income, 96.8 per cent of the migrants have reported improvement in food status, 92.8 per cent have reported improvement in living status, 64.0 per cent have reported improvement in housing and other facilities (Table 20). The study further reveals that 65.6 per cent of the migrants have reported increase in total expenditure during festivals, marriage, etc. 58 per cent of them reported increase in wage level, 66.8 per cent reported emergence of new skills, 59.2 per cent of the migrants reported to implement the skill in villages while 97.2 per cent have supported the usefulness of migration for the family.
22. Regarding the political network of the respondent migrants, the study reveals that 47.2 of the migrant respondents have knowledge about the union or party while 13.6 per cent of the respondents have informed about active union/ party in their area/ village. The study further reveals that 5.4 per cent of the total respondents are associated with that party/ union while only 0.4 per cent have reported

benefit from such attachment (Table 21).

## SUGGESTIONS OF THE STUDY

Rural-urban migration is basically labour migration. It is thought to be the consequence of unequal development wherein people from 'backward' regions move to 'developed' regions. These developed regions may either be prosperous rural areas or expanding urban areas where the people from the regions of less employment income opportunities flock. Economists and social scientists have propounded various theories about migration, which analyses the process, causes and consequences of migration. 'Pull' and 'push' factors of migration have often been talked with regard to the causes of migration. The factors like poverty and deprivation, land alienation, population pressure, lack of employment and income opportunities, social differentiation, penetration of market economy, etc. are some of the factors which are closely linked with migration.

Bihar is one of the states of India from where the out-migration from the rural areas has taken place. Apart from out-migration from rural area, Patna town is witness of heavy in-migration from the rural areas of other districts of Bihar which results in variety of imbalances viz., problems of urbanization, slums, pollution, unemployment and many other institutional, social, cultural and educational problems. Hence, a multiform attack should be organized to check the rural-urban migration. Some remedial measures may be suggested as follows to make the migration process more systematic, organized and less cumbersome.

1. There must be a check on increasing population through different control methods because it is not possible to provide employment to the increasing population in rural areas. It is also not possible to increase infrastructure at once in accordance with the needs of the rural society due to dearth of funds. Hence, the control over population will be one of the remedial measures for rural people of Bihar to Patna District and Patna Town.
2. Satellite townships should be developed at the fringe of cities for immigrants and city dwellers.
3. The residents of central city should be encouraged to seek residential facilities in suburban areas by providing better transport facilities linking the suburban areas with city centre.
4. Planned residential developments in suburban areas may minimize the central population density.
5. In order to meet the supply of convenient goods, creation of secondary commercial centres is also suggested.
6. The central functions like industry, commerce, administration and centre of higher learning, etc. should not be allowed to concentrate only in large cities. These functions should be kept highly decentralized.
7. Illiteracy is also one of the major hindrances of rural people in Bihar. As major population of Bihar live in rural areas where educational facilities are not in proper way. Rural literacy is a crucial variable in sending rural people to urban areas. So, to reduce the flow of rural people to urban areas, more schools and colleges of good quality need to be established in the vicinity of villages and small towns so that the flow of youths, who migrate for higher, may be checked.
8. For making the education system on India level and commercial, it is essential to interpret the necessities of electricity, communication, irrigation, roads, railways, public sector and whole industries as well as modernization of agriculture so that the rural inhabitants of Bihar might know where Bihar exists on the map of India. Only except the certain essential subjects, the complete transparency should be showed and the people should have "the right to know".

9. Another requirement for reducing the rural-urban migration is alteration of the inequality between urban and rural sector by intensifying the on-going rural development programmes. This necessitates the launching of non-farm employment projects in the rural areas by the government with stress on major and minor irrigation projects so that employment opportunities may be created through raising farm productivity and cropping intensity.
10. Lack of development of the non-household manufacturing sector in the rural area is a major contributing factor in rural-urban migration. Hence, top priority must be given to accelerate the pace of rural industrialization. Concerted efforts are also required to integrate agriculture with agro-based and non-agro small-scale industries in the rural areas.
11. The Panchayat, which new Panchayati Raj Act have been entrusted with the responsibility to develop and promote small scale industries and village industries in rural areas at different levels, can now play important role in stepping up the pace of rural industrialization by identifying the local human and physical resources and using them in developing SSIs in rural sector. Panchayats should identify the educated unemployed manpower such as ITI and Polytechnic diploma holders and try to develop their entrepreneurial skills through requisite training to them. During the training, efforts must be made to develop group entrepreneurship among trainees so that they can jointly take up SSI projects. Moreover, there is also a need to revitalize the old Panchayat Udyogs.
12. There must be thrust on increasing the rural employment potential in rural and allied sectors. It must be brought about by various ways of agricultural development activities of the rural tertiary sectors with a large reduction in indebtedness and increase in productivity of rural people will certainly provide employment to them all the year round.
13. Much stress should be made to facilitate employment to the surplus and seasonal rural work force in their rural areas only. Its solution lies on rural work programme, which has to create employment. The rural work programme has a vital contribution towards relief of unemployment and underemployment and assuring of minimum earnings an acceleration of the pace of rural development.
14. In Bihar, employer are openly violating the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 especially in rural sector and make payment of wages well below the minimum wage. In order to get employment, the rural labourers have no option but to move to urban area. The state government should strict over this issue and should also restructure the wage format in accordance with the need of the rural sector and state.
15. It is also suggested that the allocation of manpower in rural sector should be based on capital extensive and labour intensive technology. The rural poor have to be provided financial support and technical assistance at subsidized rate to operate dairy, poultry, piggery, fishery, etc.
16. There must be improvement in working conditions of rural labourers. Rural skills and tools must be upgraded. Women labourers also must be trained in male type assignments and operations, which will result in checking the rural-urban migration.
17. Better infrastructure facilities need to be provided for encouraging self-employment among female rural labourers. Efforts have to be made to bring the development of different skills in link with the social need and give opportunities to rural unemployed women. Special entrepreneurship courses should be run for such women. Educated woman should be encouraged to form co-operative societies to be controlled and run exclusively by women themselves. This will certainly check the migration from rural to urban area.

18. In order to check the migration, the problem of inequality of assets must be tackled very efficiently. Administration should have to pay an active role for the implementation of land reform measures. It cannot be denied that the anti-land reform segment happens to be much stronger than pro-land reform segment. But if the government is determined, evasion from land reform laws will be difficult. At this juncture, it is also suggested that only government programmes cannot enrich the government records, the vigilance department should also make report on the nature of benefit and also detect exploitation made by the institutional agents so that deterrent action may be taken against guilty officials.
19. Like industrial and urban areas, there must be adequate extension of general and social security measures for people of rural areas because these measures add to the purchasing power of the rural people and improve their status. Provision of housing, roads, schools, recreational facilities, drinking water, family welfare, maternity centres and other medical facilities are essential for creating right type of attitude and motivation to the rural areas. It is the duty of the society or government to take proper care of their security. Hence, social security measures must not be restricted only to the industrial and urban areas. They must be enlarged in such a way as to cover the rural areas and for this purpose; the rural employers should be legally obliged to contribute to the social security cost of a labour in case of injury.
20. There is always a debate on self-versus wage employment programmes. These programmes do not upgrade the skills of the rural persons coming to work while self-employment programmes improve the skills of rural people in order to compete in the market. So, there is need of self-employment programmes. The role of government is also required in this connection. The government should launch more attractive and effective self-employment programmes according to the need of rural population so that majority of this section could be benefited and they have not to move somewhere else.
21. Rural-urban migration is a serious problem, which Patna Town area faces. Government legislations are only on paper. This problem can be solved through proper technical and non-technical education, awareness programmes, government legislations, etc.
22. Regarding public expenditure, it is suggested that it should be increased in rural areas in comparison to urban areas where majority lives.
23. Though allocation of funds to the programmes is necessary condition, management or administration aspects are equally important for efficient and effective utilization of funds making the programmes successful by reaching to the rural areas. Hence, we should also give more weightage to the organizational aspects of rural areas in allocation of funds.
24. Macro policies are, of course, equally important in helping the rural areas. Inflation must be under control. Economic growth also important if the government wants to allocate more resources to rural areas to have productive employment.
25. Decentralisation of administration and giving enough power to local bodies for administering the schemes are also important for helping the rural areas. But this alone will not solve the problem. A system of accountability is also needed from local bodies. Involvement of NGOs will improve the delivery system. Effective implementation of programmes for poverty alleviation and social development require the active participation of beneficiaries in their designing as well as implementation. Appropriate rural institutions have also to be developed for this purpose to check the problem of rural urban migration.
26. It is also suggested that the state government should reformulate its agricultural policy to boost up

- the productivity of the crops on sustained basis to increase employment opportunities for rural areas.
27. New agricultural technology should be spread over through the information technology to the rural masses.
  28. The state should provide the basic infrastructure like electricity, road and transport, water, irrigation, hybrid seeds and facilities to make an investment platform for agriculture in rural areas.
  29. To boost agricultural activities in the state, one aspect that the Government of Bihar has to address to is to ask the banks and financial institutions to invest more in agriculture sector of rural areas of Bihar.
  30. The government should also promote cottage industries and village handicrafts, which were destroyed by the Britishers. A major section of rural labourers who are efficient in cottage industries and village handicrafts can be reverted to this section again.
  31. Productivity of agriculture in rural areas should be increased. For it, the development of agriculture is essential in which various items viz., food grain, oil seeds, vegetables, fruits, milk, fish, eggs, meat, etc. may be observed. Money supply may also be increased for rapid increase in the productivity of agriculture in rural areas. It will control over price rise, the purchasing power will be increased and consequently explosive unemployment will be reduced in the rural areas in short span of time.
  32. It has been observed that return migration is very low. In fact, people who migrate from rural area in search of better job do not return even after their retirement because in the rural area, they do not get the same facilities as in urban areas. Hence, to increase the migration rate of people from urban area to rural areas, emphasis must be given to develop better living conditions in the rural areas.
  33. Lastly, the state government should improve the law and order situation in the state where there is carnages or mass killings, looting of crops, kidnapping, etc. Militant activities are prevailing in all over the state, which is hampering the overall growth of the state and finally, resulting in migration from rural areas to urban areas.

### References:

1. Banerjee, Biswajit (1986), Rural to Urban and Urban Labour Market (A Case Study of Delhi), Himalaya Publishing House, Bombay.
2. Gore, M.S. (1970), Migration and Neighbourhood, Two Aspects of Life in a Metropolitan City, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Bombay.
3. Joshi, K.G. (1989), Migration and Mobility : A Sociological Study of Urban Karnataka, Himalaya Publishing House, Bombay.
4. Khan, N. (1983), Studies in Human Migration, Rajesh Publication, New Delhi.
5. Mandal, R.B. (ed.) (1981), Frontiers in Migration Analysis, concept publishing Company, New Delhi.
6. M.S.A. Rao (eds.) (1986), Studies in Migration, Manohar Publications, New Delhi.
7. Mehta, G.S. (1991), Socio-Economic Aspects of Migration, Deep & Deep Publications, New Delhi.
8. Oberoi, A.S. and H.K.M. Singh (1983), Causes and consequences of Internal Migration: A Study of Indian Punjab, Oxford University Press, Delhi.
9. Premi, M.K. (1980), Urban Out-Migration, A study of Its Nature, Causes and Consequences, Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
10. Raju, B.R.K. (1987), Development Migration, Concept Publishing Company, New Delhi.
11. Saxena, O.P. (1978), Rural Urban Migration in India, Causes and consequences, Popular Prakashan, Bombay.
12. Sekhar, T.V. (1997), Migration and Social Change, Rawat Publications, Jaipur.

13. Sharma, A.N. (1997), People on the Move, Vikas Publishing House, Delhi
14. \_\_\_\_\_ et. al., (2000), Dynamics of Employment, Poverty and Human Development in Rural Bihar, Institute of Human Development, New Delhi, (Mimeo).
15. Singh, J.P. (1986), Patterns of Rural-Urban migration in India, Inter-India publications, New Delhi.
16. Singh, R.N. (1989), Impact of Our-Migration on Socio-Economic Conditions, Amar Prakashan, New Delhi.