



Interstate Migrants in India

SITUATIONS AND ASPIRATIONS

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Foreword



Migrants are often deprived of their rights as workers. They are denied fair compensation, decent living conditions and recognition as workers. While it's heartening to see that the Government has taken several measures post covid to support the migrant communities with various schemes like Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhiyan, Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojna, PM Swanidhi Schemes and e-shram, there's a need for enhancing the implementation of these schemes. Hence, Caritas India initiated the Jeevan Nirman project that focuses on rebuilding the lives of migrants in three states of India through awareness generation, skill enhancement and ensuring safe migration thereby complementing the efforts of the government.

The study provides empirical data that elucidates the experiences of migrant laborers from the destination state of Tamil Nadu, as well as from the source states of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. It sheds light on their origin, socioeconomic background, educational profile and aspirations.

There are two components to the survey's findings. The first section is based on a study of migrants in two districts of Tamil Nadu, while the second section is based on a survey of households in four districts of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.

I trust that this comprehensive study report will provide you with valuable insights into the circumstances and aspirations of migrant workers. It also offers an understanding of how Caritas India spearheads regional initiatives to help rebuild the lives of these workers.

My sincere gratitude to Caritas Australia for their support and assistance in helping us rebuild the lives of migrants.

Fr. (Dr.) Paul Moonjely

Executive Director

Caritas India

Acknowledgement



Migrant workers bore the brunt of the COVID-19 pandemic, prompting Caritas India to undertake several research studies to gain insights into their plight nationwide. The development of the Jeevan Nirman project was informed by the findings of these research endeavors. Our goal, driven by this project, is to improve the lives of migrant workers by providing them with safe living conditions and upholding their dignity in their workplaces.

This report provides empirical evidence that captures the lived experiences of migrant workers originating from source states Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh, as well as destination state, Tamil Nadu. The successful completion of this comprehensive study is attributed to the collaborative efforts of numerous individuals, whose invaluable support has been instrumental in bringing it to fruition.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Caritas Australia for their generous funding of this initiative, and Caritas India team for their outstanding execution.

I thank Fr. Paul Moonjely, the Executive Director of Caritas India and the team in the Delhi Office, the Coordinators and the field staff from the States of Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, and Madhya Pradesh.

In particular, I would like to acknowledge the support and contributions of the Caritas India study team, comprising Ms. Babita, Ms. Parul Sharma, and Dr. Jayaraj Karuvadiparambil and our external researchers Dr. Balwant Singh Mehta and Dr Amit Kumar Venkateshwar who provided invaluable assistance at every stage of the study and efficiently led the data management team, ensuring the meticulous handling of crucial information.

We also wish to express our profound appreciation for our diligent field survey teams, whose unwavering commitment and extensive efforts in the field were instrumental in completing the survey on time.

Lastly, we extend our thanks to all the respondents who cooperated with the survey team, as well as other stakeholders who generously provided their insights during the study.

Fr. (Dr.) Jolly Puthenpura
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Abbreviations and Acronyms

AAV	Antyodaya Anna Yojana
APL	Above Poverty Line
ASHA	Accredited Social Health Activist
AWCs	Anganwadi Centres
BOCW	Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board
BPL	Below Poverty Line
COVID	Corona Virus Disease
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
IAY	Mantri Awas Yojana
LPG	liquefied petroleum gas
MGNREGA	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
MMAY	Mukhya Mantri Awas Yojana
MP	Madhya Pradesh
NFHS	National Family and Health Survey
NGO	Non-Government Organizations
OBC	Other Backward Classes
PDS	Public Distribution System (PDS).
PHC	Primary Health Care
PLFS	Periodic Labour Force Survey
PMJDY	Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana
PMKVY	Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana
PMUY	Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana
SC	Scheduled Caste
ST	Scheduled Tribe
ST	Scheduled Tribes
TN	Tamil Nadu
VT	Vocational Training
WG	Washington Group

Executive Summary

In India, the migration rate in 2020-21 stood at 28.9%, with higher rates in urban areas (34.9%) compared to rural areas (26.5%). The majority of migration (87.5%) occurs within the same state, with 11.8% being inter-state migration. Despite their significant contributions to development, migrants face multiple challenges, including low wages, poor living conditions, and a lack of recognition as workers. They are predominantly employed in the informal sector, receiving low pay and minimal social security. Although various schemes have been introduced for migrants' welfare, there is still room for improvement in terms of implementation. Some states have also taken several positive steps to address migrant issues through introduction of welfare schemes.

To address these issues, Caritas India have initiated 'Jeevan Nirman Program', recognizing the importance of accurate data and information on migrants' demographics, migration patterns, working conditions and other socioeconomic conditions. In this context, the primary objective of this study is to identify high out-migration and in-migration areas, conducting vulnerability mapping to understand migrants' backgrounds and factors driving migration, examining the migration process, and assessing migrants' aspirations and challenges.

To gather the required data, a multi-stage sampling procedure, assisted by stakeholders, was adopted to identify the respondents. The districts and villages were selected based on high out-migration rates and finalized after the consultation with various stakeholders, including Caritas India program staff, partner organizations, relevant state/district government officials, local residents, administrative representatives, and NGO officials. A total of 600 migrant households were surveyed in two districts both Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. Additionally, locations in Tamil Nadu with high in-migration were also chosen after consultation with various stakeholders, and 713 migrants were interviewed in Coimbatore and Salem districts. The study was conducted during the month of June, 2023.

Survey Key Findings:

At Destination: Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu, a southern Indian state, is renowned for its industrialization and diverse manufacturing sectors. It ranks second in gross state domestic product (GSDP) and fifth in per capita net domestic product (NDP) in India. This prosperity attracts in-migrants seeking job opportunities, higher wages, better education, and healthcare services. The in-migrants primarily come from economically backward regions in the northern and eastern parts of India, predominantly working in sectors like construction, textiles, and small-scale trade. Poverty and limited prospects in their home states act as strong motivators for their migration to Tamil Nadu. This study was conducted among interstate in-migrants in the Coimbatore and Salem districts of Tamil Nadu.

The survey findings in Tamil Nadu reveal that Bihar serves as the largest source of in-migrants for both Coimbatore (60.2%) and Salem (38.3%) districts. Other notable source states include Jharkhand, West Bengal, and Odisha. The majority of migrants were male (93.4%), with a significant portion falling in the 15-29 age group. Most migrants originated from rural areas (92.7%) and belong to Other Backward Classes (OBCs) (60%) or Scheduled Castes (SCs) (29.6%). Roughly 11.9% of migrants had some form of disability, including visual, hearing, mobility, and cognitive impairments.

Regarding education, approximately one-third (32.4%) were educated up to the secondary level, while only 3.5% were graduates. Approximately 80% received vocational training, often through self-learning. Alarming, about 61% of migrant children never attended school, and only 18% of children from migrant families currently attend school.

The primary income sources for migrants' families at their source were self-employment in agriculture (42.8%) and remittances (42.1%). Approximately 73.6% of migrants belonged to landless families. Half of the migrants were short-term migrants (3-6 months), with 34.5% being circular migrants (up to 3 months). The majority of migrants (82.2%) migrated without their families, and 54% were recent migrants in Coimbatore. The primary motivation for migration was the lack of employment opportunities in their home regions (36.3%), followed by low wages and irregular employment.

The majority of the migrants (59.2%) were employed in the manufacturing sector. These migrant workers often engaged in long workdays, averaging 11 hours, and earned an average monthly income of Rs 13,293. Approximately 67.5% of migrants availed benefits like employee state insurance and paid leave. A staggering 89% of migrants worked overtime, with 80.2% receiving payment for the overtime work. However, only 20.5% had a written employment contract.

Most migrants were living in rented and shared accommodations (56%), often in overcrowded conditions. Approximately 61% lacked a separate kitchen. Access to clean drinking water varied, with some relying on tap water from outside premises (36%). More than three-fourths of the surveyed migrants (78%) shared common toilets, while just 3.1% had access to childcare facilities.

The top aspirations of migrants, consistent across both districts, prioritize acquiring job-oriented skills, receiving career counseling services, securing regular salaried employment, and building houses in their native villages. They also aspire to be aware of government livelihood schemes, learn the local language, save for the future, purchase land in their hometowns, pursue higher education, and provide better education for their children. Migrants prioritize financial support for entrepreneurial ventures, underscoring their desire for self-reliance and economic empowerment, complemented by their interest in career counseling, skill development, and access to resources for launching businesses.

Challenges faced by migrants encompass language barriers, lower wages, excessive overtime work, water-related issues, limited healthcare access, inadequate toilet facilities, improper accommodations, and irregular job opportunities for female migrants. Wage disparities also impact the economic independence of female migrants.

At Source: Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh

The inter-state out-migration from Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh is driven by the pursuit of better economic opportunities. Madhya Pradesh, with a predominantly rural population and significant poverty issues, sees around 2.9 million individuals migrate to states like Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan. Chhattisgarh, created in 2000, faces similar challenges, with approximately 7.6 million people migrating to states like Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, and Odisha. Poverty rates remain high in both states.

The survey results in these source states shows that most respondents were male, belonging to Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes, or other backward classes, with Hinduism as the predominant religion. These households typically fell under the Below Antyodaya Anna Yojana Poverty Line category, highlighting their economic vulnerability. Their primary income source was casual labour in non-agricultural sectors, with more prevalent land ownership in Chhattisgarh. Expenditure patterns revealed that a significant portion of income was allocated to food expenses, emphasizing the economic challenges faced by the households. Access to government schemes varied, with varying degrees of awareness and utilization.

The demographic profile of the surveyed households showed an average household size, gender ratios, and a significant number of married adults. Many children attended Anganwadi Centres for early education. However, dropout rates and reasons for non-enrollment indicated challenges such as a lack of interest in studying, economic pressures, and insufficient access to quality education.

The survey found that the out-migration rate was 44.7%, with additional potential migrants. Madhya Pradesh had a higher out-migration rate (66.4%) than Chhattisgarh (28.5%). The primary reasons for out-migration included a lack of employment opportunities, low wages, irregular employment, poverty, and debt repayment.

Most migrants traveled with family or relatives, and family migration was more common in Madhya Pradesh than in Chhattisgarh. The majority of migrants were accompanied by family or relatives, with fewer traveling with neighbors or co-villagers. Many knew about their work at the destination, with more awareness in Madhya Pradesh than in Chhattisgarh. Chhattisgarh migrants primarily go to Goa, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu, while Madhya Pradesh migrants favored Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Chhattisgarh itself. Average earnings were higher in Chhattisgarh due to migration to more developed states. Many migrants worked in manual labor.

Disabilities were reported among some migrants, with mobility issues being the most common. Food security was a concern, with many migrants skipping meals due to challenges. The majority received food assistance from relatives or friends, while some resorted to borrowing or selling assets.

Debt was a prevalent issue, with more migrants in debt in Madhya Pradesh than in Chhattisgarh. Reasons for borrowing included poverty, marriage expenses, and house construction, with variations between the two states.

The youth in Chhattisgarh focused on government schemes, while those in Madhya Pradesh sought social prestige. Financial support was the primary need among migrants, followed by awareness and resources for entrepreneurial ventures. The lack of regular work, nearby industries (in Madhya Pradesh), fertile land (in Chhattisgarh), capital, and low wages were prominent factors driving migration.

3. Way Forward

The recommendations for addressing migrant's issues at destination and source encompass various aspects, aiming for comprehensive improvements.

3.1 At Destination Places

At the destination places, one key focus should be creation of stable and sustainable livelihoods opportunities for migrants. This involves recognizing and addressing the temporary nature of migrant's employment, ensuring that migrants have long-term prospects for financial stability.

Equitable healthcare access is another critical concern. Initiatives like 'one-card one nation' can be instrumental in providing migrants with equitable access to ration. This not only enhances their well-being but also ensures they can benefit from social welfare programs.

Improving the education of migrant children is a priority. This includes addressing economic barriers that may hinder access to education. Additionally, promoting the value of education within migrant communities can encourage them to prioritize their children's learning. Appointing teachers proficient in the native languages of migrants such as Hindi in schools can facilitate better communication and learning outcomes.

Enforcing labour regulations is essential to protect migrant workers' rights. This includes ensuring fair wages, social security benefits, and improved working conditions. Registering construction workers under relevant acts is crucial to grant them benefits such as death insurance.

Enhancing living conditions is vital for migrants. This involves improving access to clean water and sanitation facilities, as well as providing safe accommodations with basic amenities.

Investing in skill development is key to helping migrants achieve their aspirations. This can be achieved through targeted skill development and soft skill programs, along with placement assistance, financial aid, and resource access. Furthermore, supporting migrants in learning the local language and providing counseling to address communication barriers can facilitate better integration into their destination communities.

Collaboration between government authorities, employers, civil society organizations, and local communities is encouraged to collectively address migrant challenges and enhance their well-being. Special attention should also be given to disabled migrants, providing them with the necessary support and facilities.

3.2 At Source Places

Improving local infrastructure, connectivity, and digital access is essential. These improvements can boost economic activities, enhance irrigation, provide better education and healthcare, and increase market access.

Supporting local youth in entrepreneurship through skill training and resource allocation can help them establish small enterprises, generating employment opportunities within their source communities.

Increasing awareness of government skill development programs among local youth and emphasizing the benefits of training, including placement opportunities, can encourage skill development.

Ensuring quality education for migrant children includes establishing better infrastructure in areas prone to out-migration and promoting education awareness among parents.

Efforts to raise awareness and facilitate access to government welfare schemes through information campaigns and community engagement are vital to ensuring that these schemes reach the intended beneficiaries.



Collaborations among governments, NGOs, educational institutions, and industry stakeholders should be promoted, with a focus on including local communities. This approach ensures program relevance and sustainability while recognizing the unique skills of migrants.

Skill mapping and registration of migrants at both source and destination can enable access to welfare schemes and ensure smooth transitions for migrants between locations.

Leveraging the skills of trained migrants to improve the local economy and infrastructure at source places can prevent large-scale out-migration and social unrest, benefiting both migrants and their communities.

Chapter 1

Background

1.1. Introduction

Migration has played a significant role in shaping human history and fostering development. People have moved from one place to another, either within their own country or across borders, driven by a range of factors such as economic opportunities, social dynamics, and political circumstances. In India, according to the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by the National Statistical Office in 2020-21, the migration rate was recorded at 28.9%. The PLFS survey findings indicate that migration is more prevalent in urban areas, with a migration rate of 34.9%, compared to rural areas, where the rate stands at 26.5%. Internal migration within India primarily involves individuals from underdeveloped regions seeking better livelihoods and employment prospects in more developed areas, both within and outside their home states.

The PLFS report further highlights that the majority of migration (87.5%) occurs within the same state, while inter-state migration accounts for 11.8%. This pattern remains consistent with rising rate of inter-state migrants over the years. Such movement not only enhances the socioeconomic status of the migrants themselves but also brings benefits to both the regions they originate from and the destinations they migrate. However, despite their contributions to the development of host locations, migrants often face numerous challenges. These challenges include the denial of fair wages, substandard living conditions, and a lack of recognition as workers.

As studies shows that migrants from rural areas and under-developed states mostly employed in low-skilled, labour-intensive sectors endure various malpractices, like receiving low wages, working overtime without compensation, lacking social security coverage, and experiencing discrimination during recruitment and employment (Srivastava, 2013). Das and Sahu's (2019) study highlighted that migrants often reside in low-income areas and are involved in the informal sector,

making them more vulnerable than those with diverse work experiences. They predominantly work in the informal sector, receiving low pay and minimal social security.

Similarly, Deshingkar & Akter (2009) and Mehta (2023) reveal that migrants typically engage in temporary, unskilled work characterized by low wages, job insecurity, and economic vulnerability—an inherent aspect of the informal work environment. Studies also highlighted that those migrants engage in activities such as construction work, transportation, hawking, vending, domestic labor, factory work, and security roles (Peter et al., 2020). Chandrasekhar's (2019) study indicates that migrants live in overcrowded slums and are often excluded from essential benefits, including access to social security programs. Datta (2018) revealed that migrants experience acute social isolation and powerlessness in their work and daily lives at their destinations. This social exclusion is intertwined with political exclusion, as circular migrants are unable to participate in political processes in their destination areas. Despite their economic contributions to both source and destination regions, migrants themselves are often treated as second-class citizens (Jeyaranjan, 2017).

The government made several regulations and policies for migrant workers, which include Inter-State Migrant Workmen Act, 1979, the Unorganized Workers Social Security Act, 2008, the Code on Wages, 2019, the Code on Occupational Safety, Health, and Working Conditions, 2020, and the Code on Industrial Relations, 2020. The government has also introduced schemes like 'One Nation One Ration Card,' affordable rental housing complexes, PM Garib Kalyan Yojna, the e-Shram portal, and a national migration labour policy, aiming to improve migrant welfare.

The draft national migration policy drafted by NITI Aayog emphasizes recognizing migration as a developmental component, advocating that government policies should support rather than hinder internal migration. It addresses various migration-related concerns like social protection, housing, health, and education. The policy recommends establishing management bodies for inter-state migration and enhancing migration data accuracy, particularly for seasonal and circular migration. It suggests greater coordination among different government departments and proposes a dedicated unit within the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

Some states like Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, and Kerala have also taken some positive steps by conducting migrant surveys to identify their problems, and implementing welfare schemes for migrant workers, such as the Aawaz Insurance Scheme, Apna Ghar Housing, and mobile creches for their children etc. While these initiatives aim to provide migrant safety nets and facilitate safer, more affordable migration, effective implementation and assessments are crucial.

The federal structure of the Indian political system grants states the power to intervene in matters related to migrants and workers. Migration for work within India is a citizen's fundamental right, protected by Article 19 of the Indian Constitution. The central government, under List I (Union List) of the seventh schedule, has authority over inter-state migration. However, it is widely acknowledged that a significant proportion of migrants residing in urban destinations live in precarious conditions and are often excluded from the welfare measures implemented by the receiving states. The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the vulnerability of the migrant population and their associated challenge. It is imperative to ensure that migrants are not deprived of their rights and are protected from exploitation. Urgent action is needed to develop policies and skill development programs that prioritize the well-being of migrants, both in their source regions and their destination areas. These initiatives should aim to provide migrants with access to decent employment opportunities, improved living conditions, fair wages, and recognition as workers.

Given the challenges faced by intra and inter-state migrants in India, organizations like *Caritas India* have taken up the responsibility of addressing the needs of this vulnerable population through programs such as the *Jeevan Nirman Program*. To effectively cater to the needs of migrants, it is crucial to have accurate data that captures their demographic details, migration patterns, skill sets, and socioeconomic conditions. Such information can serve as the foundation for designing targeted interventions and policies that address the specific challenges faced by migrants. It is essential to invest in comprehensive data collection efforts and establish a robust information system to monitor the movement and well-being of internal migrants in India. By having an updated database and a deep understanding of the unique circumstances faced by migrants, policymakers and organizations can develop evidence-based strategies to support migrants in various aspects of their lives, including employment, housing, healthcare, and social welfare. This can contribute to the overall empowerment and integration of migrants into society, fostering inclusive and sustainable development for all.

To address the lack of comprehensive information on internal migrant workers in India, *Caritas India* has utilized various approaches, including field observations, existing literature on migration, and collaborations with local dioceses. These efforts have enabled the identification of high out-migration areas such as Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh as source states, and Tamil Nadu as a destination state. While these initial steps have provided valuable insights, they are insufficient to develop an evidence-based program that caters to specific locations and their unique challenges. Therefore, this study aims to delve deeper by identifying districts and villages within the selected source states namely Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, where the out-migration rate is high. In addition, the selected destination locations in Tamil Nadu, where the in-migration is high. By focusing on these selected specific areas, the study intends to document the situation analysis and need assessment of migrant and migrants' households.

The primary objective of this study is to generate critical insights into the diverse challenges faced by migrants in India. By exploring the factors driving migration, examining the social and economic circumstances of migrants, and assessing their access to essential services such as healthcare, education, and housing, the study will provide a comprehensive understanding of the migrant experience. These insights will prove instrumental in enabling Caritas India and other stakeholders to design more targeted interventions that effectively address the needs of migrants and contribute to improving their overall living conditions.

By conducting this study, *Caritas India* aims to bridge the information gap and generate evidence that informs the development of sustainable programs and policies for migrants. The ultimate goal is to empower migrants, enhance their well-being, and foster greater inclusivity and social justice in society. Through collaborative efforts and a data-driven approach, Caritas India seeks to advocate for the rights of migrants and create lasting positive change in their lives.

1.2. Objectives

The following are the primary objectives of the study: -

- To identify the districts and villages in the source states namely Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh, and locations at destination location namely Tamil Nadu, where the out-migration and in-migration rate is high.
- To conduct a vulnerability mapping covering households in the selected villages in the source state to understand the socio-economic background of villagers, assets of the communities, what people care about, their access to basic facilities/services, situation of their children, youth, disabled, and other vulnerable categories and factors of migration.

- To examine comprehensively, the migration process, including reasons of migration, duration of migration, migrants' educational backgrounds, employment types, income levels, working conditions, living conditions, remittances, and their access to government programs in destination locations.
- To assess the aspirations, challenges and assistance required for the migrants including youth and women and potential migrants, both at sources and destination locations.

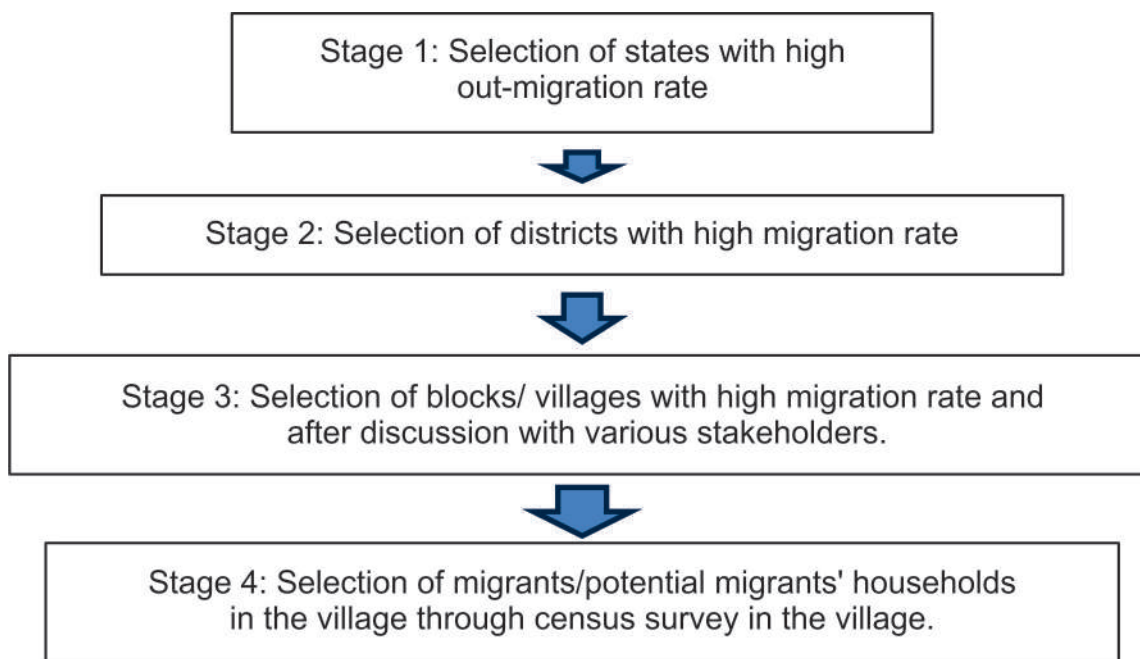
1.3. Methodology

The detailed selection process of sample villages at source states and locations at destination states has been discussed below.

1.3.1. Selection of Villages at Source States: The villages, and migrants' households (respondents) in the source states for the survey were identified using following multi-stage procedure.

As indicated in Chart 1 above, the initial step involved identifying districts in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh with high out-migration rates. This identification process relied on data from the Census of India, 2011, supplemented by secondary information and discussions with a range of stakeholders, including Caritas India program staff, partner organizations, relevant state/district government officials, local residents, administrative representatives, and NGO officials. Subsequently, two districts, Ujjain and Rajgarh in Madhya Pradesh, and two districts, Raigarh and Gorella-Pendra-Marwahi (formerly part of Bilaspur, also known as Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi) in Chhattisgarh, were selected for study.

Chart 1: Selection of Migrant Households: Procedure



Once these districts were chosen, a total of 15 villages were identified, comprising 7 villages from Ujjain and 8 villages from Rajgarh district, all characterized by high inter-state migration rates. The selection of these villages was finalized through consultations with the aforementioned stakeholders (Table 1.1). Finally, the survey encompassed 300 households that were chosen after identifying migrants, including potential migrants' households, from the selected villages by conducting a detail census or listing exercise.

Table 1.1: Sample Villages, Block by Districts in Madhya Pradesh

Sl No.	Village	Block	District
1	Malikhedi	Nagda	Ujjain
2	Nawada	Nagda	Ujjain
3	Akiya Najik	Nagda	Ujjain
4	Barkhera Najik	Nagda	Ujjain
5	Nagjhiri	Nagda	Ujjain
6	Surajpur	Tarana	Ujjain
7	Keshav pur Nipania	Tarana	Ujjain
8	Gwada	Pachore	Rajgarh
9	Mangayakheri	Pachore	Rajgarh
10	Chhapra	Pachore	Rajgarh
11	Jogipura	Pachore	Rajgarh
12	Lachmanpura	Pachore	Rajgarh
13	Haluhedi Kala	Pachore	Rajgarh
14	Padoniya	Biaora	Rajgarh
15	Haluhedi Kalan	Biaora	Rajgarh

Similarly, 15 villages were selected for the survey in Chhattisgarh state, comprising 7 villages from the Gorella-Pendra-Marwahi district and 8 villages from the Raigarh district (Table 1.2). In Chhattisgarh, also a total 300 migrant households were surveyed. Consequently, a total of 600 migrant households were surveyed in the two districts of Madhya Pradesh.

Table 1.2: Sample Villages, Block by Districts in Chhattisgarh

Sl No.	Village	Block	District
1	Tikam Khurd	Gorella	Gorella-Pendra-Marwahi
2	Kotmi Khurd	Gorella	Gorella-Pendra Marwahi
3	Basti	Gorella	Gorella-Pendra-Marwahi
4	Bokra Moda	Gorella	Gorella-Pendra-Marwahi
5	Lamna	Gorella	Gorella-Pendra-Marwahi
6	Amgaon	Gorella	Gorella-Pendra-Marwahi
7	Piparbahra/Rotimar	Gorella	Gorella-Pendra-Marwahi
8	Pakhnakot	Dharamjaigarh	Raigarh
9	Bhalupakhna	Dharamjaigarh	Raigarh
10	Raimer	Dharamjaigarh	Raigarh
11	Kaimar	Dharamjaigarh	Raigarh
12	Ganpatpur	Dharamjaigarh	Raigarh
13	Kapiyabhouna	Dharamjaigarh	Raigarh
14	Kiriya	Dharamjaigarh	Raigarh
15	Jagalmahua	Dharamjaigarh	Raigarh

1.3.2. Selection of Locations at Destination State: The selection of locations at destinations for the survey was carried out in three phases. In the first phase, a list of districts with a high concentration of in-migrants in Tamil Nadu was compiled based on secondary information, including the Census of India, 2011, and other available reports. Following discussions with various stakeholders, such as program staff at Caritas India, partner organizations, relevant state/district government officials, administration representatives, and NGO officials, two districts, namely Coimbatore and Salem, were chosen.

Table 1.3: Sample Locations, Blocks by Districts in Tamil Nadu

Sl No	Location	Block	District
1	Kannampalayam	Sulur	Coimbatore
2	Irugur	Sulur	Coimbatore
3	Thennampalayam	Sulur	Coimbatore
4	Pallapalayam	Sulur	Coimbatore
5	Malumichampatty	Kinathukadavu	Coimbatore
6	Othakalmandapam	Kinathukadavu	Coimbatore
7	Madukari	Madukari	Coimbatore
8	Pottaneri	Mecheri	Salem
9	M kallipatti	Mecheri	Salem
10	Mecheri	Mecheri	Salem
11	Manjakuttai	Yercaud	Salem
12	Muluvi	Yercaud	Salem
13	Semmanatham	Yercaud	Salem

Additionally, before commencing the survey, specific locations where in-migrants from outside the state reside and work were thoughtfully identified. In total, 13 locations were selected for conducting detailed interviews with the migrants, comprising 7 locations in Salem and 6 locations in Coimbatore (Table 1.3). The investigators visited these chosen locations and conducted interviews with the migrant workers at their convenience. Eventually, a total of 713 migrants were interviewed in the two districts of Tamil Nadu.

1.4. Period of Survey: The survey was conducted in both at source states (Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh) and destinations (Tamil Nadu) during the month of June, 2023.

1.5. Chapters: This report comprises four chapters: Chapter 1 discusses the background, context, objectives, and methodology of the survey. Chapter 2 presents the findings from the survey of migrants at their destination in Tamil Nadu. Chapter 3 focuses on the findings from the survey of migrants' households at their sources in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. The final chapter concludes the report by recommending future strategies to improve the well-being of migrants both at their destinations and sources.

Chapter 2

Migrant at Destination

The survey finding consists of two parts. The first part is based on survey of migrants at destination in two districts of Tamil Nadu, while the second part is based survey of households at source in four districts of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. This chapter discusses the findings from the survey in two districts namely Coimbatore and Salem in Tamil Nadu.

2.1. Brief Description of Destination State

Tamil Nadu, situated in the southern part of India, shares borders with Karnataka to the northwest, Andhra Pradesh to the north, and Kerala to the west. It is the tenth-largest state in terms of area and the sixth-largest in terms of population in the country. Tamil Nadu ranks second in terms of gross state domestic product (Rs. 24.85 trillion), following Maharashtra, and holds the fifth position in per capita net domestic product after Haryana, Karnataka, Goa, and Sikkim in India¹. Recognized as one of the most industrialized states in the nation, Tamil Nadu holds the top spot in terms of the number of factories and industrial workers. Its manufacturing sector is diversified and encompasses various industries such as garments and textile products, automobiles, electronics, information technology, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, and food processing. The state consistently ranks among the leading states in these sectors, highlighting its significance and contribution to the overall industrial landscape of India.

The influx of in-migrants to Tamil Nadu is driven by various factors, primarily the need for skilled labour in industries and other sectors, as well as other personal reasons. These migrants are attracted to the state due to better job opportunities, higher wages, improved educational facilities, and enhanced healthcare services. According to the 2011 census data, the top 10 states contributing to in-migration in Tamil Nadu are diverse.

1 https://www.ibef.org/download/1674123545_Tamil_Nadu_Sep2022.pdf

Table 2.1: Top Ten Source States of Migrants in Tamil Nadu

Rank	State	Size (in 000)	%
1	Kerala	581.9	30.9
2	Andhra Pradesh	330.8	17.5
3	Karnataka	302.2	16.0
4	Puducherry	292.4	15.5
5	Rajasthan	98.4	5.2
6	Maharashtra	69.2	3.7
7	Bihar	36.0	1.9
8	Uttar Pradesh	31.9	1.7
9	West Bengal	30.4	1.6
10	Odisha	27.3	1.4
11	Others	84.6	4.5
	Total	1885.1	100.0

Source: Census of India, 2011

Kerala accounts for the largest share at 25.9%, followed by neighboring states Karnataka (16.7%) and Andhra Pradesh (16.5%). Puducherry (14.6%), Rajasthan (5.1%), Maharashtra (4.1%), Andaman & Nicobar Islands (4.7%), Bihar (1.7%), West Bengal (1.7%), and Uttar Pradesh (1.6%) (Table 2.1).

Notably, the in-migrants from less developed states in the northern and eastern regions of India primarily migrate for work and engaged in industrial sectors, construction, textiles, and trade-related activities. The availability of employment opportunities in these sectors attracts these individuals from economically less developed regions, seeking better livelihood prospects in Tamil Nadu. As a study conducted by NIRD revealed that lack of opportunities and poverty in their native places, particularly in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, prompted migrants to seek better employment opportunities and higher income in Tamil Nadu (NIRD, 2021). Similarly, a study by Caritas India indicates that push factors for people from Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, and Odisha to migrate to Tamil Nadu include unemployment, landlessness, debt, inadequate educational facilities, marriage expenses, low wages in their places of origin, and ineffective employment schemes (Caritas India, 2022).

Grace et al. (2022) noted that migrant workers face exploitation, lack social networks, endure precarious economic conditions, experience discrimination, and are deprived of full citizenship in the state. Other studies also highlight the vulnerable situation of migrant workers, particularly regarding poor living conditions. More than 80% of respondents in the NIRD (2021) study reported unsuitable housing conditions, often living in overcrowded rooms with poor water supply, sanitation, and limited space (Thangamayan and Sundaram, 2022). Caritas India (2022) also found that migrant workers live in extremely poor conditions, often near garbage dumping areas, drainage systems, and makeshift roadside shelters. However, these studies have limitations as they focus on specific sectors and lack attention to short-term and circular migrants, who are mostly engaged in the informal sector and are particularly vulnerable. This study aims to address this gap by focusing on these migrants, especially in two districts of Tamil Nadu, namely Coimbatore and Salem.

2.2. Survey Findings: In-Migrants in Tamil Nadu

2.2.1. Migrants and Places of Origin

A total of 713 migrants were interviewed for this study, with 67% (483 migrants) interviewed in Coimbatore and 32.3% (230 migrants) in Salem districts. Among these migrants, approximately half of them hailed from Bihar, accounting for 49.4% of the total. The next significant contributor was Jharkhand, representing 20.1% of the migrants, followed by West Bengal at 15.6%, Odisha at 6.2%, Uttar Pradesh at 3.2%, Assam at 3.1%, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan at 1.7% each (Table 2.2).

Interestingly, when examining the specific districts, the highest number of in-migrants in Coimbatore were from Bihar, comprising 60.2% of the total in-migrants there. In Salem, the majority of in-migrants were from Jharkhand, constituting 38.3% of the total in-migrant population in that district. These findings highlight the dominant presence of migrants from Bihar and Jharkhand in both Coimbatore and Salem districts, showcasing the significance of these states as major sources of in-migration in Tamil Nadu.

Table 2.2: Migrants Place of Origin in Coimbatore and Salem

State	Coimbatore		Salem		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Bihar	291	60.2	61	26.5	352	49.4
Jharkhand	55	11.4	85	37.0	140	19.6
West Bengal	85	17.6	25	10.9	110	15.4
Odisha	28	5.8	16	7.0	44	6.2
Assam	7	1.4	15	6.5	22	3.1
Uttar Pradesh	10	2.1	12	5.2	22	3.1
Madhya Pradesh	6	1.2	6	2.6	12	1.7
Rajasthan	0	0.0	5	2.2	5	0.7
Tamil Nadu	0	0.0	4	1.7	4	0.6
Nepal	1	0.2	0	0.0	1	0.1
West Bengal	0	0.0	1	0.4	1	0.1
Total	483	100.0	230	100.0	713	100.0

Source: Primary Survey, 2023

2.2.2. Demographic Profile

Gender: The majority of respondents (migrants surveyed) in both districts were male, accounting for 93.4% of the total, while only 6.6% were females. In Salem, the proportion of male in-migrants was relatively higher at 96.1% compared to Coimbatore, where it was 92.1%. This indicates that migration from the source places is predominantly male-centric, a historical trend that continues to prevail.

Age-groups: Around 65.8% of the migrants belonged to the young age group of 15-29 years², with approximately one-third falling into the 30-59 age group, and only 0.3% being 60 years and above. In Coimbatore, a relatively higher proportion of migrants belonged to the young age group (69.4%) compared

² The youth is defined as 15-29 years as per National Youth Policy, 2014 and Draft Youth Policy, 2021.

to Salem (58.3%), whereas migrants in the age group of 30-59 were relatively more in Salem (30.2%) than Coimbatore (41.7%). However, migrants aged 60 years and above were found only in Coimbatore.

Sector or Areas: The majority of migrants originated from rural areas in their source places, with 92.7% coming from rural areas compared to only 7.3% from urban areas. This proportion was higher in Coimbatore (96.5%) than Salem (84.8%), where a relatively higher proportion of migrants came from urban areas (15.2%) compared to Coimbatore (3.5%).

Social group: The caste profile of migrants reveals that approximately 59.6% of migrants belonged to Other Backward Classes (OBCs), followed by Scheduled Castes (SCs) at 29.6%, Scheduled Tribes (STs) at 9.4%, and only 1.4% belonging to the General caste category. In Salem district, a significantly higher proportion of migrants belonged to OBCs (89.6%) compared to Coimbatore (45.3%), while migrants belonging to SCs were considerably higher in Coimbatore (40.8%) than Salem (6.1%).

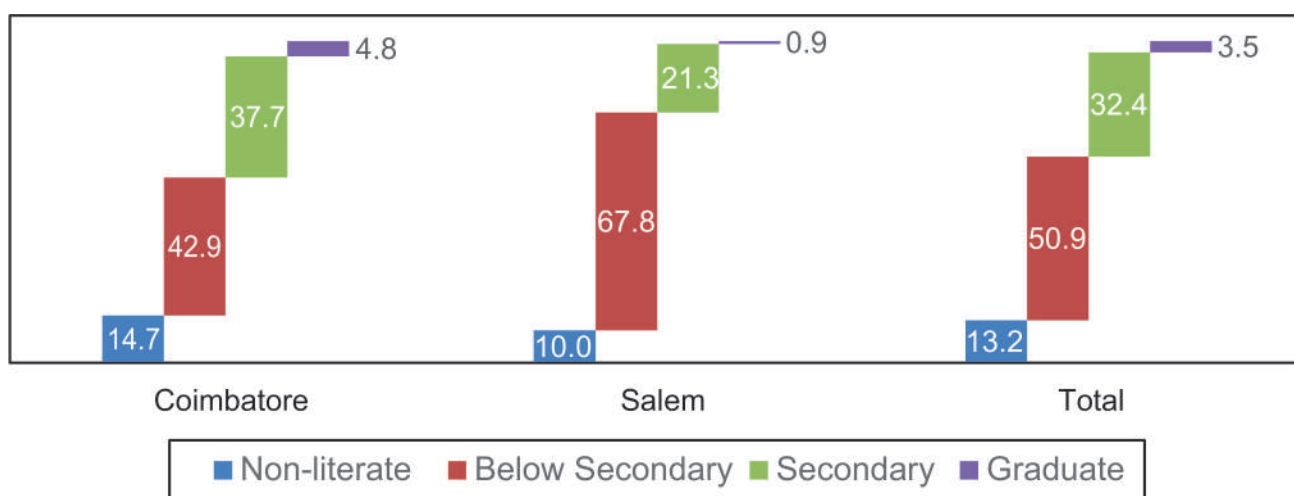
Religious groups: The religious groups of migrant shows that nearly 90% of migrants were Hindus, followed by Muslims at 10.8%, and a small percentage were Christians (0.3%). However, the proportion of migrants belonging to the Muslim community was significantly higher in Coimbatore (15.3%) compared to Salem (1.3%).

Marital status: Among the migrants, 60.9% were married, 38.1% were unmarried, and a small percentage were widowed, divorced, or separated (1%). However, there is a significant difference in the marital status of migrants between the two districts. The proportion of married individuals was almost twice as high in Salem (92.2%) compared to Coimbatore (46%), while the percentage of unmarried individuals was relatively higher in Coimbatore (52.6%) than Salem (7.8%).

2.2.3. Education and Skill Levels

Education: Regarding educational levels among the migrants, approximately one-third of them had completed secondary education (32.4%), and only 3.5% had attained a graduate degree or higher. The majority of migrants had educational qualifications below the secondary level, with 13.2% being illiterate. The migrants in Coimbatore had relatively higher educational levels, with 37.7% having completed secondary education and 4% being graduates. In comparison, 21.3% had completed secondary education and only 0.9% were graduates in Salem. Notably, a significant proportion of migrants (48.3%) had educated upto middle level in Salem, whereas in Coimbatore, it accounted for 17.6% (Figure 2.1).

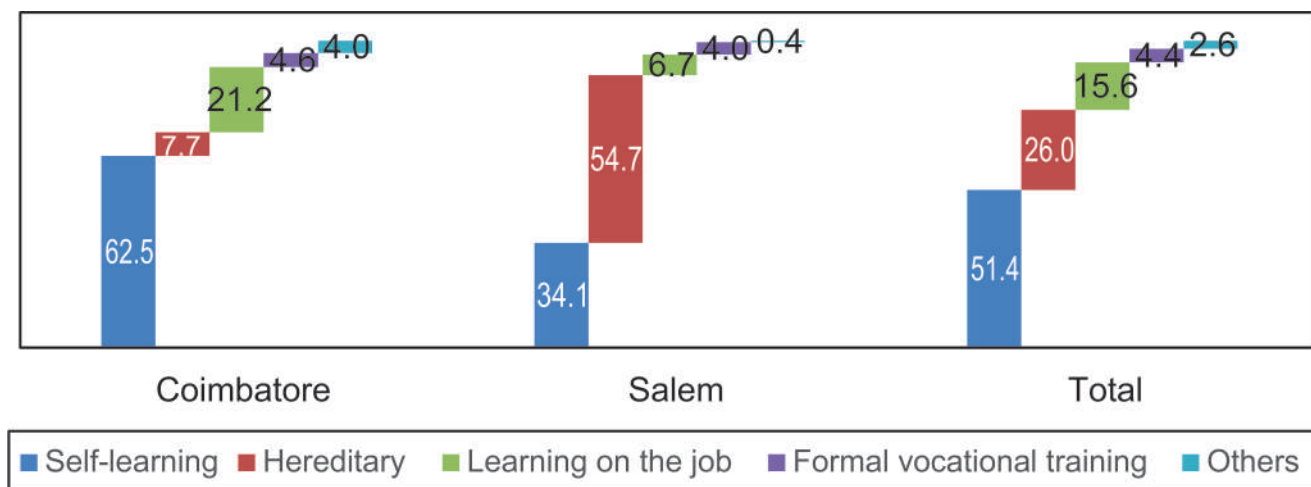
Figure 2.1: Educational Levels of Migrants (in %)



Source: Primary Survey, 2023

Vocational or Skill Training: Regarding skill or vocational training, approximately 80% of the migrants had received some form of skill training. Among them, 51.4% acquired skills through self-learning on the jobs, 26.0% through hereditary, and 15.6% through -learning on the job (Figure 2.2). Only 3.5% had received formal vocational training, and 2.6% from others sources. The proportion of migrants with hereditary vocational or technical training was significantly higher in Salem, whereas Coimbatore had a higher percentage of migrants who learned on the job and through self-learning.

Figure 2.2: Educational Levels of Migrants (in %)



Source: Primary Survey, 2023

2.2.4. Disability Status

Disability: As per Washington Group set of questions (Annexure 1), among the total migrants surveyed, approximately one-eighth of them (11.9%, 85 out of 713) had some form of disability. The types of disabilities reported indicate a range of visual, hearing, mobility, and cognitive impairments among these migrants. The proportion of disabled migrants was almost similar in both Coimbatore (11.4%, 55 out of 483) and Salem (13%, 30 out of 230) districts.

Type of disability: The types of disabilities among the migrants shows that 9 individuals had difficulty in seeing and required glasses, 16 individuals were using hearing aids, 16 individuals faced difficulties in climbing steps, and another 15 individuals experienced challenges with memory or concentration. Among those facing memory difficulties, 8 individuals reported significant difficulty in remembering.

2.3.5. Ration Card

The status of ration cards among migrants shows that more than 85% of them possessed Below Poverty Line (BPL) cards, indicating their eligibility for subsidized food and essential supplies. However, when asked the place of issue of ration cards, it was observed that around 99.7% of the migrants had their ration cards issued at their source or place of origin, indicating that they had obtained their cards before migrating. Only 0.3% of the migrants (2 families in number) had their ration cards issued at their destination locations.

2.3.6. Income Source and Land Ownership at Origin

Income source: The main household income sources for migrants at their place of origin were primarily self-employment in agriculture and allied activities, accounting for 42.8%. Another significant income source was remittances, contributing to 42.1% of their income, followed by casual labor work at 15.1%. It is worth

noting that the reliance on remittances was significantly higher in Salem, with 73% of migrants depending on this source, whereas in Coimbatore, it accounted for 26.9%. This finding aligns with the higher percentage of migrants belonging to Below Poverty Line (BPL) households in Salem district, as remittances can often be a vital lifeline for impoverished families.

Land ownership: The land ownership status shows that nearly three-fourths (73.6%) of the migrants belonged to landless households, indicating a lack of ownership of agricultural land. This percentage was notably higher in Salem, with 90% of migrants falling into this category, compared to 65.8% in Coimbatore. This suggests that a significant proportion of migrants from both districts may have migrated in search of better livelihood opportunities due to limited access to agricultural land in their place of origin.

2.3.7. Educational Status of Children

Schooling Status: The status of schooling among the children of migrants reveals concerning findings. About 61% of the migrants said that their children had never attended school. On the other hand, 18.5% of migrants reported that their children were enrolled in school but not attending, and 2.5% had dropped out of school. This means that around eight out of ten children from migrant families were not attending school at the time of the survey, while only 18% were attending school regularly. Notably, the percentage of children not attending school (including those not enrolled, not attending, and dropouts) was higher in Salem (89.6%) compared to Coimbatore (75.2%). This indicates that only one-fourth (24.9%) of children from migrant families in Coimbatore and one-tenth (10.4%) in Salem were attending school.

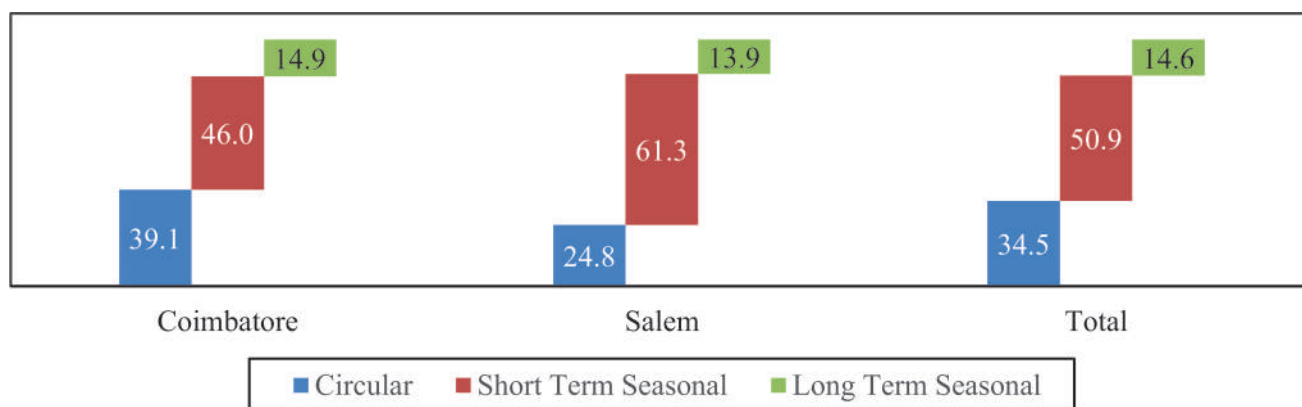
Type of School: Among the children from migrant families who were attending school, the majority (92.3%) were enrolled in government schools, while only a few attended private schools (7.7%). This preference for government schools was more prominent in Coimbatore (96.4%) compared to Salem (81.8%).

Reasons for Not Attending School: It was found that the primary reasons for not attending school were multifaceted, which include the need to earn money to support their families, a lack of interest in studying, responsibilities for taking care of siblings and other family members. However, a significant factor contributing to disinterest among migrant children was their lack of proficiency in the local language, as well as the absence of teachers who could instruct them in their native languages such as Hindi. Furthermore, the school environment, where local children and teachers predominantly communicate and instruct in the local language, Tamil, also contributed to disinterest among these children, leading to many of them not attending school even after enrolling.

2.3.8. Migration Status and Period

Migration Status: The study revealed that approximately half of the migrants were seasonal short-term migration (3 to 6 months) (50.9%) followed by circular migration (up to 3 months) (34.5%), and seasonal long-term migration (6 months or more) (14.6%). The proportion of seasonal short-term migrants was relatively higher in Salem, accounting for 61.3% of the migrants, compared to Coimbatore, where it constituted 45.9%. On the other hand, short-term or circular migrants were more prevalent in Coimbatore, comprising 39.1% of the migrants, compared to Salem, where they accounted for 24.8% (Figure 2.3). Majority of the migrants (82.2%) had migrated without their families. This trend was slightly higher in Salem, with 84.4% of migrants being unaccompanied, compared to Coimbatore, where 81.1% of migrants had migrated alone.

Figure 2.3: Migration Status in Coimbatore and Salem (in %)



Source: Primary Survey, 2023

Migrating Period: Approximately 40% of the migrants had been migrating to their destinations (Coimbatore and Salem) for the last 2 years, with 27.2% for the past one year only. Conversely, 12.2% had been migrating for a period of 2-5 years, around 24% had been migrating for 5-10 years, and 23.8% for 10 years or more. In Coimbatore, more than half (54%) of the migrants had been migrating for the last 2 years, while in Salem, 81.1% had been migrating for the past 5 years or more, including 44.8% who had been doing so for 10 years or more.

2.3.9. Reasons and Decisions of Migration

Reasons for Migration: The study identified three main reasons for migration among the migrants. The primary reason reported was the lack of employment opportunities in their native places, accounting for 36.5% of migrants. This was followed by low wages or earnings at their native places, constituting 25.1% of migrants, and the lack of regular employment, which accounted for 22.7%. Other reasons cited for migration included the failure of agriculture (5.5%), poverty/hunger (3.1%), the need to pay off debts (1.7%), irregular payment (2%), and a lack of sufficient skills to obtain local employment (0.8%). A higher proportion of migrants in Salem (63.9%) identified the lack of employment opportunities in their native places as the main reason for migration, compared to Coimbatore, where 23.2% of migrants cited this reason. On the other hand, a higher percentage of migrants in Coimbatore (32.3%) compared to Salem (2.6%) stated that the lack of regular employment at their native places was a primary reason for their migration (Table 2.3).

Table 2.3: Reasons of Migration (in %)

Reasons	Coimbatore	Salem	Total
Lack of employment opportunities at native place	23.2	63.9	36.3
Low wage/earning at native place	27.7	19.6	25.1
No regular employment	32.3	2.6	22.7
Failure of agriculture	6.4	3.5	5.5
Poverty/huger	3.9	1.3	3.1
No regular payment	2.3	1.3	2.0
To pay debt	2.3	0.4	1.7
Lack of enough skills to get employment locally	1.0	0.4	0.8
Others	0.8	7.0	2.8
Total	100	100	100

Source: Primary Survey, 2023

Decision about migration: The migrants' decisions regarding their destination were primarily influenced by their family members or relatives, accounting for 59.6% of the total migrants, followed by neighbors or co-villagers at 37.3%. Notably, the family members facilitated for migration were significantly higher in Salem, while neighbor or co-villager recommendations played a more prominent role in Coimbatore. Only a small proportion of migrants, around 2.4%, relied on contractors or middlemen, and a few others mentioned social media or other mediums.

2.3.10. Source of Finding Work and Accompanied by

Sources of finding work: About half of the migrants (49%) found work at their destination through family members, while 24% relied on relatives or friends. Additionally, 25% of migrants reported finding employment through fellow migrant workers from their village, and a small proportion (2%) found work through contractors or middlemen. A higher percentage of migrants in Salem obtained jobs through their family members and relatives/friends compared to Coimbatore, whereas a higher proportion of migrants in Coimbatore found work through fellow migrant workers from their villages.

Accompanied by: Around 45% of migrants migrated with family members or relatives, while 29.9% migrated alone and 23.7% migrated with neighbors or co-villagers. The percentage of migrants who migrated alone was significantly higher in Salem (60.4%) compared to Coimbatore (15.3%). Despite the relatively low proportion of migrants who migrated through middlemen or contractors, around 5.8% of migrants paid them to facilitate their migration to Tamil Nadu. This phenomenon was more prevalent among migrants in Coimbatore (7.5%) compared to Salem (2.2%).

2.3.11. Remittance

Remittance: Majority of migrants (85.3%) sent remittances to their native places from Tamil Nadu. This proportion was relatively higher in Coimbatore (86.5%) compared to Salem (82.6%) district. Remittances were sent mainly on a monthly basis (87.2%) or whenever required (10%), with a few sending them on a quarterly (1.2%) or half-yearly (1.3%) basis. The pattern of remittance frequency was similar, with a slightly higher proportion of migrants in Salem (89.5%) sending money on a monthly basis compared to Coimbatore (86.1%). Almost 97% of migrants sent money only to their families, with a higher proportion in Coimbatore (98.8%) compared to Salem (93.2%). Most migrants sent remittances to their families through banks (91%), while some also used mobile transfers (5.4%), and a small percentage used other methods (3.4%), such as co-villagers (2.1%) or personal visit (1.3%).

Use of remittance: The remittances received by families of migrants at native places were primarily used for securing food (68.6%), supporting children's education (12.2%), healthcare expenses (8.2%), agricultural needs (4.6%), and other purposes (6.5%), such as loan repayment, etc. However, a relatively higher proportion of families of migrants from Salem used remittances for children's education and healthcare compared to Coimbatore.

2.3.12. Sector/Occupations

Sectors of employment: Majority of migrants (59.2%) were engaged in the manufacturing sector, highlighting its significance as a source of employment. This was followed by the textile sector, in which 18.5% of migrants were employed. Other notable sectors of employment included construction (7.7%) and hotel and restaurants (2.1%). There were also migrants working in smaller proportions in sectors such as transport, small business and trade, personal services and domestic helpers, tea and coffee estates, and glass cutting, among others. It is worth noting that in Coimbatore, migrants were more heavily involved in the

manufacturing and textile sectors, whereas in Salem, they were engaged in construction, tea and coffee estates, small business, and trade.

Occupations of the migrants: Majority of the migrants involved in jobs such as helpers, laborers, and machine operators in the manufacturing, construction, and trade sectors. Additionally, there were migrants employed in occupations such as welders, plumbers, and maintenance workers, highlighting the diversity of roles within the migrant workforce.

2.3.12. Income and Frequency of Payment

Average Income: The average monthly income of migrants was Rs 13,293, with income levels ranging from Rs 11,000 to Rs 20,000 per month. Interestingly, the average monthly income of migrants was relatively higher in Salem (Rs 15,559) compared to Coimbatore (Rs 12,214), indicating variations in income levels between the two districts.

Frequency of Payment: Majority of migrants (89.9%) received their payments on a monthly basis, followed by weekly and daily payments. This payment pattern was more prevalent in Coimbatore compared to Salem district, indicating a more structured payment system in place.

2.3.13. Working Conditions and Other related Issues

Social Security and other benefits: Around 67.5% of migrants were receiving some benefits, which includes employment state insurance, paid/earned leave, medical/sickness leave, maternity/paternity benefits, employment provident fund, life insurance, and health insurance. The most common form of benefit was employee state insurance fund (14%), closely followed by employee provident fund (13%), medical or sickness benefits (9.7%), and life insurance (4.3%). A small percentage of migrants also received other benefits such as maternity/paternity benefits and health insurance, although in proportions only less than 2%. Migrants in Salem (71.3%) were receiving higher benefits compared to Coimbatore (50.9%). Specifically, the incidence of employment provident fund and medical/sickness leave was significantly higher among migrants in Salem.

Prior Knowledge of Work: Only 11.2% of migrants had prior knowledge about the nature of their work before migration. This percentage was slightly higher in Salem (12.2%) compared to Coimbatore (10.8%), indicating that a small proportion of migrants were familiar with their work responsibilities prior to migration.

Forced Work: Around 8.6% of migrants reported that they were forced to work in conditions such as unfamiliar nature of work and payment systems that they were not aware of prior to migration. This percentage was slightly higher in Salem (9.1%) compared to Coimbatore (8.3%).

Freedom to Move Out: Nearly half (48.4%) of the migrants disclosed that they were not allowed to leave the workplace during working hours. This issue was considerably more widespread in Coimbatore (60%) compared to Salem (33.9%), highlighting a greater degree of restrictions on the mobility of migrants in Coimbatore.

Knowledge about Minimum Wages: Around one-third (32.5%) of migrants had knowledge about the minimum wages set by state regulations for their occupations. Migrant workers in Coimbatore (36.9%) were more aware of the prevailing minimum wages compared to those in Salem (23.5%). The main sources of this information were co-workers (69%), employers (13.8%), NGOs (13.4%), and government sources (9%), along with others such as social media or newspapers. Migrants in Coimbatore primarily received this information from their co-workers (84.8%), while migrants in Salem relied more on NGOs (57.4%).

Overtime: Around 89% of migrants worked overtime, with a higher prevalence in Coimbatore (94.6%) compared to Salem (77.8%). Out of those who worked overtime, 80.2% received payment for the additional hours worked. The proportion of migrants receiving overtime payment was significantly higher in Coimbatore (85.7%) compared to Salem (68.7%).

Written Contract: Only one-fifth of the migrants (20.5%) had a written contract, with a significantly higher percentage in Salem (57.8%) compared to Coimbatore (2.7%). This indicates that a larger proportion of migrants in Salem had formal agreements regarding their employment terms, while in Coimbatore, the majority relied on informal arrangements.

Weekly and Public Holiday Off: Almost 70% of the migrants received a weekly day off, with a higher prevalence in Coimbatore (76.2%) compared to Salem (56.5%). Additionally, 79% of the migrants also received leave on public holidays, which was relatively higher in Coimbatore (82.4%) compared to Salem (72.2%). However, out of those who were entitled to a weekly day off, only 24.5% received payment for that day, and only 14.7% received payment in case of leave on public holidays. This discrepancy was more common among migrant workers in Salem than in Coimbatore, indicating potential gaps in the implementation of labor regulations.

Average Daily Hours, Days of Work in a Month, and Distance of Workplace: The average daily working hours for migrants were 11 hours, with a maximum of up to 13 hours. This average was consistent across both districts. Additionally, on average, migrants traveled around 2.2 kilometers daily to reach their workplaces, with a maximum distance of 35 kilometers. The average distance was slightly higher in Salem (3.5 kilometers) compared to Coimbatore (1.5 kilometers). The most common modes of travel were company vehicles, public transport, and walking.

Medical or Sick Paid Leave: Around 42% of the migrants reported receiving medical or sick leave, with a higher prevalence in Salem (65.7%) compared to Coimbatore (31.1%). This indicates that a larger proportion of migrants in Salem had access to paid leave for medical reasons, highlighting potential differences in health benefits provided by employers in the two districts.

Separate Toilets for Male/Female and Crèche Facility: More than three-fourths of the migrants (78%) had access to separate toilets for males and females. This facility was relatively higher in Coimbatore (84.7%) compared to Salem (64.3%). In addition, only 3.1% of migrants reported having access to a crèche facility in their workplace, and the situation was similar in both districts, indicating limited availability of childcare facilities for migrant workers.

Harassment at Workplace: Approximately 14.2% of migrants witnessed other workers being harassed in the workplace during the last 365 days, with a higher reported incidence in Coimbatore (18%) compared to Salem (6.1%) district. However, it is surprising that the migrant workers avoided discussing harassment specifically faced by female workers. Majority of them reported emotional (85.2%) harassment, followed by physical (11.1%) and sexual (3.7%). Only 14.8% of migrant workers reported the presence of grievance redress mechanisms to address such issues, indicating a need for better mechanisms to address workplace harassment.

Mistakes and Threats from Employers: Only a small number of migrants reported making mistakes in their work (3.2%), and even fewer experienced threats such as having their payment cut or being required to work overtime without receiving proper compensation due to mistakes made by their employers (1.8%). While the percentage is low, it is worth noting that more than half of those affected reported threats, which underscores poor working conditions.

Job Changes: Only 13.3% of migrant workers changed their jobs or work after migration, with a relatively higher percentage in Coimbatore (17.8%) compared to Salem (3.9%). Additionally, almost half of those who changed jobs also changed their work locations, indicating some level of mobility and flexibility in the job market for migrants.

Personal Protective Equipment: Around 71% of migrants reported that their employers provided them with personal protective equipment (PPE), with a slightly higher percentage in Coimbatore (72%) compared to Salem (69%). This suggests that a significant number of migrants had access to necessary safety equipment to protect themselves in their workplace.

2.3.14. Stay, Housing Conditions, and Other Facilities

Place of Stay and Rooms: Around 56% of migrants stay in rented and shared places, followed by shared accommodation provided by employers (23.4%), staying alone in accommodation provided by employers (13.3%), and accommodation rented alone (6.6%). The proportion of migrants staying in rented and shared accommodation was significantly higher in Salem, while shared accommodation provided by employers was more prevalent in Coimbatore. However, it is important to note that there is a high level of congestion, with an average of 4-5 migrants staying in a single room in shared accommodations in both districts.

Separate Kitchen: Around 61% of migrants reside in places without a separate kitchen, and a large proportion of them have a common toilet provided by building owners or employers (79.6%). This pattern is more visible in Coimbatore compared to Salem, indicating potential challenges in accessing adequate kitchen facilities for preparing meals.

Water and Electricity: More than one-third (36%) of migrants' drink tap water from outside premises, while 32% drink tap water from inside premises. Another 18% rely on water tankers, 9.3% use hand pumps inside premises, and 3.5% use hand pumps outside premises. The proportion of migrants drinking tap water from outside and inside premises was relatively higher in Salem, while reliance on water tankers and hand pumps inside premises was higher in Coimbatore. Almost all the migrants had access to electricity in the accommodation where they stay, indicating a basic level of utility service provision.

Cooking Fuel: About 72% of migrants use liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) as their cooking fuel source, with a significantly higher percentage in Coimbatore (84%) compared to Salem (47.4%). The second most popular cooking method was wood and cow dung, particularly in Salem district, while a few migrants also use kerosene and electricity for cooking.

2.3.15. Access to Government Programme at Destination

Subsidized Ration: Only two the migrants were able to receive free subsidized ration under the Public Distribution System (PDS).

E-Shram Yojana³: E-Shram Yojana aims to provide social security benefits to unorganized workers, including migrants. More than one-third (36.5%) of the migrants were registered in the E-Shram Yojana, with a significantly higher registration rate in Salem (71.2%) compared to Coimbatore (19.4%).

3 E-Shram Yojna has been introduced by Ministry of Labor and Employment, government of India for the welfare of workers in the unorganized sector. The registered members will be eligible for a variety of benefits after signing up for the Shramik Yojana and receiving an e-Shram card such as a pension after 60 years, death insurance, financial aid in case of incapacity, etc.

Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board (BOCW)⁴: The BOCW board provides welfare schemes and benefits for construction workers, including migrants, to address their specific needs and protect their rights. Only 16.5% of migrants were registered with the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board (BOCW), and this registration was limited to Coimbatore.

2.3.16. Aspirations of Migrants

The aspirations among migrants in order of importance are in both the districts are given in Figure 2.4. The top four aspirations among migrants, in both districts, are similar and ranked in order of importance. These aspirations include:

Pursuing employable job-oriented skills or enhancing existing skills: Migrants prioritize acquiring job-oriented skills or improving their existing skills. They recognize the value of being equipped with relevant expertise to increase their employability and secure better job opportunities.

Access to career counselling service and employment exchange or placement facilities: Migrants express a need for career counselling services and employment exchanges or placement facilities. These resources can provide guidance and support in their job search and career development, helping them navigate the job market effectively.

Attaining regular or secure salaried employment: Migrants aspire to obtain stable and secure salaried employment. This aspiration reflects their desire for financial stability and the assurance of a consistent income source.

Building a house in their village: Migrants prioritize the goal of constructing their own houses in their native villages. This aspiration signifies their attachment to their place of origin and the desire to establish a sense of permanence and belonging.

Awareness about government livelihood schemes: Migrants aspire to gain knowledge about various government livelihood schemes. They seek to understand the available resources and support provided by the government to improve their living conditions and enhance their economic prospects.

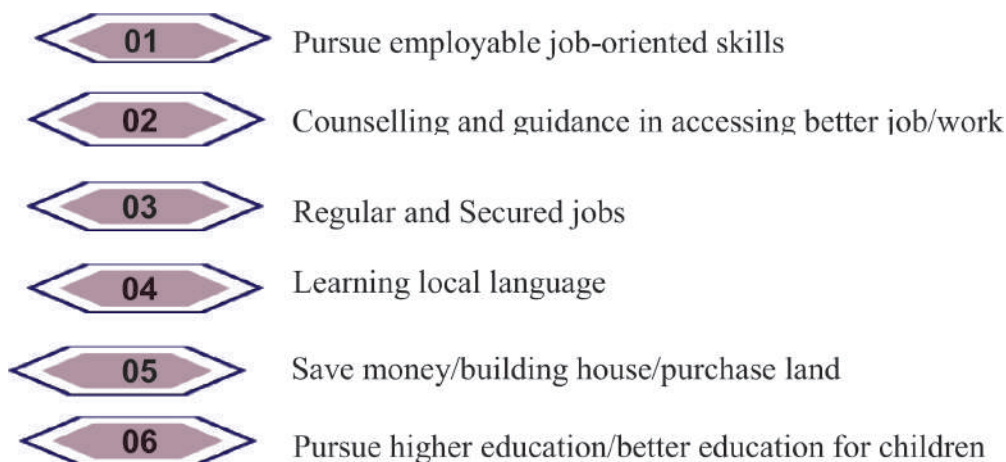
Learning the local language: Migrants aspire to learn the local language, emphasizing their interest in cultural integration and effective communication within their new community. This aspiration demonstrates their willingness to adapt and engage with the local culture.

Saving money for the future: Migrants express a desire to save money for future needs and financial security. This aspiration reflects their long-term planning and the recognition of the importance of financial resilience.

Purchasing land at source places: Migrants also express a desire to purchase land in their native village. This aspiration indicates their intention to invest in their hometown, potentially for future settlement or to maintain a connection with their roots.

4 Building and other Construction Workers (BOCW) Act is a welfare statute which aims to provide a safe and healthy working environment to the workers engaged in construction activities. The act was introduced to provide a solution to issues related to Building and other construction workers such as pension, group insurance, loan for house construction, and financial aid for children's education etc.

Figure 2.4: Aspirations of Migrants



Source: Primary Survey, 2023

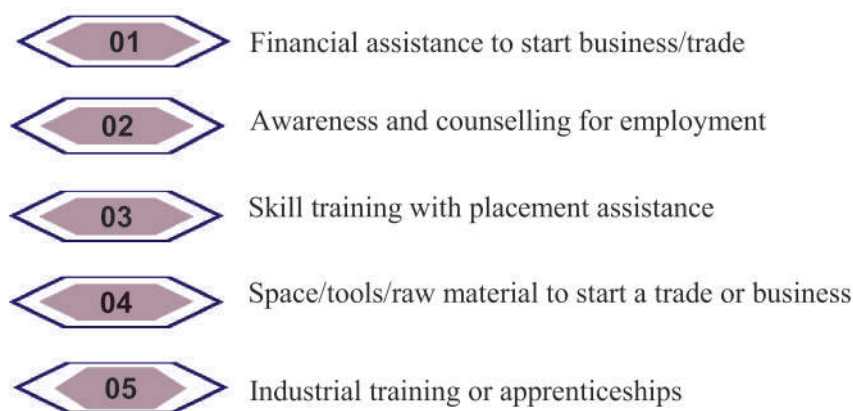
Pursuing higher education: Migrants aspire to pursue higher education. They recognize the importance of acquiring knowledge and skills to improve their personal growth and enhance their career prospects.

Providing better education for their children: Migrants also aspire to provide their children with better educational opportunities. They value education as a means to secure a brighter future for their children and empower them to achieve their goals.

2.3.17. Assistance Required by Migrants

The assistance required by migrants revolve around seeking financial assistance to start a business or enterprise, receiving counseling and guidance for employment, acquiring skill training and placement assistance, securing space or tools/raw material for starting a business or enterprise, and obtaining industrial trainings as given in Figure 2.5. These aspirations are ranked in order of importance, with the highest priority placed on financial assistance for entrepreneurial ventures.

Figure 2.5: Assistance Required by Migrants



Source: Primary Survey, 2023

The aspirations of migrants in both Coimbatore and Salem underline their desire for self-reliance, economic empowerment, and the means to create sustainable livelihoods. By seeking awareness, career counseling, and

skill development opportunities, these migrants aim to enhance their employment prospects and potentially start their own businesses or enterprises.

2.3.18. Key Challenges or Issues

Migrants in both Coimbatore and Salem face following challenges in their daily lives as given in Figure 2.6.

Language barriers or communication difficulties pose a significant challenge for migrants in both districts. The inability to effectively communicate in the local language can hinder their interactions with employers, colleagues, and the broader community. This may limit their access to information, job opportunities, and social integration.

Lower wages or salaries are a common concern for migrants in Coimbatore and Salem. These individuals often find themselves earning lower wages compared to local workers or facing wage disparities within their respective industries. This wage disparity can have a significant impact on their financial stability and overall well-being.

Figure 2.6: Key Challenges: Migrants



Source: Primary Survey, 2023

Excessive overtime work is another challenge faced by male migrants. They often have to work longer hours, extending beyond the standard working hours, to meet production demands or increase their income. This can lead to physical and mental exhaustion, affecting their work-life balance and overall quality of life.

Water-related issues affect migrants in both districts. Access to clean and safe drinking water may be limited or unreliable, posing health risks and making it difficult for migrants to maintain good hygiene practices.

Inadequate toilet facilities pose a specific challenge for migrants particularly female although, the number of female migrants was low. The lack of separate and hygienic toilets can compromise their privacy, dignity, and overall health and safety. Access to proper sanitation facilities is crucial for maintaining good hygiene practices and ensuring the well-being of female migrants.

Improper accommodation: Migrants also face the challenge of accommodation as on an average 5-6 people were staying in a single room. Having safe and separate accommodation is important to ensure their privacy, security, and overall well-being. This is especially crucial for female migrants who may have specific cultural or personal requirements related to accommodation.

In addition to these common challenges, female migrants specifically face the issue of irregular work or job opportunities. This irregularity can create instability and uncertainty in their employment, affecting their financial security and overall livelihood. On the other hand, female migrants also experience the challenge of low wages or salaries. This disparity in wages can have a significant impact on their economic independence and ability to meet their basic needs.

Chapter 3

Migrant and Potential Migrants at Source

This chapter discusses the findings from the survey in two source districts namely Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.

3.1. Brief Description of Source States

Inter-state out-migration has historically been a persistent issue in less developed states to relatively more developed states, and it is predominantly driven by economic factors. Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh have traditionally had high out-migration rates due to a lack of employment opportunities and better economic prospects in other states.

Madhya Pradesh: Madhya Pradesh is located in the central part of India, surrounded by Gujarat on the west, Rajasthan on the northwest, Uttar Pradesh on the northeast, Chhattisgarh on the east, and Maharashtra on the south. It comprises 52 districts organized into ten divisions. The state ranks as the second largest in terms of area and boasts extensive forest cover, accounting for one-third of its geographical expanse. According to the 2011 census of India, the state's total population was 72.6 million, with 72.4% (52.6 million) residing in rural areas. The economy of Madhya Pradesh primarily relies on agriculture, with 70% of the workforce directly or indirectly involved in farming activities for their livelihood.

Table 3.1: Top Ten Destinations of Migrants from Madhya Pradesh

Rank	State	Size (in 000)	%
1	Maharashtra	866.0	28.2
2	Uttar Pradesh	678.0	22.1
3	Rajasthan	563.2	18.3
4	Gujarat	297.2	9.7
5	Chhattisgarh	276.3	9.0
6	Delhi	137.7	4.5
7	Haryana	60.7	2.0
8	Punjab	34.9	1.1
9	Karnataka	23.4	0.8
10	Andhra Pradesh	19.5	0.6
	Others	112.1	3.7
	Total	3069.0	100.0

Source: Census of India, 2011

On the other hand, the multi-dimensional poverty index reported a poverty rate of 36.6% as per NFHS-4 (2015-16), placing the state among the top five with the highest share of impoverished people. Consequently, there has been significant out-migration to other states from Madhya Pradesh for better employment opportunities (Baghat, 2009; Chandrasekhar and Sharma, 2014; Sarkar, 2019). Approximately 2.9 million individuals migrate to other states in search of improved livelihoods and other reasons. Among these, Maharashtra stands as the top destination state, receiving about 27.7% of the total out-migrants (Table 3.1). Maharashtra's thriving industrial and service sectors, particularly in cities like Mumbai and Pune, offer abundant employment prospects. Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan closely follow with 22.4% and 18.6% of the total out-migrants, respectively, drawing migrants due to their historical, cultural, and economic ties. Additionally, Chhattisgarh and Gujarat attract migrants with 9.3% and 9.2% of the total out-migrants, respectively, owing to opportunities in sectors such as mining, manufacturing, and infrastructure development. Delhi and Haryana, with 4.5% and 1.9% of the total out-migrants, respectively, provide prospects in the service sector. Punjab, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh, with 1.1%, 0.8%, and 0.6% of the total out-migrants, respectively, offer diverse opportunities in agriculture, manufacturing, and services. Collectively, these states account for 96% of the total out-migrants from Madhya Pradesh.

Chhattisgarh: Chhattisgarh is also situated in the central part of India and was carved out of Madhya Pradesh in 2000. It shares its borders with Uttar Pradesh to the north, Jharkhand to the north-east, Odisha to the east, Madhya Pradesh to the west and north-west, Maharashtra to the south-west, and Andhra Pradesh to the south-east. According to the 2011 census of India, Chhattisgarh's population was 25.6 million, with 76.8% (19.6 million) residing in rural areas. The state is divided into 33 districts across three broad zones. Agriculture serves as the primary source of livelihood, with three-fourths (74.5%) of the labour force engaged in farming activities. Based on the multi-dimensional poverty index, Chhattisgarh's poverty rate stands at 29.9% as per NFHS-4 (2015-16). The lack of employment opportunities, particularly in rural areas, and better prospects and infrastructure facilities in other regions motivate people to out-migrate from the state. As a result, around 7.6 million people out-migrate to other Indian states, mainly seeking better livelihood and employment opportunities as per Census, 2011.

Table 3.2: Top Ten Destinations of Migrants from Chhattisgarh

Rank	State	Size (in 000)	%
1	Maharashtra	171.3	24.9
2	Madhya Pradesh	164.8	24.0
3	Odisha	124.5	18.1
4	Uttar Pradesh	53.5	7.8
5	Jharkhand	42.6	6.2
6	Andhra Pradesh	27.5	4.0
7	Gujarat	13.1	1.9
8	Delhi	12.9	1.9
9	Haryana	12.6	1.8
10	Jammu & Kashmir	10.8	1.6
	Others	54.2	7.9
	Total	687.7	100.0

Source: Census of India, 2011

The major destination states for inter-state migrants from Chhattisgarh are Maharashtra, closely followed by Madhya Pradesh and Odisha (Table 3.2). Maharashtra attracts the largest share of migrants with opportunities in manufacturing, services, and construction, accounting for 24.3% of the total out-migrants. Madhya Pradesh closely follows with 24.1% of the total out-migrants, as migrants are drawn to the state's historical, cultural, and economic ties in the agricultural sector and emerging manufacturing hubs, particularly in cities like Indore and Bhopal. Odisha ranks third in terms of destinations for migrants, with 18.7% of the total out-migrants working in the mining industry, particularly in minerals such as iron ore and bauxite. Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand follow with 8.2% and 6.2% of the total out-migrants, respectively, offering better prospects in sectors like agriculture, mining, and services. Andhra Pradesh, with 4.1% of the total out-migrants, has a diverse economy with strong opportunities in services, manufacturing, and agriculture. Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, and Jammu & Kashmir, with smaller shares of the total out-migrants, also provide opportunities in sectors like services, infrastructure development, and manufacturing. Collectively, these states account for approximately 92% of the total out-migrants from Chhattisgarh.

3.2. Survey Findings: Out-Migrants in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh

3.2.1. Out-Migrants Households

A total of 600 households of migrants including potential migrants (henceforth migrant households) were surveyed, with 300 households from each state in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. The survey covered two districts from each state, which include 160 households in Rajgarh and 140 households in Ujjain district in Madhya Pradesh, while 140 households in Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi and 160 households in Raigarh district in Chhattisgarh.

3.2.2. Demographic Profile

Gender: The majority of respondents from migrants' households in both states were males, accounting for 73% of the total. Specifically, 70% of the respondents in Madhya Pradesh and 76% in Chhattisgarh were males. This gender distribution was consistent across both districts within Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.

Notably, the proportion of male respondents was relatively higher in Raigarh (79.4%) in Chhattisgarh and Ujjain (76.4%) district in Madhya Pradesh.

Social Groups: Among the migrant households surveyed, the majority belonged to Scheduled Tribes (53.8%), followed by Scheduled Castes (29%), and other backward classes (16.8%). In Chhattisgarh, the majority of the surveyed households belonged to ST (91.7%), followed by OBC (7.3%), and SC (1%). Conversely, in Madhya Pradesh, over half of the respondents belonged to SC (57%), followed by OBC (26%), and ST (16%). The proportion of STs was relatively higher in Raigarh (95.6%) than in Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi (87.1%) in Chhattisgarh, while SCs in Madhya Pradesh were much higher in Rajgarh (80.6%) than in Ujjain (30%).

Religious Groups: Overall, among the surveyed migrant households, more than three-fourths (77.3%) were Hindu and rest were Christian. Additionally, a substantial proportion of households in Chhattisgarh belonged to the Christian religion (45.3%) other than Hindu (54.7%). Specifically, a significantly higher proportion of surveyed households in Raigarh (85%) districts were Christian compared to Hindu (15%). On the other hand, almost all households in Madhya Pradesh belonged to the Hindu religion only.

3.2.3. Household Ration Card Type, Main Occupation, Land Ownership, and Expenditure

Ration Card Type: The categorization of ration cards revealed the vulnerable situation of the surveyed migrant households in their villages, which compelled them to migrate to other states in search of better livelihood opportunities. The majority of the migrant households belonged to Below Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) Poverty Line (BPL) category, accounting for 72.2% of the surveyed households. The next significant group was households without any ration card, comprising 15.7% of the total. The category accounted for 8.2% of the households, while the Above Poverty Line (APL) category constituted 4% of the households. In both Chhattisgarh (76.7%) and Madhya Pradesh (67.7%), the majority of the migrant households also possessed BPL ration cards. Additionally, around 15.3% of the households in Chhattisgarh had AAY ration cards, predominantly concentrated in the Raigarh district (28.8%). On the other hand, the percentage of BPL households was relatively higher in the Rajgarh district (71.3%) compared to the Ujjain district (63.6%) in Madhya Pradesh.

Household Main Income Source: The primary income source for the surveyed migrant households was casual labour in non-agricultural sectors, accounting for 54.3% of the households. This was followed by casual labour in agriculture, which constituted 25.7% of the households. Other sources of income included self-employment in horticulture, fruits, vegetables, forest products, regular work, professional services, etc. Similarly, in Chhattisgarh, the majority of surveyed households were engaged in casual labour in non-agricultural sectors (41.5%), followed by casual labour in agriculture (29.9%). A significant proportion of households relied on income from non-timber forest products (10.6%) and self-employment in agriculture and horticulture (9.2%). A smaller percentage of households had regular salaried jobs (6.9%) and other sources of income. In Madhya Pradesh, a similar pattern was observed, with the main source of income for migrant households being non-agricultural labour (67.1%), followed by casual labor in agriculture (21.6%) and other sources. The pattern of the main income source did not differ significantly between the districts in both Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh.

Land Ownership: Over half (52%) of the surveyed households owned land, and among them, 86% had cultivable land. Land ownership among households in Chhattisgarh (78.6%) was significantly higher than in Madhya Pradesh (25.7%), with a greater proportion of cultivated land in the former (86.7%) compared to the latter (76.3%). In Chhattisgarh, land ownership among households was higher in Raigarh (80.6%) than in Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi (75.7%), while it was also relatively higher in Ujjain (27.1%) compared to Rajgarh (24.4%). The average landholding size indicated that most of the surveyed households those

owned land were largely marginal landholders with average of 0.8 acres. The landowner households had significantly larger land sizes in Chhattisgarh (1.5 acres) compared to Madhya Pradesh (0.10 acre). Most of the surveyed households in Chhattisgarh possessed land, but due to lack of irrigation, they only grow a single crop in the year.

Household Expenditure: Among the surveyed migrant households, more than half of them spent their income on food (59%), indicating its significance in their expenditure. Travel expenses accounted for 10.2% of their income, followed by health-related expenses (6.7%), clothing (4.8%), and other items. Similarly, the majority of migrant households in both Chhattisgarh (59.5%) and Madhya Pradesh (58.7%) allocated a significant portion of their earnings to food expenses. Other expenditures included travel, health, clothing, with relatively less allocation towards education. This expenditure pattern highlights the challenging conditions faced by these households, where children are often deprived of education and compelled to engage in work for their survival.

3.2.4. Access to Government Schemes and Registration

Public Distribution System (PDS): The majority of the surveyed migrant households (82%) had access to subsidized ration through the Public Distribution System (PDS). This proportion was higher in Chhattisgarh (92%) compared to Madhya Pradesh (72%). Specifically, in Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi district (93.6%), the households had slightly higher access to subsidized ration than Raigarh (90.6%) in Chhattisgarh. In Madhya Pradesh, the proportion of households benefiting by subsidized ration was higher in Rajgarh (76.3%) compared to Ujjain (67.1%).

Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)⁵: Approximately 65.5% of the surveyed migrant households had a Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) account. In Chhattisgarh, around 43.7% of the households had opened PMJDY accounts, which was almost half compared to 87.3% in Madhya Pradesh. Within Chhattisgarh, the households in Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi (63.6%) had a significantly higher percentage of PMJDY accounts compared to Raigarh (26.3%) district. In Madhya Pradesh, the proportions were similar in both Rajgarh (86.9%) and Ujjain (87.9%) district.

Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)⁶: Among the surveyed migrant households, 38.8% had benefited from the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY), with 28.7% in Chhattisgarh and 49% in Madhya Pradesh. In Raigarh district, the proportion of households with access to PMUY was relatively higher (35%) compared to Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi (21.4%) district in Chhattisgarh. In Madhya Pradesh, Rajgarh district (57.5%) had a higher proportion of households with access to PMUY compared to Ujjain (39.3%).

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA): Only one-fifth (19.8%) of the surveyed migrant households relied on the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA) for employment, with a higher percentage in Chhattisgarh (44%) compared to Madhya Pradesh (12.7%). In Chhattisgarh, the proportion was significantly lower in Raigarh (11.3%) compared to Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi (71.4%) district. In Madhya Pradesh, the migrant households in

5 Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) is National Mission for Financial Inclusion to ensure access to financial services, namely, a basic savings & deposit accounts, remittance, credit, insurance, pension in an affordable manner.

6 Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) is a scheme of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas for providing LPG connections to women from Below Poverty Line (BPL) households.

Ujjain (9.7%) were less involved in MGNREGA compared to Rajgarh (15.7%) district. The low percentage of households involved in MGNREGA in these districts may be attributed to the higher migration of working-age individuals and also delay in wage payment.

Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY)⁷: A negligible proportion of the surveyed migrant households (1.7%) had access to the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), with only 2% in Chhattisgarh and 0.3% in Madhya Pradesh. However, this proportion was slightly higher in Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi (4.3%) in Chhattisgarh and Rajgarh (0.6%) in Madhya Pradesh.

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (IAY)/Mukhya Mantri Awas Yojana (MMAY)⁸: Around 16.3% of the surveyed migrant households had benefited from either the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (IAY) or Mukhya Mantri Awas Yojana (MMAY), with one-fifth (22.3%) in Chhattisgarh and one-tenth (10.3%) in Madhya Pradesh. Across the districts, the proportion of households benefiting from IAY/MMAY was more than three times higher in Raigarh (33.1%) compared to Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi (10%) in Chhattisgarh. In Madhya Pradesh, the proportion was around four times higher in Rajgarh (15.6%) compared to Ujjain (4.3%).

Children Attending Anganwadi Centres (AWCs): Among the surveyed migrant households with children aged 3-6 years, over half of the children (53.8%) were attending Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) for early education. Notably, this proportion was significantly higher in Chhattisgarh (84.7%) compared to Madhya Pradesh (30.7%). Within Chhattisgarh, the attendance rate in AWCs was lower in Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi (74.36%) compared to Raigarh (92.0%) district. Similarly, in Madhya Pradesh, the proportion was relatively lower in Ujjain (18.8%) compared to Rajgarh (39.4%) district. The low attendance in AWCs in these areas can be attributed to the seasonal migration of people with families and children.

Mid-Day Meals for Children: Around 43.7% of the children from the surveyed migrant households were availing mid-day meals. The proportion was slightly higher in Madhya Pradesh (45.6%) compared to Chhattisgarh (42.9%). Within Chhattisgarh, the prevalence of mid-day meals among children was higher in Raigarh district (53.5%) compared to Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi district (31.7%). In Madhya Pradesh, the rates were almost equal in Rajgarh district (45.6%) and Ujjain district (45.5%).

Free Education for Children (6-14 years): More than half (55.1%) of the children between the ages of 6 and 14 years from the surveyed migrant households were benefiting from free education under the right to education provision. Notably, this percentage was relatively higher in Madhya Pradesh (60.8%) compared to Chhattisgarh (52.4%). Specifically, in Chhattisgarh, children in Raigarh district (61.6%) had a higher proportion of beneficiaries of free education compared to Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi district (42.7%). Similarly, in Madhya Pradesh, the proportion was significantly higher in Ujjain district (72.7%) compared to Rajgarh district (56.1%).

7 Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) is the flagship scheme of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) implemented by National Skill Development Corporation. The objective of this Skill Certification Scheme is to enable a large number of Indian youth to take up industry-relevant skill training that will help them in securing a better livelihood. Individuals with prior learning experience or skills will also be assessed and certified under Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).

8 Pradhan Mantri Gramin Awas Yojana, previously Indira Awas Yojana, is a social welfare programme, created by the Indian Government, to provide housing for the rural poor in India. A similar programme has also been introduced by the state governments namely Mukhya Mantri Awas Yojana.

E-Shram Yojana: Almost half of the migrants (48.8%) workers from the surveyed households had registered with the E-Shram Yojana. The registration rate was relatively higher in Madhya Pradesh (54.7%) compared to Chhattisgarh (43%). Specifically, in Chhattisgarh, the incidence of registration for the E-Shram card among the workers was significantly higher in Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi (75%) compared to Rajgarh (15%) district. In Madhya Pradesh, it was slightly higher in Ujjain (57.1%) compared to Rajgarh (52.5%) district.

Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board (BOCW): None of the surveyed migrant households were aware of and benefited from the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board (BOCW) scheme in all four surveyed districts of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh.

3.2.5. Family Members Details

Average Household Size: The average household size of the surveyed migrant households was over 4, with approximately 5 in Chhattisgarh and 4 in Madhya Pradesh. The average size varied across districts, being higher in Raigarh compared to Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi in Chhattisgarh, and higher in Ujjain compared to Rajgarh in Madhya Pradesh.

Sex Ratio: The gender distribution among the surveyed migrant households indicated a sex ratio of 851 females per 1000 males. The sex ratio was relatively higher in Madhya Pradesh (910 females per 1000 males) compared to Chhattisgarh (803 females per 1000 males). Across districts, the sex ratio in Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi (818 females per 1000 males) was higher than Raigarh (791 females per 1000 males) district in Chhattisgarh, while the sex ratio in Ujjain (918 females per 1000 males) was higher than Rajgarh (900 females per 1000 males) district in Madhya Pradesh.

Age Distribution: Among the surveyed migrant households, adults (19-59 years) accounted for 66.3% of the total population, followed by children (0-18 years) at 29.4%, and the elderly (60+ years) at 4.3%. The proportion of children in the total population was higher in Madhya Pradesh (36.0%) compared to Chhattisgarh (23.8%), while adults were more prevalent in Chhattisgarh (72.1%) than in Madhya Pradesh (59.5%).

Marital Status: Among the surveyed migrant households, approximately 73.7% of adults (18 years and above) were married, 20.2% were unmarried, and the remaining 6.1% were widowed, divorced, or separated. The percentage of married adults in Madhya Pradesh (64.7%) was relatively higher than in Chhattisgarh (86.1%), with a similar pattern of marital status observed across the districts. On the other hand, the percentage of unmarried individuals was relatively higher in Chhattisgarh (28%) compared to Madhya Pradesh (9.4%).

Activity Status of Family Members: The activity status of family members reveals that approximately half (48.6%) of the members were engaged in casual labour in non-agricultural sectors such as construction, trade, and manufacturing (Table 3.3). This was followed by members categorized as too young/too old (13.6%), students (10.6%), casual labour in agriculture (9.8%), domestic duties only (5.3%), unemployed (4.1%), self-employment in agriculture (3.3%), salaried (2.2%), and self-employed in non-agricultural sectors (1.5%). The proportion of family members engaged in self-employment in agriculture, casual labour in agriculture, and salaried positions was relatively higher in Chhattisgarh compared to Madhya Pradesh.

Table 3.3: Activity Status of Family Members (in %)

Activity Status	Chhattisgarh			Madhya Pradesh			Total
	Gaurela	Raigarh	Total	Rajgarh	Ujjain	Total	
Self-employed in agriculture	10.2	0.9	5.0	1.0	1.8	1.4	3.3
Self-employed in non-agriculture such as trade, business and manufacturing	0.5	0.0	0.2	0.3	5.7	2.9	1.5
Casual labour in agriculture	21.7	5.5	12.7	7.7	5.0	6.4	9.8
Casual labour in non-agriculture such as construction, trade, and manufacturing etc	35.5	59.4	48.8	52.0	44.3	48.3	48.6
Salaried	1.5	6.2	4.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	2.2
Domestic duties only	3.8	2.5	3.1	4.1	12.2	7.9	5.3
Student	14.9	12.5	13.6	10.4	3.6	7.2	10.6
Too young/too old	7.6	10.0	8.9	17.8	20.6	19.1	13.6
Unemployed	4.4	2.9	3.6	4.1	5.4	4.7	4.1
Others	0.0	0.1	0.1	2.6	1.3	2.0	0.9
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Primary Survey, 2023

Level of Education: Among the surveyed migrant households, 59.4% individuals (6 years and above) were literate, while the remaining 40.6% were illiterate. Out of the literate individuals, only 17.1% had received education above the secondary level, including 11.1% with a secondary education, 5.6% with a higher secondary education, and 0.4% were graduates. The proportion of literate individuals (6 years and above) was relatively higher in Chhattisgarh (66.2%) compared to Madhya Pradesh (51.2%). In Chhattisgarh, the percentage of literate individuals was higher in Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi (61.6%) compared to Raigarh district (69.9%), while the literate proportion was higher in Ujjain (43.3%) compared to Rajgarh district (67.5%) in Madhya Pradesh. Additionally, the proportion of individuals with a secondary education and above was much higher in Chhattisgarh (24.6%) than in Madhya Pradesh (7.9%) (Table 3.4).

Table 3.4: Education Distribution of Members (6+ years) (in %)

Educational Level	Chhattisgarh			MP			Total
	Gaurela	Raigarh	Total	Rajgarh	Ujjain	Total	
Non- literate	38.4	30.1	33.8	41.5	56.7	48.8	40.6
Literate without formal schooling	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	1.4	0.8	0.4
Literate below primary	3.0	6.8	5.0	10.4	8.2	9.3	7.0
Primary	13.0	17.1	15.2	22.3	19.2	20.8	17.7
Middle	19.1	23.0	21.2	14.5	10.0	12.3	17.2
Secondary	13.5	17.3	15.6	7.4	3.4	5.5	11.1
Higher secondary	12.0	5.6	8.5	3.2	1.0	2.1	5.6
Graduate and above	1.0	0.0	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.4
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Primary Survey, 2023

Vocational and Technical Training (VT): An almost negligible proportion of individuals (6 years and above) had formal vocational and technical (VT) skills (0.6%), while 43.8% had informal VT skills, and 55.6% did not receive any VT training. The proportion of individuals with formal and informal VT training was higher in Chhattisgarh (1.1% formal VT; 18.9% self-learning, 36.8% learning on the job) compared to Madhya Pradesh (0.3% formal VT; 8.5% self-learning, 27.3% learning on the job). Across districts, the percentage of individuals with formal VT and informal VT training was higher in Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi compared to Raigarh in Chhattisgarh, while the share of individuals with formal VT and informal VT training was higher in Rajgarh compared to Ujjain district in Madhya Pradesh.

3.2.6. Education Status of Children

Enrolment in Schools: Among the surveyed migrant households, approximately 47% of children aged 6 to 18 years were enrolled and attending schools. Around 31% had dropped out, 12.8% had never been enrolled, and 9% were enrolled but not attending. However, there was a significant difference in the enrolment of children in schools between Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. In Chhattisgarh, approximately 73.3% of children were enrolled in schools, with only 0.9% were not attending. In contrast, in Madhya Pradesh, 42.3% of children were enrolled, but 15.5% were not attending schools. Moreover, the dropout rate in Madhya Pradesh (39.2%) and the percentage of children who had never been enrolled (18.6%) were much higher compared to Chhattisgarh, where the dropout rate was 21.1% and only 5.6% of children had never been enrolled in the surveyed households (Table 3.5).

Table 3.5: Children Enrolment in School (6-18 years) (in %)

Enrolment Status	Chhattisgarh			Madhya Pradesh			Total
	Gaurela	Raigarh	Total	Rajgarh	Ujjain	Total	Total
Never enrolled	10.4	0.9	5.6	14.2	22.7	18.6	12.8
Enrolled but not attending	0.0	1.7	0.9	14.2	16.7	15.5	9.0
Enrolled and attending	71.3	73.5	72.4	39.7	14.7	26.8	47.0
Dropped out	18.3	23.9	21.1	31.9	46.0	39.2	31.2
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Primary Survey, 2023

Type of School: The majority of children from the surveyed migrant households were attending government schools across all districts in both states. Only a small percentage (0.9%) of children in Madhya Pradesh were attending private schools, with similar proportions in Rajgarh (0.8%) and Ujjain (0.9%) districts.

Reasons for Drop-out: The reasons for non-enrollment, drop-out, and non-attendance in schools indicate that more than half of the children (55.5%) lacked interest in studying due to various factors, including poor infrastructure, a lack of quality education, teacher absenteeism, failing in class, teacher discipline issues, and discrimination, among others. Migrants also revealed that the lack of interest among children was exacerbated by disruptions in their education caused by the seasonal migration of their families, the distance to school, inadequate school infrastructure, and the need for older children to work. Other reasons included the necessity of earning money to support their families (12.8%), caretaking responsibilities for siblings (5%), unaffordable fees and educational expenses (2.3%), long distances to school (1.8%), and various other factors. The primary reason, a lack of interest in studying, was more prevalent in Chhattisgarh

(60%) compared to Madhya Pradesh (54.3%). Additionally, the need to earn money to support their families was more common in Chhattisgarh (33.3%) than in Madhya Pradesh (7.5%).

3.2.7. Migration Status

Migration Status: The migration rate stood at 44.7%, with an additional 13% constituting potential migrants. In the surveyed households, the migration rate was significantly higher in Madhya Pradesh at 66.4%, compared to Chhattisgarh, where it was 28.5%. However, the proportion of potential migrants was slightly lower in Madhya Pradesh at 12.3% compared to 13.8% in Chhattisgarh. When examining the districts, the pattern of migration rates was similar in both states.

Type of Migrants: Among the migrants, the highest percentage belonged to the category of seasonal short-term migrants (3-6 months), accounting for 41.6% of the total. They were followed by seasonal long-term migrants (6+ months) at 30.3%, and short-term migrants (up to 3 months) at 28.1%. In Chhattisgarh, the proportion of seasonal short-term (43.5%) and seasonal long-term (52.6%) migrants was relatively higher, while in Madhya Pradesh, the percentages of short-term migrants (42.8%) and short-term seasonal migrants (40.4%) were higher. Notably, the district of Ujjain had the highest proportion of short-term migration at 68.8%, while Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi (70.4%) and Rajgarh (50.7%) districts had significantly higher rates of seasonal short-term migration compared to other districts (Table 3.6).

Table 3.6: Reasons of Migration (in %)

Type	Chhattisgarh			Madhya Pradesh			Total
	Gaurela	Raigarh	Total	Rajgarh	Ujjain	Total	Total
Lack of employment opportunities at native place	8.6	0.5	3.9	21.7	68.8	42.8	28.1
Low wage/earning at native place	70.4	23.9	43.5	50.7	27.7	40.4	41.6
No regular employment	21.0	75.7	52.6	27.6	3.5	16.8	30.3
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Primary Survey, 2023

Migrated with Family or Without Family: The majority of migrants, comprising 58.5% of the total, migrated with their families, whereas 41.5% migrated without their families. Specifically, the proportion of migrants who migrated with family members was much higher in Madhya Pradesh (79.6%) compared to Chhattisgarh (24%). When considering the districts, Rajgarh (80.1%) and Ujjain (79.6%) in Madhya Pradesh had the highest percentages of migrants who migrated with their families, while Raigarh (28.4%) and Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi (17.9%) in Chhattisgarh had notably lower rates.

Reasons for Migration: The primary reasons for migration included the lack of employment opportunities in their native places (89.9%), low wages/earnings (88.1%), irregular employment (82.9%), poverty/hunger (79.5%), and the need to repay debts (69.2%). Other reasons included irregular payment (48.8%), agricultural failures (40.9%), and insufficient skills to secure local employment (19.1%) (Table 3.7). These reasons for migration were generally similar across states and surveyed districts. However, the percentage of migrants citing poverty/hunger, debt repayment, agricultural failures, irregular payment, and lack of skills for local employment were much higher in Madhya Pradesh than in Chhattisgarh. Conversely, reasons such as irregular payment employment, low wages/earnings, and lack of employment opportunities at their native places were reported relatively higher in Chhattisgarh than in Madhya Pradesh.

Table 3.7: Reasons of Migration* (in %)

Reasons	Chhattisgarh			Madhya Pradesh			Total
	Gaurela	Raigarh	Total	Rajgarh	Ujjain	Total	Total
Lack of employment opportunities at native place	95.2	94.1	94.5	79.3	97.1	87.1	89.9
Low wage/earning at native place	94.0	93.6	93.8	78.7	92.5	84.7	88.1
No regular employment	95.2	92.7	93.8	77.9	74.6	76.4	82.9
Poverty/hunger	37.3	92.7	68.8	78.2	96.1	86.0	79.5
To pay debt	25.9	63.9	47.5	76.8	89.2	82.2	69.2
No regular payment	67.5	0.5	29.4	64.6	55.2	60.5	48.8
Failure of agriculture	44.0	6.4	22.6	40.6	66.7	52.0	40.9
Lack of enough skills to get employment locally	2.4	0.9	1.6	22.7	38.7	29.6	19.1
Others	4.8	5.9	5.5	21.8	2.5	13.4	10.4
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

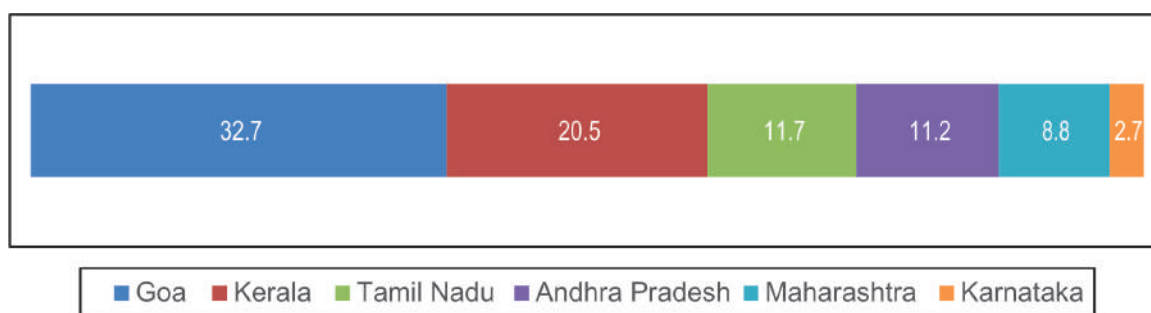
Source: Primary Survey, 2023; *Multiple Responses

Companions during Migration: The majority of migrants (64.3%) migrated with their family members or relatives, followed by neighbours or co-villagers (30.3%), and a small percentage migrated alone (5.4%). However, there was a substantial difference between the two states, with a higher percentage of migrants in Madhya Pradesh (82.9%) migrating with family members or relatives, while a larger proportion of migrants in Chhattisgarh migrated with neighbours or co-villagers.

Prior Knowledge about the Work: Around one-third (33.7%) of the migrants had prior knowledge about the work they would undertake at their destination. This percentage was considerably higher for migrants in Madhya Pradesh (39%) compared to Chhattisgarh (24%). Notably, in the Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi district, a significant majority of migrants (59%) had knowledge about their work at the place of destination, whereas in Raigarh district (Chhattisgarh), this proportion was significantly lower at 1.3%.

Places of Out-Migration (Destinations): Among the surveyed districts in Chhattisgarh, the majority of people migrated to Goa (32.7%), followed by Kerala (20.5%), Tamil Nadu (11.7%), Andhra Pradesh (11.2%), and Maharashtra (8.8%) and Karnataka (2.7%) (Fig 3.1a). Other destinations included Madhya Pradesh (1.9%), Rajasthan (1.6%), Delhi (1.6%), Assam (1.6%), Gujarat (1.6%), and Uttar Pradesh (1.1%) (Figure 3.1a).

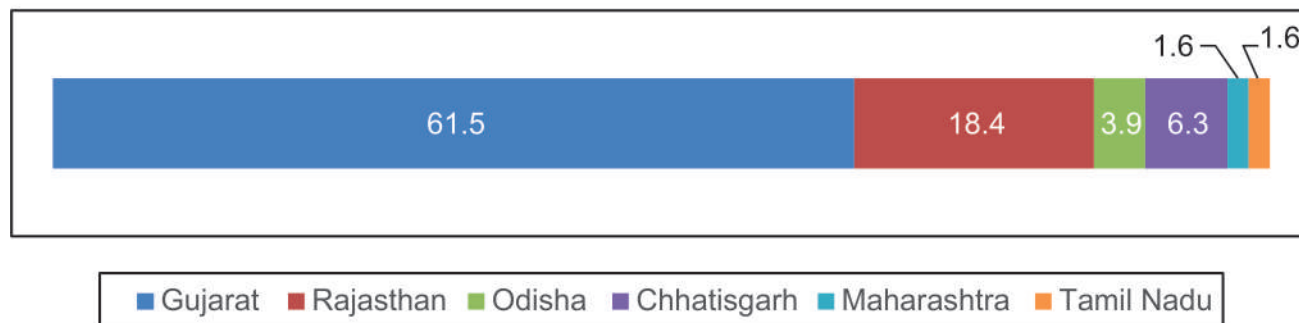
Figure 3.1a: Major Migration Destinations from Chhattisgarh (in %)



Source: Primary Survey, 2023

The primary destinations for migrants from Madhya Pradesh were Gujarat (61.5%), Rajasthan (18.4%), Chhattisgarh (6.3%), Odisha (3.9%), Maharashtra (1.6%), and Tamil Nadu (1.6%) (Figure 3.1b). Other destinations included Karnataka (1.1%), Andhra Pradesh (0.8%), Punjab (0.3%), Uttar Pradesh (0.3%), 0.2% each in Assam, Delhi, and Jharkhand, and 3.6% to any locations within India (Figure 3.1b).

Figure 3.1b: Major Migration Destinations from Madhya Pradesh (in %)



Source: Primary Survey, 2023

Average Monthly Salary: On average, the migrants had monthly earnings of Rs 7,052 at their destinations, with the maximum reported salary being around Rs 12,000. This average monthly salary was substantially higher (Rs 9,935) among migrants from Chhattisgarh compared to Madhya Pradesh (Rs 5,157). As discussed above that a large number of migrants from Chhattisgarh migrate to Goa, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, which was relatively developed states compared to others states, which resulted higher average monthly earnings among the migrants from Chhattisgarh compared to Madhya Pradesh. However, the majority of respondents at the source or origin did not know the occupation or job profile of their migrant family members. Some of them revealed that their family members were mainly involved in manual labour jobs at their destinations.

3.2.8. Disability and Type

Disability Type: As detail given in Annexure 1, as per Washington Group (WG) questions on disability, a total of 55 individuals were reported as disabled. Among the reported disabled, only 3 individuals had vision problems, and 2 individuals had hearing impairments. In terms of mobility, 23 individuals had mobility difficulties, with 7 in Chhattisgarh and 16 in Madhya Pradesh. Additionally, 5 individuals had cognition problems, with 1 in Chhattisgarh and 4 in Madhya Pradesh. Regarding self-care, 16 individuals faced challenges, with 7 in Chhattisgarh and 9 in Madhya Pradesh. Finally, 6 individuals experienced communication problems, all of whom were in Madhya Pradesh only.

3.2.9. Food Security and Indebtedness

Food Security: According to the survey, approximately three-fourth (73.8%) of the migrant households reported consuming food twice a day on average during the month preceding the survey, while 23.4% consumed food three times a day, and only 2.8% consumed food once a day. Only few households in Rajgarh (1.9%) and Ujjain (10%) districts reported eating only once a day. On the other hand, all households in Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi and Raigarh districts in Chhattisgarh reported consuming food more than twice a day. Additionally, a few households in both districts in Madhya Pradesh mentioned skipping meals for an average of two days during the month preceding the survey.

Reasons for Lack of Food: The primary reason for inadequate food among migrant households was a lack of sufficient funds or food items at home (91.9%), while a few households also faced difficulties working

or earning enough due to illness (7.1%) or other reasons. These reasons were generally consistent across districts, although the inability to work due to illness was specifically mentioned in Madhya Pradesh.

Coping Strategies: The majority of migrant households (96.5%) received food assistance from relatives or friends during times of crisis. Some households borrowed money from friends or relatives to purchase food items (3.1%), and a few resorted to selling household assets (0.5%). The borrowing of money from relatives and friends was significantly higher in Chhattisgarh (18.2%) compared to Madhya Pradesh (2.2%). Additionally, the sale of household assets was only reported in Ujjain district (0.5%).

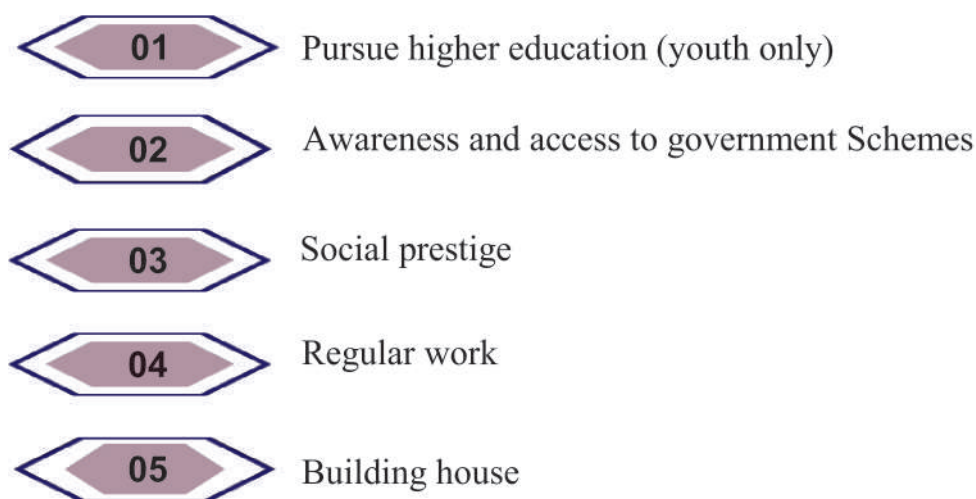
Indebtedness: Around 70.1% of migrant households reported being in debt, with a higher proportion in Madhya Pradesh (88.3%) compared to Chhattisgarh (52%). However, within Chhattisgarh, the proportion of indebted households was higher in Raigarh (66.9%) than in Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi (35%) district.

Reasons for Indebtedness: The primary reasons for taking loans among migrant households were poverty (37.3%), expenses related to marriage or other ceremonies (28.7%), and house construction (24.9%). Other reasons, such as agricultural needs, children's education, and ancestral debts, were reported by less than 1% of the households. Notably, households in Chhattisgarh had a significantly higher percentage of loans taken for building houses and marriage or ceremonies compared to Madhya Pradesh. Conversely, households in Chhattisgarh (17.2%) took loans less frequently for purchasing household items or due to poverty compared to Madhya Pradesh (49.2%).

3.2.10. Aspirations: Youth and Adult Women

The survey included questions about the aspiration levels of both youth and adult women in the surveyed areas. Their aspirations were ranked in the following order of preference: pursuing higher education (youth only), gaining awareness about government skill and entrepreneurial development schemes, attaining social prestige, securing regular or salaried work, and building houses in the villages as shown in Figure 3.2. It was observed that a larger proportion of youth in Chhattisgarh aspired to have awareness about government skill and entrepreneurial development schemes, whereas in Madhya Pradesh, social prestige was a higher priority. Similarly, adult women also expressed their aspirations, with a higher preference for social prestige in Chhattisgarh and regular or secured salaried jobs in Madhya Pradesh.

Figure 3.2: Aspirations of Youth and Adult Women

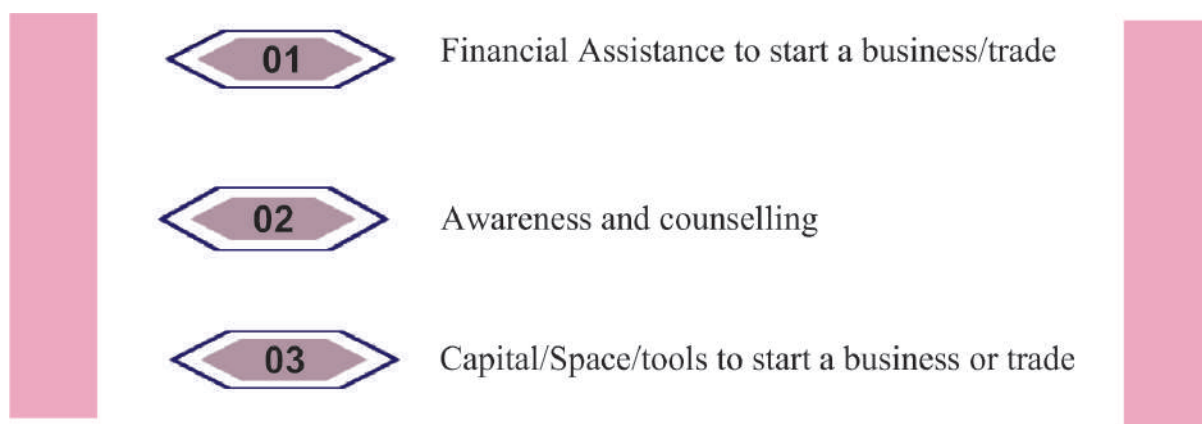


Source: Primary Survey, 2023

3.2.11. Assistance or help required: Youth and Adult Women

Furthermore, the survey also explored the assistance or support required to help individuals achieve their aspiration levels. The primary requirement was financial assistance or capital to start businesses or enterprises (Figure 3.3). This was followed by the need for awareness and career counselling guidance, and access to space and tools or raw materials to initiate their entrepreneurial endeavours. These preferences were consistent in both Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. These findings indicate that financial support, along with awareness, counselling, and access to resources, are crucial factors for enabling individuals, both youth and adult women, to pursue their aspirations and start their own businesses or enterprises. This highlights the importance of targeted programs and initiatives to address the specific needs and aspirations of the local population, promoting entrepreneurship and economic development in the surveyed regions.

Figure 3.3: Assistance or Help Required

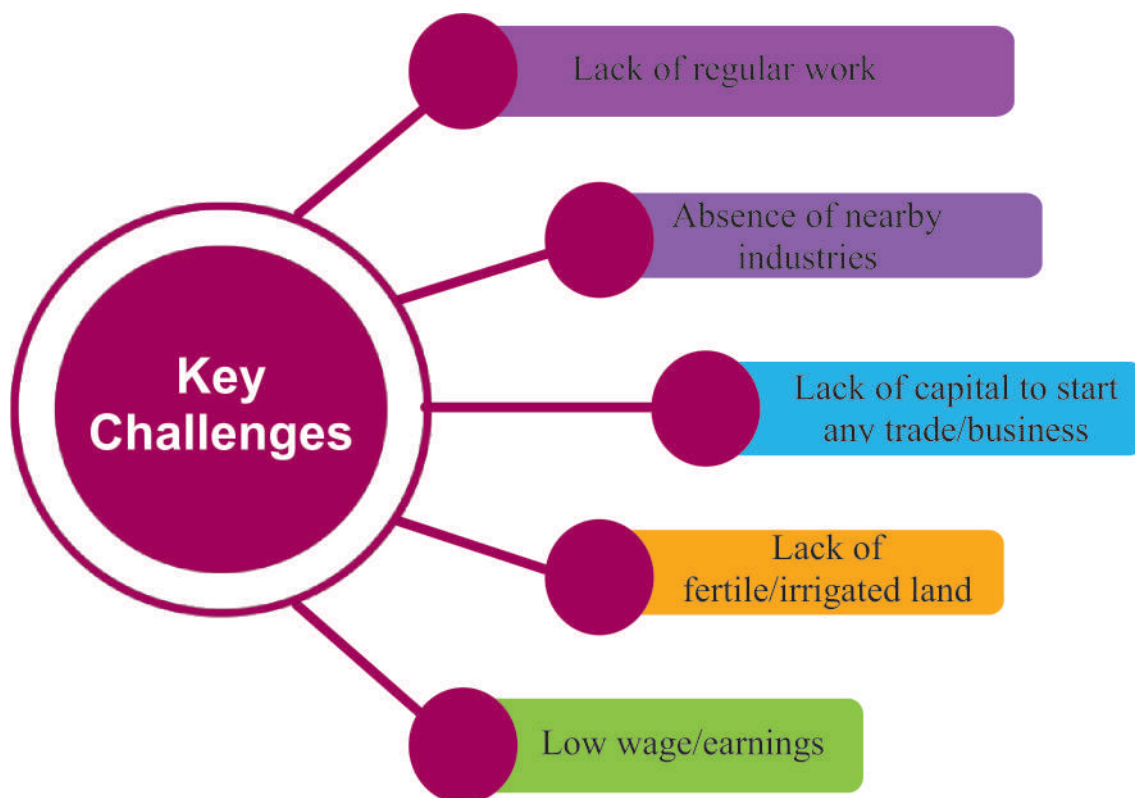


Source: Primary Survey, 2023

3.2.12. Challenges or Issues

In addition to the aspirations and assistance, the survey also included questions about the challenges faced by local youth and adult women. The responses shed light on the key obstacles that compelled a significant number of individuals to migrate from their native places in search of better livelihood opportunities. They identified five primary challenges in their native areas that contributed to their decision to migrate. These challenges were the lack of regular work, absence of industries in the local or nearby areas, lack of capital to start a small business or trade at local level, lack of fertile or irrigation land, and low wage or earnings as presented in Figure 3.4. In particular, the women emphasized the lack of remunerative job opportunities near their villages. This limitation stems from their inability to seek employment in distant locations due to their multiple households' duties and other familial responsibilities, exacerbated by the absence of male household members, who have migrated to other states for work.

Figure 3.4: Key Challenges



Source: Primary Survey, 2023

Additionally, the specific challenges are absence of nearby industries in Madhya Pradesh, and the lack of fertile or irrigated land in Chhattisgarh reflect the regional context. These obstacles are impeding their ability of local people to secure a sustainable livelihood in their native areas and require urgent attention.

Chapter 4

Way Forward

4.1. Following are the key issues needs special attentions for the migrants at their destination places.

- **Provide stability and long-term livelihood prospects by developing targeted interventions** that address the temporary nature of employment opportunities available to migrants. These measures aim to ensure stability and offer sustainable livelihood prospects for the migrant population.
- **Facilitate equitable access to health schemes, including maternal and child healthcare, health insurance, and ration cards**, under the 'one-card one nation' initiative to benefit migrants. This will benefit the migrants to access to social welfare programs related to maternal and child health care, and subsidized ration at their destination places, to the extent possible, also ensure their well-being.
- **Improve migrant children's access to education by implementing interventions that address economic constraints and promote the value of education within migrant communities.** Ensure hiring teachers' specifically address the problem of migrant student, who should be proficient in-migrant native languages, such as Hindi and Bengali, to facilitate better communication and learning.
- **Ensure awareness and proper implementation of labour regulations, such as working hours, fair wages, social security, minimum wage, overtime pay, and other working conditions at workplaces.** Additionally, register construction workers under the BOCW Act and eShram portal to help unorganized workers access multiple benefits, including death insurance.

- **Assist in improving living conditions, water and sanitation facilities for migrants**, including the provision of safe and separate accommodations, as well as access to basic amenities such as water and toilets.
- **Develop and provide targeted skill development and soft skill programs**, along with placement assistance, financial aid, and access to resources, to help migrants achieve their aspirations.
- **Provide support in learning the local language and offer counseling** to address the major communication barrier reported by migrants and help them adapt to the local environment.
- **Encourage collaborative efforts** between government authorities, employers, civil society organizations, and local communities to address migrant challenges and enhance their well-being and integration.
- **Address the needs of disabled migrants** by providing appropriate support and facilities to overcome challenges they face in their daily lives and livelihood activities.

4.2. Following are the key issues needs special attentions for the migrant households at their place of source.

- **Improving local infrastructure and connectivity is crucial, particularly in the surveyed villages where road infrastructure, school, digital infrastructure (mobile towers, etc.), and irrigation facilities are inadequate.** Urgent measures are needed to enhance connectivity and transportation, which will promote economic activities, improve irrigation facilities, and provide better access to education, healthcare, and markets.
- **Promote entrepreneurship among local youth by offering them necessary skill training and assistance, such as tools, raw materials, capital, and workspace to establish micro and small enterprises.** Initiatives like the rural livelihood mission can support this endeavour, encouraging local product development and creating employment opportunities for others.
- **Increase awareness and outreach of government skill development programs among local youth.** Educate them about the benefits of participating in training sessions, which often include placement facilities, ensuring better chances of employment after completing the program.”
- **Ensure access to quality education with scholarship for children from migrant families by establishing up to secondary level schools with better infrastructure in migrant-prone areas.** Additionally, provide scholarships or financial assistance and conduct awareness campaigns to emphasize the importance of education among parents as well as children.
- **Increase awareness about various government welfare schemes and assist people in accessing their benefits.** Utilize information campaigns, community engagement, and targeted outreach programs to achieve this goal.
- **Foster collaboration and partnerships not only among source governments but also between source and destination governments.** Involve government agencies, non-profit organizations, educational institutions, and industry stakeholders to maximize the impact of interventions. Work closely with local communities to ensure the programs’ relevance and sustainability. Coordination between source and destination state governments is crucial to ensure safe and dignified migration,

as highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic. It is essential for destination states to recognize that migrants bring unique skills that can enrich the local economy and cultural diversity.

- **Conduct skill mapping at source and registration of migrants at both source and destination places, including their profiles and contact information.** This will enable them to access government welfare schemes and provide a smooth transition during adversities like COVID-19.
- **Utilize the skills of trained migrants to improve the local economy and infrastructure at source states.** As a considerable number of unskilled labour force gain experience and training at their destinations, they can play a significant role in developing infrastructure and generating more job opportunities for others at the source locations. Moreover, this approach can help prevent large out-migration, and social and cultural unrest resulting from large-scale influx of people from specific regions.

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Annexure 1:

Washington Group Disability Questions

The Washington Group Short Set on Functioning (WG-SS) was developed, tested and adopted by the Washington Group on Disability Statistics (WG). The questions reflect advances in the conceptualization of disability and use the World Health Organization's International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health (ICF) as a conceptual framework.

WG Short Set on Functioning Questions

Preamble to the WG-SS:

Note: The purpose of the introduction is to serve as a transition from questions in the census or survey instrument that deal with other subject matters to this new area of inquiry, and to focus the respondent on difficulties they may have doing basic activities.

Use of the introductory statement may not be needed in all situations, especially if including the statement may interrupt the flow of question administration.

Interviewer read: "The next questions ask about difficulties you may have doing certain activities."

VISION

VIS_SS [Do/Does] [you/he/she] have difficulty seeing, even if wearing glasses? Would you say... [Read response categories]

1. No difficulty
2. Some difficulty
3. A lot of difficulty
4. Cannot do at all

HEARING

HEAR_SS [Do/Does] [you/he/she] have difficulty hearing, even if using a hearing aid(s)? Would you say... [Read response categories]

1. No difficulty
2. Some difficulty
3. A lot of difficulty
4. Cannot do at all

MOBILITY

MOB_SS [Do/Does] [you/he/she] have difficulty walking or climbing steps? Would you say... [Read response categories]

1. No difficulty
2. Some difficulty
3. A lot of difficulty
4. Cannot do at all

COGNITION (REMEMBERING)

COG_SS [Do/does] [you/he/she] have difficulty remembering or concentrating? Would you say... [Read response categories]

1. No difficulty
2. Some difficulty
3. A lot of difficulty
4. Cannot do at all

SELF-CARE

SC_SS [Do/does] [you/he/she] have difficulty with self-care, such as washing all over or dressing? Would you say... [Read response categories]

1. No difficulty
2. Some difficulty
3. A lot of difficulty
4. Cannot do at all

COMMUNICATION

COM_SS Using [your/his/her] usual language, [do/does] [you/he/she] have difficulty communicating, for example understanding or being understood? Would you say... [Read response categories]

1. No difficulty
2. Some difficulty
3. A lot of difficulty
4. Cannot do at all

Source: [<http://www.washingtongroup-disability.com/>]

Interstate Migrants in India

SITUATIONS AND ASPIRATIONS

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