

## SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF RURAL HOUSEHOLDS IN BUNDELKHAND REGION, UTTAR PRADESH

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*Migration is socio-economic process and it is one of the important demographic factors. At present rural out-migration is major factor that influence rural development. It has both positive and negative impact in rural economy by receiving remittances and loss of productive member from the village. Therefore this study has been planned with two specific objectives- to study the factors rural out-migration and to examine the impacts of remittances on rural economy and agriculture. Study is based on primary survey that was conducted during May to October 2011 in two districts of Bundelkhand region, Uttar Pradesh. There were 360 households has been selected equally migrant (MH) and non migrant household (NMH). Study reveals that economy of migrant household is better than non-migrant households. MH has leased in and leased out of their land more than NMH. Cropping intensity among MH was higher. MH are more exposed about the health seeking behaviour, new agriculture technology and conscious about the time management.*

### INTRODUCTION

Rural out-migration has positive and negative impacts on rural economy and agricultural operations. It is occurring because of globalisation, liberalization and privatization of local economy and local population under the process of international migration. It is a socioeconomic process which changes the population and economic structures of a region, both in the place of migrants' origin and destination in both internal migration and international migration. Migration occurs for various reasons (Census of India, 2001; NSSO, 2010). Women in India, for example, often migrate to their husband's place of residence due to marriage. Men on the other hand, usually migrate for reasons related to work (Lusome and Bhagat, 2006).

The economic structure also undergoes changes due to the process of migration (Acemoglu and Robinson, 2002, p.1). Rural out-migration is 'bane & boon' and it results in loss of labour, but there is gain in terms of remittances to the households at the place of origin. This is also true in case of international migration and may be similar in terms of the effect of remittance on the local economy. owing to loss of labour there is an impact on the economy at the place of origin of out-migrants and an economic transformation due to remittances. The economic dynamics is interesting to the study as out-migration brings about changes in the structures that have been built in the rural areas.

Migration in India is associated with two sets of factors: one is that migration of people is motivated by a desire to access better employment opportunities, higher wages, good quality education and health conditions and better life style at the migrant's place of destination. Another argument is that migration occurs due to push or distress factors at home (place of origin) such as the lack of employment, low wage rates, agricultural failure, debt, drought and natural calamities (Bhaduri and Marglin, 1990, Haan, 1999, Srivastava; 2005 and Kundu, 2007b). Migration can also be considered as labour based migration when there is job in the villages and land based migration when land productivity differs (Prabu, 2012a).

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Martin and Zurcher (2008) showed that people are migrating because of economic as well as non-economic factors. Economic factors in this regard are labour recruitment or guest workers (demand-pull) and unemployment or underemployment, low wages (farmers whose crops fail) (supply-push) and job and wage information flows (network). Noneconomic factors are as family unification (demand pull), fleeing war and persecution (supply-push) and communications, transportation, assistance organizations, desire for new experience/adventure (network). Demographic and economic variations also encourage migration, but it takes networks or links between areas to support actual moves. Indian village studies show rural to urban migration transforming socioeconomic, political and cultural shape of the Indian villages.

Taylor (2001) has viewed migration both in terms of an optimistic and pessimistic scenario. The optimistic view is that migration reduces poverty in source area by shifting population from the rural areas to the urban areas and by receiving remittances benefits at the place of origin. The pessimistic view is that migration reduces income at place of origin because the marginal products of the migrants' member are large prior to migration. "Many of the world's migrants come from rural areas, where agriculture is growing, and occupational migrants come from farm jobs and geographic migrants come from rural areas" (Taylor, 2006). "This change affects the agricultural sector, and agricultural households for two reasons. First, migration means losing a member of the family workforce, and second, migration enables a family to receive cash remittances" (Damon, 2010, p.2).

India is now in transition phase of economic development. Development is dynamic in nature that led to growth, modernized, empowered to the people with the opportunity of human resource development. People tends to move to the place where they feel respect, dignity, economic prosperity, equality, harmony and related cultural taboo, social system and comfortable to live.

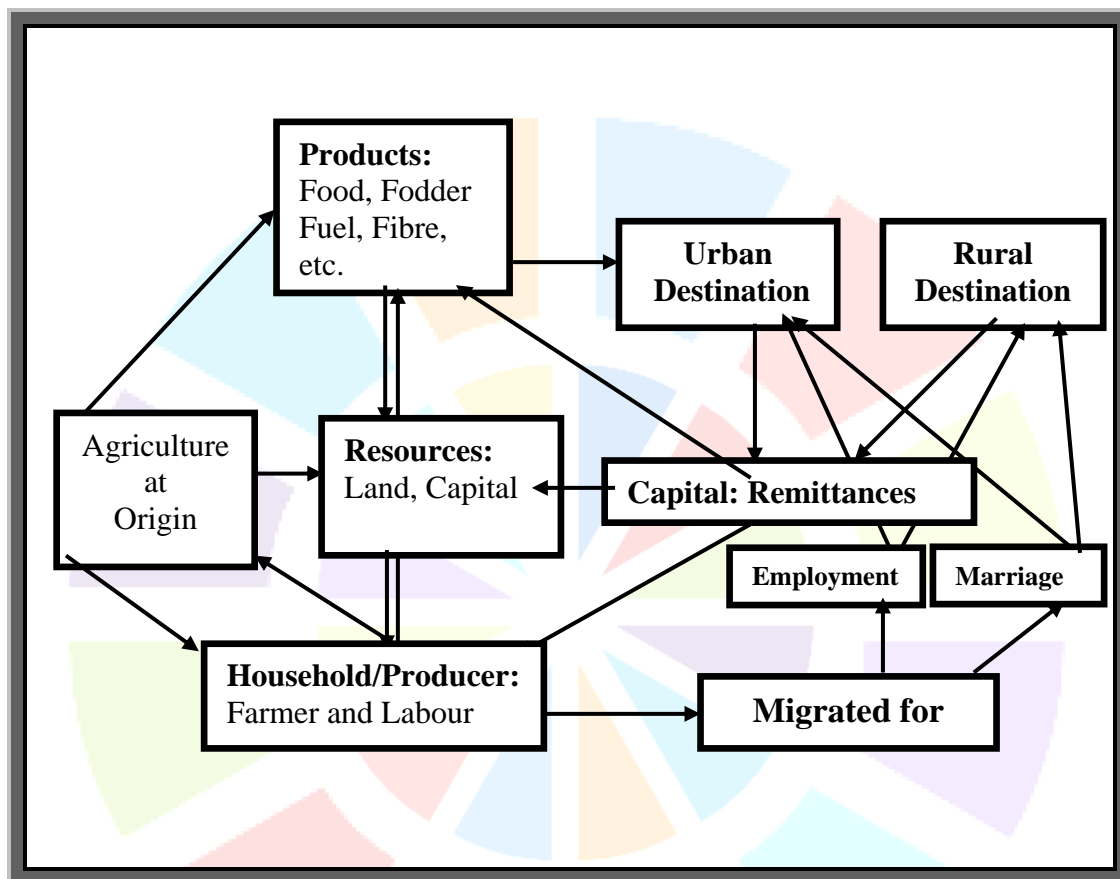
### **CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE STUDY**

Conceptual framework is an outline of the study that depicts or shows path of the study. It is an important tool for the research design and flow of the research inquiry. Figure-1 depicts the flow of rural out-migration and its impact on rural economy, rural labour market, and agriculture. Rural out-migration is influenced by four factors. These are economic, social, environmental and MGNREGA. All these factors have increased or decreased rural out-migration. Former three factors are pro- rural out-migration and later one (MGNREGA) is for suppressing rural out-migration. Unemployment and wage differential are major economic factors of rural out-migration whereas marriage and caste based discrimination in village are the important social factors of rural out-migration. Indian agriculture is characterised by rainfed and depends upon environmental conditions. Rural economy is based on agriculture and failure of crop due to drought or flood led to rural out-migration of the rural residents that another factor of rural out-migration. MGNREGA was introduced to check rural out-migration by generating employment in rural areas, but it does not full the purpose. Wage rate and nature of MGNREGA work forced rural people to migrate urban areas. Because farmers cannot pay wage as equal to the MGNREGA and nature of agriculture work is not time bound which labour now expecting.

Land, labour and capital are the production factors of agricultural produces. Earlier have discussed that rural out-migration affects agriculture and rural household economy both positively and negatively i.e., remittances and loss of productive member of household respectively. Remittances

can be used in agriculture, land, and labour for agricultural work as well as other household construction work.

**Figure 1**  
**Conceptual Framework for Rural Out-migration and Agriculture**



Source: Author's own work

**DATA AND METHODOLOGY**

Study is based on primary and secondary data. Primary quantitative as well as qualitative data collected during May to October 2011. Quantitative data was collected through structured interview schedule whereas Focus Group Discussion (FGD) conducted for qualitative data. There were 360 households has been selected randomly from six villages in two districts Banda and Hamirpur of Bundelkhand Region of Uttar Pradesh. Districts were selected based on highest and lowest rural out-migration rate based on census 2001. The villages were selected based on three distant location i.e., nearer to main town (< 10 Kms), 10 to 20 kms and more than 20 Kms keeping in mind migration patterns differential. There were three categories of households- large, medium, and small & marginal landholdings.

Sampling Frame			
District	Village	Household	Type of farmer
D1-Banda (N=180)  and  D2- Hamirpur (N=180)	D1V1- Mahua (60) D2V1- Urdana(60)  (<10Km)	Migrant (30)	Marginal and Small
			Medium
			Large
		Non-migrant (30)	Marginal and Small
			Medium
			Large
	D1V2-Lama (60) D2V2-Karhiya(60)  (>10 and <20km)	Migrant (30)	Marginal and Small
			Medium
			Large
		Non-migrant (30)	Marginal and Small
			Medium
			Large
D1V3-Pachnehi(60) D2V3- Chandi (60)  (>20km)	Migrant (30)	Marginal and Small	
		Medium	
		Large	
	Non-migrant (30)	Marginal and Small	
		Medium	
		Large	

Note: D-District, V-Village

Census of India 2001 and National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO), 2010 data have been used for analysing migration rate, nature, causes and pattern of migration, remittances receiving and its utilization, migration stream etc.

The reference period was three to five years for examining the impact of rural out-migration on household economy and agriculture as it was assumed that effects of remittances appear after three years.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Results contain the profile of the sampled villages followed by background information of the respondents and the magnitude and reasons of rural out-migration. I have tried to understand the phenomenon of rural out-migration. I present our findings based on the primary survey the back drop of which was discussed in methodology. First discuss profile of the study villages followed by background information of the respondents, characteristics of migrant households and impacts of remittances.

### *Profile of the Study Villages*

As mentioned, the three selected villages in each district were from two different directions based on the distance from the main town in Banda and Hamirpur district. According to the Census of India (2001) the total population of Banda is more (2.5 Lakhs) than Hamirpur (1.8 Lakh). The total population of the Scheduled Castes in Hamirpur (23 per cent of total population) is higher than in Banda district (21 per cent) (CENSUS OF INDIA, 2001). In Table 1 we present data related to our study villages. Table 1 indicate that among the three villages in Hamirpur district, Karhiya has the larger area (2284 Ha) and the higher population (4992) with 808 households, whereas in Banda district, Pachnehi has largest population (5099 and 820 households).

Table 1  
Area, Households and Population of the Study Villages

Name of Village	Total Area (Ha)	Number of Households	*Migrant household (%)	Population (per cent)					
				TP	TM	TF	TSC	MSC	FSC
<b>Banda</b>				<b>1537334</b>	<b>54.3</b>	<b>46.2</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>54.2</b>	<b>46.5</b>
Lama	1164	630	391 (62.5)	3751	53.5	47.1	32.3	52.1	48.4
Pachnehi	1900	820	533 (65.3)	5099	55.6	45.6	21.4	54.4	46.2
Mahua	1161	759	531 (69.6)	4265	54.4	46.2	29.6	55.6	45.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>4225</b>	<b>2209</b>	<b>1455 (65.9)</b>						
<b>Hamirpur</b>				<b>1043724</b>	<b>54.4</b>	<b>46.8</b>	<b>23.7</b>	<b>54.4</b>	<b>46.4</b>
Urdana	662	241	157 (65.2)	1664	54.3	46.6	9.5	62.3	38.7
Chandi	614	264	175 (66.6)	1696	55.7	45.5	30.4	56.2	44.6
Karhiya	2284	808	542 (67.5)	4992	54.9	46.3	27.3	54.1	46.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>3560</b>	<b>1313</b>	<b>874 (66.6)</b>						

Note: TP-Total Population, TM-Total male, TF-Total female, TSC-Total Schedule caste (SC), MSC-Male SC, FSC-Female SC. \*Primary survey

Source: Census of India, 2001

All the villages were well connected with transport facilities (road and railways), had at least one school and primary health centre (Karhiya and Pachnehi has CHC), and there electricity in all the villages in both districts. All the villages have irrigation facilities. In Banda district, Mahua has a canal and tube well but Pachnehi and Lama have only tube well. No canal facilities for irrigation purpose were there in the villages of Hamirpur district. We have also seen that Lama, Pachnehi and Mahua villages have government tube-well for irrigation facilities whereas none of the selected villages in Hamirpur district have government tube-well for the same.

As shown in Table 1, in Banda district, around 62 to 70 per cent of the households are migrant households (MHs). Among the social groups, 80 to 85 per cent of the SCs households are migrant household. Most of the members of migrant households have migrated for short duration. In Hamirpur district this percentage was lower. It has observed that the villages that are situated near to the main town, there are less number of MHs as compared to the distant villages. The reason for this is that most of the people from villages near town are going to the town for work and return on the same day. It cannot consider them as migrant as they are commuters. People from distant villages have migrated for a long duration to the other state especially NCR-Delhi, Punjab and Haryana (Gurgaon and Faridabad) and Gujarat (Surat).

It also found that wage rate in agriculture and non-agriculture varies from village to village in both districts. Wage rates for agriculture work are higher than non-agricultural work such as construction. For agriculture, a farmer has to pay Rs. 120 to 180 per man-day according to the nature of work. On the other hand, the wage rate for construction work is Rs. 130 to 150 per man-day. There are variations in wage rates between male and female. The females are getting wage rate about Rs. 10 to 30 less than their male counterparts. We have observed that labour has to work for 8 hours in construction work but, in agriculture labour is working for more than 8 hours. For example, a farmer is irrigating their land; they want to finish this work on the same day to avoid

seepage and evaporation of water. That may be the reasons for variation in the wage rate in agricultural and non-agricultural work.

### **Background Information of the Respondents**

The background information of respondent (farmers) is given in Table 2. Almost all the respondents were more than 24 years old in both districts. In the study villages of two districts nearly half of the farmers belong to the OBC group (48.9 per cent) followed by other castes (36.9 Per cent) and scheduled Castes (14.2 per cent). In Banda district more than half (62.8 per cent) of the households were OBCs, and in the migrant households, 71.1 per cent were OBCs. Likewise in Hamirpur district, people belonging to OBCs were basically migrants. A vast majority (90.3 per cent) of the respondents were literate in both districts. Literacy percentage in Banda district (84.4) is lower than that of Hamirpur district (96.1). Further, it has been seen that migrants' household have more literate persons (92.2 per cent) compared to non-migrant households (89.3 per cent). Members of migrant households were more literate and achieved higher education than the members of non-migrant households (Table 3).

**Table 2**  
**Background Information of the Respondents (In percentage)**

Item	District (Per cent)								
	Banda			Hamirpur			Total		
	NMH	MH	Total	NMH	MH	Total	NMH	MH	Total
<b>Age Group</b>									
25-45	42.2	34.4	38.3	27.8	27.8	27.8	35.0	31.1	33.1
46-55	24.4	25.6	25.0	33.3	38.9	36.1	28.9	32.2	30.6
56+	33.3	40.0	36.7	38.9	33.3	36.1	36.1	36.7	36.4
<b>Mean Age</b>	47	50	48	50	49	49	49	49	49
<b>Social Group</b>									
Schedule Caste	15.6	13.3	14.4	18.9	8.9	13.9	17.2	11.1	14.2
OBCs	54.4	71.1	62.8	28.9	41.1	35.0	41.7	56.1	48.9
Other Caste	30.0	15.6	22.8	52.2	50.0	51.1	41.1	32.8	36.9
<b>Level of Education</b>									
Illiterate	16.7	14.4	15.6	6.7	1.1	3.9	11.7	7.8	9.7
Primary	21.1	18.9	20.0	25.6	27.8	26.7	23.3	23.3	23.3
Middle	33.3	36.7	35.0	32.2	37.8	35.0	32.8	37.2	35.0
Up to Graduation	26.7	20.0	23.3	25.6	21.1	23.3	26.1	20.6	23.3
Post Graduate	2.2	10.0	6.1	10.0	12.2	11.1	6.1	11.1	8.6
<b>Type of family</b>									
Single	54.6	65.1	59.4	36.7	44.4	40.6	45.6	60.0	52.8
Joint	45.4	34.9	41.6	63.3	55.6	59.4	54.4	40.0	47.2
<b>Loan Status</b>									
Yes	43.3	43.3	43.3	5.6	7.8	6.7	24.4	25.6	25
No	56.7	56.7	56.7	94.4	92.2	93.3	75.6	74.4	75
<b>Total (N)</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>360</b>

Note: NMH=Non migrant household, MH=Migrant household

Family size is directly related to agricultural development and change in the cropping pattern. Large family size and joint family supply uninterrupted labour for agriculture, whereas small family and nuclear family has to depend upon outside labour for agriculture. In Banda district,



single family occurrence (59.4 per cent) was higher than in Hamirpur district (40.6 per cent). Table 3 also show that migrant households have large family size than non-migrant households in both districts. Respondents have categorises into three i.e., small, medium and large according to the size of landholdings 1 to 2 hectare, 2.1 to 5 hectare and 6 hectare and above respectively (not shown in table). I have selected equal number of small, medium and large farmer. Most of the households have mobile phones and televisions. The interest in radio has decreased in the rural areas, which may be because of mobile FM, CD players and MP3. A discernible gap exists between Banda and Hamirpur with regard to possession of having Mobile phones and TVs. Table 3 shows that migrant households have more communication facilities in both districts, because they have remittances.

Table 3

Item		Total (N=360)			Chi-sq.
		NMH	MH	Total(N)	
<b>1</b>	<b>Age</b>				
	25-45	52.9	47.1	119	.747
	46-55	47.3	52.7	110	
	56+	49.6	50.4	131	
<b>2</b>	<b>Caste</b>				
	Schedule Caste	60.8	39.2	51	7.905*
	Other Backward Castes	42.6	57.4	176	
	Other caste	55.6	44.4	133	
<b>3</b>	<b>Education level</b>				
	Illiterate	60.0	40.0	35	1.917
	Primary	50.0	50.0	84	
	Middle	46.8	53.2	126	
	Graduation and above	50.4	49.6	115	
<b>4</b>	<b>Family size</b>				
	2 to 5	53.0	47.0	149	1.153
	6 to 8	46.6	53.4	133	
	9+	50	50	78	
<b>5</b>	<b>Landholding (ha)</b>				
	1 to 2	46.3	53.7	123	1.375
	2.1 to 5	50.0	50.0	124	
	6 and above	54.0	46.0	113	
<b>6</b>	<b>Means of Communication*</b>				
	TV	56.0	44.0	125	2.757*
	Mobile	44.1	56.4	246	3.286*
	Radio	61.2	38.8	49	2.858*

Note: \*Multiple responses

Source: Author's calculation

The impacts of Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) among the farmers have different views. All the marginal and small farmers said that KCC is beneficial scheme of the government because they have got subsidy in the loan and need not to returns. On the other hand medium and large farmers were not happy with KCC because of high interest rate. Some of them have sold their land to return loans. One-fourth of the farmers (25.0 per cent) have borrowed agricultural loan from Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) and government commercial banks. None of them have loan from

private or money lenders as they are aware of the high interest rates. Banda district's farmers have borrowed loan more than Hamirpur district's farmers (Table 2). The reason for this dominance in loan transaction in Banda district was not clear. One of the possible reasons can be under reporting by the farmers of Hamirpur, because during the survey it was observed that the farmers were trying to conceal information about their household property and loan and bank accounts.

Table 4

**Nature of Landholding, Source of Irrigation, Farm Machinery and Farm Animals**

Item	District (in per cent)								
	Banda			Hamirpur			Total		
	NMH	MH	Total	NMH	MH	Total	NMH	MH	Total
<b>1 Nature of landholding</b>									
Un-irrigated land	14.4	30.7	22.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.2	15.0	11.1
Irrigated land	85.6	69.3	77.7	100	100	100	92.8	85	88.9
<b>2 Source of irrigation</b>									
Own	30.0	15.6	22.8	52.2	51.2	51.1	41.1	32.8	36.9
Hired	70.0	84.4	77.2	47.8	48.8	48.9	58.9	67.2	63.1
<b>3 Has Tractor</b>									
No	91.1	93.3	92.2	77.8	90.0	83.9	84.4	91.7	88.1
Yes	8.9	6.7	7.8	22.2	10.0	16.1	15.6	8.3	11.9
<b>4 Domestic animal*</b>									
Cow in HHs	41.1	42.2	41.7	4.4	7.8	6.1	22.8	25	23.9
Buffalo in HH	47.8	48.9	48.3	98.9	96.7	97.8	73.3	72.8	73.1
Goat in HH	23.3	32.2	27.8	13.3	21.1	17.2	18.3	26.7	22.5
Bull in HH	45.1	31.1	43.1	32.2	21.1	26.2	38.7	26.1	34.6
<b>Total (N)</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>360</b>

Note: \*Multiple responses

Source: Author's calculation

***Irrigation Facilities, Farm Machinery and Farm Animals***

The nature of landholding in two districts shows that in Hamirpur all the households have irrigated land but in Banda nearly three fourths (77.7 per cent) of households have irrigated land (Table 4). The reason for this is that Hamirpur is more developed district than Banda. The source of irrigation also shows Hamirpur is relatively better district, while in Hamirpur those who have irrigated lands nearly half (51.1 per cent) of them have own tube-well and remaining half hired water for irrigation. In Banda, the percentage (77.2) of households that hired water is more than that having own source of irrigation (22.8). There are no difference between migrant households (MHs) and non-migrant households (NMHs). Again in Banda while very few households have own tractors (7.8 per cent), in Hamirpur the percentage who own tractors is nearly twice (16.1 per cent) of Banda.

Farm animals and agriculture are interrelated and dependent on each other. Farm animals provide compost for agriculture and dung cakes as a source of energy for cooking. At the same time, agriculture provides animal feed. Cows, buffaloes, bullocks and goats are kept as farm animals in this region. With respect to domestic farm animals in Hamirpur, almost all the households (98.9 per cent) have buffalo but in Banda nearly half (48.3 per cent) of the households have buffalo. However, in Banda district nearly half of the households have cows and bulls. There are no major differences in both MHs and NMHs in Hamirpur with respect to domestic animals. From the



above, we conclude that Hamirpur district is more developed than Banda districts in terms of socio-economic conditions. Education of level of the respondents is higher in Hamirpur district than Banda district. We have observed that productivity of land is higher in Hamirpur than land of Banda.

Now we present data about the rural out-migration and discuss as magnitude of migration and reasons for out-migration. We have described duration of migration (short and long), causes of out-migration such as economic, social, political, and environment. There are 91.1 per cent of the MHs from which one male has migrated from both districts. Two males have migrated from 8.9 per cent of the MHs in both districts. Our interest is on male migration and here we have considered first male member of the households who is older than other out-migrated members of the MHs.

Table 5  
**Characteristics of Male Migrants in Banda and Hamirpur**

Item	District		
	Banda	Hamirpur	Total
<b>Household members ever migrated in past</b>			
No	25.6	63.3	44.4
Yes	74.4	36.7	55.6
<b>Number of out-migrated male</b>			
1	92.2	90.0	91.1
2	7.8	10.0	8.9
<b>Education level of migrated male</b>			
Illiterate	25.6	21.1	23.3
Primary and middle	67.8	57.8	62.8
Matric and above	6.7	21.1	13.9
<b>Duration of migration</b>			
Short duration (less than 6 month)	63.3	71.1	67.2
Medium duration (> 6 months and <12 month)	32.2	20.0	26.1
More than 12 months	4.4	8.9	6.7
<b>Number of times migrated in a year</b>			
Once	0.0	23.3	11.7
Twice	56.7	23.3	40.0
Thrice	43.3	53.3	48.3
<b>Residence of migrant-urban/rural</b>			
Urban	78.9	83.3	81.1
Rural	21.1	16.7	18.9
<b>Reason for choice of migrant's place</b>			
More Income	88.9	92.2	90.6
Other	11.1	7.8	9.4
<b>Working status before migration</b>			
Labour	60.0	31.1	45.6
Agriculture in own	40.0	68.9	54.4
<b>Total (N)</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>180</b>

Note: \*Multiple responses

Source: Author's calculation

### *Characteristics of Migrant Households (MHs)*

Rural out-migration is a common phenomenon in the rural areas of India. Some rural areas have higher rural out-migration than other areas. These appear to be because of socio-economic conditions. We have discussed the reasons and magnitude of rural out-migration based on the primary survey that was conducted in Hamirpur and Banda districts in Bundelkhand region, Uttar Pradesh (UP).

Rural out-migration is not new phenomenon and most of the migrants are males who have migrated for earnings. Table 5 shows that more than half (55.6 per cent) of the MHs were those households where members ever have migrated in the past for any reason and the rest 44.4 per cent of the households added new members in the MHs category. In the Banda district, analysis shows that 74.4 per cent of MHs were those from which one or more members of household ever have migrated in the past for any reason, whereas in Hamirpur 36.7 per cent of MHs belong to this category. It shows that people of Hamirpur district started out-migrating from the village only recently, whereas in Banda district this tradition has been there for a long period.

Some of the farmers have revealed that their sons have migrated for earning, if they failed once in high school or senior secondary school. They also explained the reason for this that they have spent a lot of money on children's education and if children failed in any class, they cannot afford their next year education cost in same standard of class. They want children to drop school and migrate to urban areas for earning. Most of the out-migrated male members (57.8 to 67.8 per cent) were educated up to primary level in both the districts.

Short duration migrants are those who are away from household for a period of two to six months for work or seeking work (NSSO, 2010). Table 5 shows that 67.2 per cent of the males have migrated for short duration (less than six months) followed by medium duration (26.1 per cent). The larger number of the migrant households had members who migrated three times in a single year during the reference period, followed by households where members migrated twice a year. Between the selected districts, it was found that from Banda district more than half (56.7 per cent) of the members of MHs migrated two times a year whereas from Hamirpur district 53.3 per cent of member of MHs migrated three times that migrated in a year. A member of the household migrates mostly whenever there is no work in the village and returns back from the urban to the rural areas. The data indicates that household members migrate from village whenever there is an agricultural off season and return home when agricultural works starts, whenever the household needs family labour for the agricultural and other work in the village. Circular migration is defined as a migration episode lasting two or more months and which starts and ends in the place of origin. Seasonal migrants are those who follow a circular migration pattern annually or semi-annually for a few months during the agricultural off-season (*Tong and Piotrowski, 2010*). In the Bundelkhand region, most of the migration is short duration and seasonal in nature. *Mazumdar, et al., (2013)* reported that 20 per cent of females and 23 per cent of males were circular migrants and 9 per cent of them were short-term seasonal migrants (p.56).

Almost all the migrant members are living in the Delhi/NCR region and few of them have migrated to Surat (Gujarat) and Ludhiana (Punjab). The vast majority of migrants were living in the urban areas. Most of them (more than 90 per cent) said that the reason for migration to that particular place was high income followed by other. These other reasons are attachment of

relatives and friends. The migrants from Banda district who were living in urban areas were slightly fewer in number than those from Hamirpur district. Some of them have migrated intra-state. There were 85 per cent of them who have migrated to Delhi and NCR region specially Noida and Ghaziabad in UP and Gurgaon and Faridabad in Haryana. Others have migrated to the Surat, Gujarat and to rural areas of Punjab.

### ***Reasons for Rural Out-Migration***

The various studies show that a major reason of out-migration is economic. Data from National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO, 2010) reveals that rural people migrated because of four reasons e.g., economic, educational, social and others. The figures in the Table 6 reveal that the highest per cent (55.4) of rural household members have migrated for economic reason. These reasons include, in search of better employment, in search of employment, to take up employment/better employment, transfer of service/ contract, business, and post retirement. The next important reason for migration is migration on account of education (26.6 per cent). The percentage of migrants reporting social and other reasons is 2.7 and 15.3 respectively. Other studies have also shown that economic reasons are the primary factors for rural people to move to urban areas. *Kundu et al.*, (2008) reveals that majority of people are moving because of economic reason. The workers migrate in rural to rural areas mainly due to wage differentials (*Sengupta and Ghosal, 2011, p.85*).

Table 6  
**Reasons for rural to urban Migration, 2008**

Reason	Per cent
Economic	55.4
Education	26.6
Social	2.7
Other	15.3

Note: **Economic:** In search of better employment, In search of employment, to take up employment / better employment, Transfer of service/ contract, Business, Post retirement, **Education, Social and Others:** Acquisition of own house/ flat, Proximity to place of work, Natural disaster (drought, flood, tsunami, etc.), Social / political problems (riots, terrorism, Political refugee, bad law and order, etc.), Displacement by development project, Health care.

Source: NSSO, 2010

Population Census of India (2001) listed six main reasons of migration during 1991 to 2001 (Table 7). These reasons were- Work/employment, business, education, marriage, moved after birth, moved with household. Some other reasons were also included in Census. Highest per cent of the people have migrated because of marriage or moved with the household. Marriage based migration was most among be female migrants and this pattern was high in the rural areas during 1991 to 2001. Working age populations have migrated mostly due to employment related issues. As expected, people in the age group 24 and below have mostly migrated for education. Children have mostly migrated with their parents or with the household.

This study has identified four reasons of rural out-migration in the Bundelkhand region of UP. Two of these were economic reasons for out-migration i.e., migration for earning at destination (urban areas) and no work/unemployment at the place of origin (rural areas). Half of the migrant households (50.0 per cent) responded that their household member migrated for make an earning. This pattern was found in both districts, but the Hamirpur (53.3 per cent) shows higher

percentages in this case than Banda district (46.7 per cent). There was rural out-migration due to no work or low wage rate in the village. There were 40.0 per cent of the households in Banda and 46.7 per cent of households in Hamirpur reported that its member out-migrated due to unavailability of work and low wage rate in the village. Some of them also mentioned that they have migrated because of lack of interest in the work available in the village (Table 8).

**Table 7**  
**Reasons of Migration During 1991 to 2001 in Rural Uttar Pradesh**

All ages	Reasons of Migration						
	Work/ Employment	Business	Education	Marriage	After birth	With household	Others
Rural	73.5	67.6	70.7	90.5	65.7	68.5	74.6
Urban	26.5	32.4	29.3	9.5	34.3	31.5	25.4
RURAL							
All Ages	9.5	0.8	1.0	61.3	4.4	12.5	10.4
0-14	0.7	0.0	3.4	0.6	31.6	37.8	25.8
15-19	6.5	0.4	6.1	39.8	10.8	21.2	15.1
20-24	7.6	0.5	1.5	68.2	3.0	9.9	9.2
25-29	9.5	0.7	0.4	71.3	1.5	8.8	7.8
30-34	11.0	1.0	0.2	71.0	1.0	8.6	7.2
35-39	12.3	1.1	0.2	69.2	0.8	9.0	7.3
40-59	13.0	1.1	0.2	67.6	0.7	9.0	8.3
60-79	7.6	0.8	0.2	69.6	0.6	10.2	10.9
80+	5.9	0.8	0.2	65.7	0.5	13.0	13.9

Source: Census of India, 2001

**Table 8**  
**Reasons of Rural Out-migration of Household Members by District**

Reasons of Out-migration	District		
	Banda	Hamirpur	Total
1 Earning*	46.7	53.3	50.0
2 No work in the Village/Low wage*	40.0	46.7	43.3
3 Conflict in the village**	5.6	0.0	2.8
4 Working in Village against our social status/respect**	7.8	0.0	3.9
<b>Total (N)</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>180</b>

Note: \*Economic and \*\*Social reason

Source: Author's calculation

**Table 9**  
**Reasons of Rural Out-migration of Household Members by Social Group**

Reasons of Out-migration	Social Group			Total (%)
	SCs	OBCs	Others	
1 Earning*	55.0	49.5	49.2	50.0
2 No work in the Village/Low wage*	40.0	46.5	39.0	43.3
3 Conflict in the village**	5.0	4.0	0.0	2.8
4 Working in Village against our respect**	--	--	11.9	3.9
<b>Total (N)</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>180</b>

Note: \*Economic and \*\*Social reason

Source: Author's calculation

There were two social causes of rural out-migration in Banda district i.e., ‘conflict in the village’ and ‘high caste people not interested to work in the village as it was against their social status or social respect. In both areas (rural and urban) the caste feelings are dominant social characteristic present in this region. Caste based discrimination and fighting for the minor issues was also prevalent in this region. There were 5.6 per cent of the Migrant households where members had migrated from the village because of the conflict in the village with someone for various reasons in Banda. These conflicts were caste based jealousy, love affairs among inter-caste male and female, murder, robbery and election based conflict. However, around 11.9 per cent of them (other caste) migrated because they don’t prefer to work in the village as it hurt their caste prestige (Table 9). A majority of them were belonged to the high caste households. *Gupta (2009)* also observed the case of a high caste woman whose husband was unemployed and there was no agriculture due to drought was refused a job under MGNREGA. The gram sarpanch argued over that how it was impossible or demeaning for an upper caste woman to go to work. Table 9 further shows that other castes (non SC/OBC) have not migrated because of conflict in the villages. The people who have migrated due to conflict were SCs (5.0 per cent) followed by OBCs (4.0 per cent).

Another reason for out-migration is consecutive drought (environmental factor) for long duration in the Bundelkhand region. *Martin and Zurcher (2008)* have reported two main reasons of migration i.e., economic and non-economic. Environmental changes also forced long-term population migration in rural areas. *PAA (2012)* found that flooding has moderate relation to migration of people but crop failure has a strong relationship with the mobility of people. Thus there are many factors for rural out-migration, but economic reasons were stronger than others reasons such as conflict and natural disasters.

MGNREGA was introduced in rural areas to check rural out-migration. But, most of the villagers blame that its wage rate is one of the reasons for rural out-migration of labour. Labour is not accepting less than MGNREGA wage rate for agricultural and non-agricultural work. MGNREGA wage rate is base rate in the rural areas. If there is no work under MGNREGA, they preferred to migrate nearby cities or distant urban areas and refused to work that is harder than MGNREGA work and low rate. A group of large farmers expressed that:

“Labours are not accepting our wage rate for any work, they (labours) will migrate from village, but they will not work in our field and household”.

### **Working Status of Male Migrants**

Ultimate aim of migration is high income and to in search of better jobs. A position of migrant at destination has linked with earning and saving. Earning and saving is also varying in different working status of migrant. Skilled worker is earning higher than construction worker. The highest percentage (72.2) of the migrants were working as labour in construction companies, loading and deloading trucks, white washing among all the social groups. There are not much differences in working status of migrant in both districts. Table 10 shows that migrants (27.8 per cent) from Banda district were mostly working as labour whereas migrants (37.8 per cent) from Hamirpur district were working in companies. The reason for the variation in the working status of migrants from both districts is clear from the Table 10. Education level of migrants from Hamirpur was high and that is the reason why these migrants have more chances to get jobs in companies. In

Punjab/Haryana they were working as agricultural labour and construction workers. Among the social groups, there are big gap seems in terms of working status of migrants. Table 10 shows that migrants from the SCs households were working as labourers.

Table 10

District and Work status	Social Group (per cent)			
	SC	OBC	Others	Total
<b>Banda</b>				
Skilled work*	16.7	28.1	35.7	27.8
Non-skilled work**	83.3	71.9	64.3	72.2
<b>Total (N)</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Hamirpur</b>				
Skilled work*	25.0	43.2	35.6	37.8
Non-skilled work**	75.0	56.8	64.4	62.2
<b>Total (N)</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Total</b>				
Skilled work*	20.0	33.7	35.6	32.8
Non-skilled work**	80.0	66.3	64.4	67.2
<b>Total (N)</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>180</b>

Note: \*As security guard, helper, supervisor, \*\*Construction work, agriculture work

Source: Author's calculation

The respondents were asked about the kind of work members of the household were engaged in before migration. It was found that most of the migrants were working in agriculture in their own farm before migration. There were 54.4 per cent of the MHs reported that migrant members were working in their own farm, and this percentage was 68.9 in Hamirpur and 40.0 per cent in Banda. It was also found that 60.0 per cent of the migrants of Banda district were working as labour before migration from the village. In Hamirpur district agriculture is in better condition in terms of irrigation facilities and input use. It is also observed that farmers of the Hamirpur district are more conscious about the use of new technology in agriculture such as hybrid seeds etc., as compared to the farmers of the Banda district.

Multi-variate analysis (Binary logistic regression) shows net effects of independent variables on the dependent variables. The odds ratio in Table 11 indicates that males are living in the nearer villages are one and half times more likely rural out-migration than that in the nearest villages. But, the males less likely to be out-migrated are from the villages that are located far distances from the main town. This pattern was however found different between both the districts. In Banda district males from distant (far off) villages are nearly four times (3.9) more likely to experience out-migration followed by households in which are nearer villages about two times more likely to migrate than the nearest villages. The reason behind this pattern in Banda is unclear but we know that in Banda district socio-economic and agriculture is not as good as in Hamirpur district. Perhaps most of the rural population in Banda district prefer to migrate from the village for their livelihood. The wage rate is low in the distant villages and that may be the reason for more migration from these villages.



Table 11  
**Odds Ratio for Rural Out-Migration for Banda and Hamirpur district**

Item	Banda (N=180)		Hamirpur (N=180)		Total (N=360)	
	Exp(B)	Sig.	Exp(B)	Sig.	Exp(B)	Sig.
<b>1 Distance of the village from main city</b>						
Nearest (<10Kms) ®	--	0.258	--	0.289	--	0.000
Nearer (10-15Kms)	1.921	0.278	1.426	0.646	1.417	0.348
Distant (> 15 Kms)	3.878	0.116	0.507	0.400	0.365	0.006
<b>2 Caste</b>						
Schedule Caste ®	--	0.009	--	0.344	--	0.033
Other Backward Castes	2.213	0.199	2.243	0.340	2.725	0.017
General	0.291	0.169	5.453	0.145	1.667	0.380
<b>3 Level of Education</b>						
Illiterate ®	--	0.270	NA	--	--	0.796
Primary	0.922	0.902	--	0.899	0.966	0.046
Middle	2.217	0.190	0.899	0.847	1.332	0.557
Graduation and above	2.191	0.201	0.753	0.644	1.095	0.852
<b>4 Type Farmers</b>						
Marginal and small farmer ®	--	0.045	--	0.544	--	0.818
Medium farmer	0.675	0.436	0.652	0.512	1.028	0.929
Large farmer	3.681	0.091	0.455	0.271	1.258	0.548
<b>5 Type of family</b>						
Single ®	--	--	--	--	--	--
Joint	0.493	0.077	0.229	0.023	0.361	0.001
<b>6 Family size</b>						
2 to 5 ®	--	0.852	--	0.640	--	0.356
6 to 8	1.196	0.693	1.774	0.365	1.579	0.154
9+	0.842	0.857	1.813	0.495	1.327	0.613
<b>7 Has Tractor</b>						
No ®	--	--	--	--	--	--
Yes	0.305	0.202	0.191	0.019	0.308	0.016
<b>Constant</b>	<b>0.269</b>	<b>0.104</b>	<b>0.171</b>	<b>0.175</b>	<b>0.008</b>	<b>0.018</b>

Source: Author's calculation

Migration patterns also vary among the various social groups. Male from Other Backward Caste (OBCs) and high caste household has more chance to migrate from the village than a male from Schedule Castes (SCs) households in both the districts. But in Banda district, members from high caste households were less likely to migrate from the village than reference category, whereas in Hamirpur district member from high caste household were more than five times (5.45) more likely to migrate from the village than from SCs households. In Hamirpur district the possible reason for members of high caste households to migrate may be a feeling of uncomfortable in terms of social position to work in the village as labour and hence they prefer to leave the village. But, in Banda district members from high caste households were less likely to migrate, because they may have

land to cultivate and there may be low labour availability in the village, so they do opt for farming instead going outside or leaving the village.

The level of education and rate of migration have a positive relationship. Literate people were more likely to migrate than the illiterate group. As expected, the highly educated people give less preference to agricultural work and migrate in search of non-agricultural work. This is the reason of high rate of migration among educated people. In Hamirpur district however, odds ratio shows opposite figures in term of level of education and migration, i.e., highly educated people were less likely to migrated (Table 11). The reason why highly educated people have low chances of migration is not clear, but only possibility is that they are low in number in the study of sample.

Type of family and family size also influences rural out-migration. The odds ratio in Table 11 indicates that joint families were less likely to migrate than single or nuclear families. Even here again the reason may be the availability of sufficient family labour for agriculture and hence they did not prefer to migrate from the village.

As expected we found in Table 11 that households which have a tractor were less likely to migrate than those do not have tractor in the household. The tractor is an indication of mechanization in agriculture and reduction in human labour requirement. Male of these households were preferred agriculture work and avoid shortage of labour and tractor is a means of employment for household members. This may be the reason for low chance of male migration from households that has tractor.

Here we can speculate that a man leaves the village for satisfaction and promises of more income from the urban areas. But, while they earn money, and increase bank balances, they cannot understand what are they losing in the urban areas. Indirectly they are losing their traditional business (agriculture and animal husbandry) and also health because they do not have access to safe drinking water in the slums and neither do they have clear air to breathe. In many cases that we observed in the rural areas (and which were beyond our survey instrument contents) there were those in which people migrated to urban areas about 4 to 5 years earlier and they earned and spent the money with no savings for themselves or for family members back home. Whenever they returned to home they brought only clothes and the very next day, they were seen asking money from their neighbours for meals. If the migrant is single he can save money, but if the whole family migrates then they cannot save money is what most of the migrants reported during our informal discussion. So, migrants faced various problems at migrant place (destination) and household has faced labour shortages in agriculture in place of migrant origin.

### ***Impact of Remittances***

Remittances are affecting rural economy positively. Table 12 indicates that less than half (42.2 per cent) of the households have not received any remittances from the migrant member. There were 62.7 per cent of other caste households and 59.4 per cent of OBCs and 35.0 per cent of SCs have received remittances from their migrant members (Table 13). The households who did not get any remittances did not reveal the reasons for the same. They have migrated from the village only to escape from the rivalry/opposition and not for purpose of earning. Some of the farmers have revealed that migrants asked money from the households. This indicates double loss on part of the household i.e., loss of productive member of household and loss of the money sent to them for

room rent and other expenses in urban areas. During the discussion a group of the farmers revealed that

“Our children have migrated because the social environment of the village is not good and day after day they created problems by fighting and engaging in anti-social activities. They were not doing anything in the household, so it was better that we forced them to leave the village and earn money at least for themselves. We do not need money from them, we just hope they survive there and stay away from the village”.

Table 12

Item	District		
	Banda	Hamirpur	Total
<b>HH received remittances</b>			
Yes	60.0	55.6	57.8
No	40.0	44.4	42.2
<b>Total (N)</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>180</b>
<b>Spent remittances on</b>			
Bought Land/ lease in land	24.1	32.0	27.9
Children's education	22.2	44.0	32.7
Household is running only due to remittances	53.7	24.0	39.4
<b>Total (N)</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>104</b>
In agriculture (Better seed/fertilizer/irrigation)*	57.4	76.0	66.4
HH Expenditure*	7.4	4.0	5.8
Bought tractor*	11.1	20.0	15.4
<b>Total (N) *Multiple responses</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>104</b>
<b>New Technology adopted in agriculture after migration</b>			
No effect	43.0	24.0	34.0
Yes	20.3	36.3	27.8
Got Tube well	20.3	40.0	29.8
Doing farming themselves/Using tractor	16.4	00.0	8.04
<b>Total (N)</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>104</b>

Note: \*Multiple responses

Source: Author's calculation

It was observed that in Banda district the reason for asking money from home was that such members have migrated because of social/caste conflict in the village. But the reason for the same in Hamirpur is not clear because there was no evidence of conflict that could have forced members to leave the village. Receiving of amount of the remittances are varying among the households according to background characteristics of the migrant males. These characteristics are education level, activity status; nature of works, place of work, duration of stay away for earning purpose and number of household member migrated. Education level and skilled workers have more bargaining power than those are illiterate and unskilled workers. All the illiterate migrants were working as non-skilled work and they have sent on an average Rs. 38,397 to home in a years. The males who had higher educated and worked as skilled work have sent more remittances. On an average the remittances were Rs. 50,036 per annum. But those who were educated up to primary

level, they have sent lowest (Rs. 29,027) amount of remittances to home in a year. This may be because their saving was lower than expenditure.

Table 13

Item	Social Group			
	SCs	OBCs	Others	Total
<b>HH received remittances</b>				
Yes	35.0	59.4	62.7	57.8
No	65.0	40.6	37.3	42.2
<b>Total (N)</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>180</b>
<b>Spent remittances on</b>				
Bought Land/ lease in land	42.9	21.7	37.9	28.9
Children's education	14.3	35.0	29.7	31.7
Household is running only due to remittances	42.9	43.3	32.4	39.4
<b>Total (N)</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>104</b>
In agriculture (Better seed/fertilizer/irrigation)*	85.7	51.7	86.5	66.4
HH Expenditure*	14.3	5.0	5.4	5.8
Bought tractor*	14.3	13.3	18.9	15.4
<b>Total (N) *Multiple responses</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>104</b>
<b>New Technology adopted in agriculture after migration</b>				
No effect	16.4	8.7	8.4	33.7
Yes	20.4	32.3	34.0	28.1
Got Tube well	21.0	35.0	27.8	30.0
Doing farming themselves/Using tractor	43.2	25.0	29.8	8.1
<b>Total (N)</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>180</b>

Note: \*Multiple responses

Source: Author's calculation

Most of the primary educated males were working as labour that may be one of the reasons for low saving and sending of remittances by the primary educated migrants. The remittances sent by the unskilled worker (Rs. 31,343) is lower than skilled worker (Rs. 42,352). The males who have migrated for short duration have sent more (Rs. 35,600) than those have stayed away for medium (Rs. 31,281) and long duration (Rs. 29,111) from the home. The reason for sending low remittances by the member who were stay if longer duration was that they have spent money on room rent, and other living charges. Those were staying away for short duration and working as labourers, they were mostly living in either slum areas or road side, but those were living for long duration they were living in developed areas. We have also found that the MHs have received more (Rs. 76,429) remittances from which two males have migrated for earning than one male have migrated (Rs. 31,174) per annum. MHs in Hamirpur district on an average have received more (Rs. 36,298) than MHs in Banda districts (Rs. 31,961) per annum. The reason is most of the migrant males from Hamirpur were educated and they were working as skilled worker. Some of the migrant households have reported that their migrant members were sending low remittances, because they have bought costly clothes, modern watches, shoes, goggles etc. But, they were feeling happy that migrant members are spending of their earnings and we could not interfere to them for their personal pocket money.

Table 14  
**Annual Average Amount of Remittances (Rs.) Received by Migrant Household**

Item		Average amount of remittances in a year (2010-11)	
A	Education level of migrated first male member	Amount (Rs.)	Number (N)
1	Illiterate	38397	29
2	Primary	29027	73
3	Middle and above	50036	14
B	Working status		
1	Skilled (as Security guard, helper, labour etc.)	42352	27
2	Non Skilled (construction and agriculture)	31343	89
C	Duration		
1	Short duration (less than 6 months)	35600	75
2	Medium duration (> 6 months and < 12 months)	31281	32
3	More than 12 months	29111	9
D	Number of Male migrated		
1	One	31174	109
2	Two	76429	7
E	District		
1	Banda	31961	64
2	Hamirpur	36298	52
<b>Total (Rs.) per annum</b>		<b>33905</b>	<b>116</b>

Note: \*Multiple responses

Source: Author's calculation

Remittances are used for various purposes and there is no hard and fast rule in receiving and use of remittances. Use of remittances depends upon the socio-economic condition of the household. If the household does not depend upon the remittances for household expenditure, they use remittances on electronic gadgets or construction of new house, purchasing of transport vehicles and agricultural machinery, etc.

## CONCLUSION

Rural out-migration affects rural economy both positive and negative i.e., remittances and loss of active labour forces. Migrants' households faced more labour shortage due to out-migration of member of households as well as members of other rural households. The major causes of rural out-migration were found economic and social reason. Younger age male, educated, from OBCs and other caste households were more out-migrated for short duration to urban areas especially Delhi/NCR and Surat, and to rural Punjab and Haryana. Study reveals that economy of migrant household is better than non-migrant households due to only remittances money. Remittances when used in agriculture was invested in land whether bought, leased in (gahan, Balkat), and in agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, irrigation and labour. The migrants' households in both the districts have bought land from remittances. In the village, farmers who have bought land were mostly migrants and they belonged to either OBCs or high castes and only a few of them were SCs. Most of the farmers who have sold their land were from high caste. Farmers who have bought land have also leased in land as balkat or gahan. Many household of OBCs and SCs have bought land or leased in land from remittance money. MH has leased in and leased out of their land more than NMH. Cropping intensity among MH was higher. Migration is changing

geographic location of the migrants and they have more exposure of the new culture and new information and communication technology. Thus, MH is more exposed about the health seeking behaviour, new agriculture technology and conscious about the time management.

Migrants have also faces many problems at the place of destination. These problems are residence, drinking water supply, power supply, wage rate discrimination, late payment or no payment (sometime), and health problems and its treatment, etc. government should be concerned about these migrants' health and residence as they are partner of urban development and share holder of urban of urban economy. Most of them are living in the slums near to the sewage line or household drainage channels. These migrants are labour pool for urbanization and business as they are contributing for small stakeholders. After all they are human being and have rights to live healthy in clean environment with their family members. Some of them are distress migrants and compel to leave their residence only for survival. Government should facilitate medical facilities as they have spent a lot of money for various types of illness.

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