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Migration patterns and its selectivity in Madhyamgram Municipality, North 24 Parganas district, West Bengal

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Abstract

Migration, one of the most important dynamics of population change, is a form of geographical and spatial mobility between one geographical unit and another, generally involving in change in residence from one place to another. In this present study an attempt has been made to discuss about the patterns and selectivity of migration in Madhyamgram Municipality. By using simple random sampling techniques 585 samples have been selected from the study area with the help of a structured questionnaire. Migration is a decision making process. Such process of changing behaviour has been studied carefully to investigate how the different factors influenced to establish the present scenario. How migrational attitudes of men have become a developmental trait in the study area have been analysed .

Keywords: 1.Migration, 2.Patterns, 3.Selectivity, 4.West Bengal.

Introduction

Fertility, Mortality and Migration are the three dynamics of population change in an area.Among these migration is one of the most important dynamics because it is not biologically determined and universal in the same sense that fertility and mortality are.Migration is a form of geographical and spatial mobility between one geographical unit and another, generally involving in change in residence from one place to another.With the progress of time through advancement of society fertility and mortality will be reached at stationary level but there is a positive co-relation between advancement of society and migration. So migration is going to be a more powerful factor for population redistribution.

It is well known to all that population increase at a rapid pace, is the main obstacle for the development of a country. Though many steps have been taken to control fertility and mortality rate through planning and population policy but one of the main aspects, i.e. migration in this regard is neglected and has not been given proper emphasis. So it is necessary to know the patterns and associated factors of migration. The present study aims to investigate the patterns and selectivity of migration in Madhyamgram Municipality.
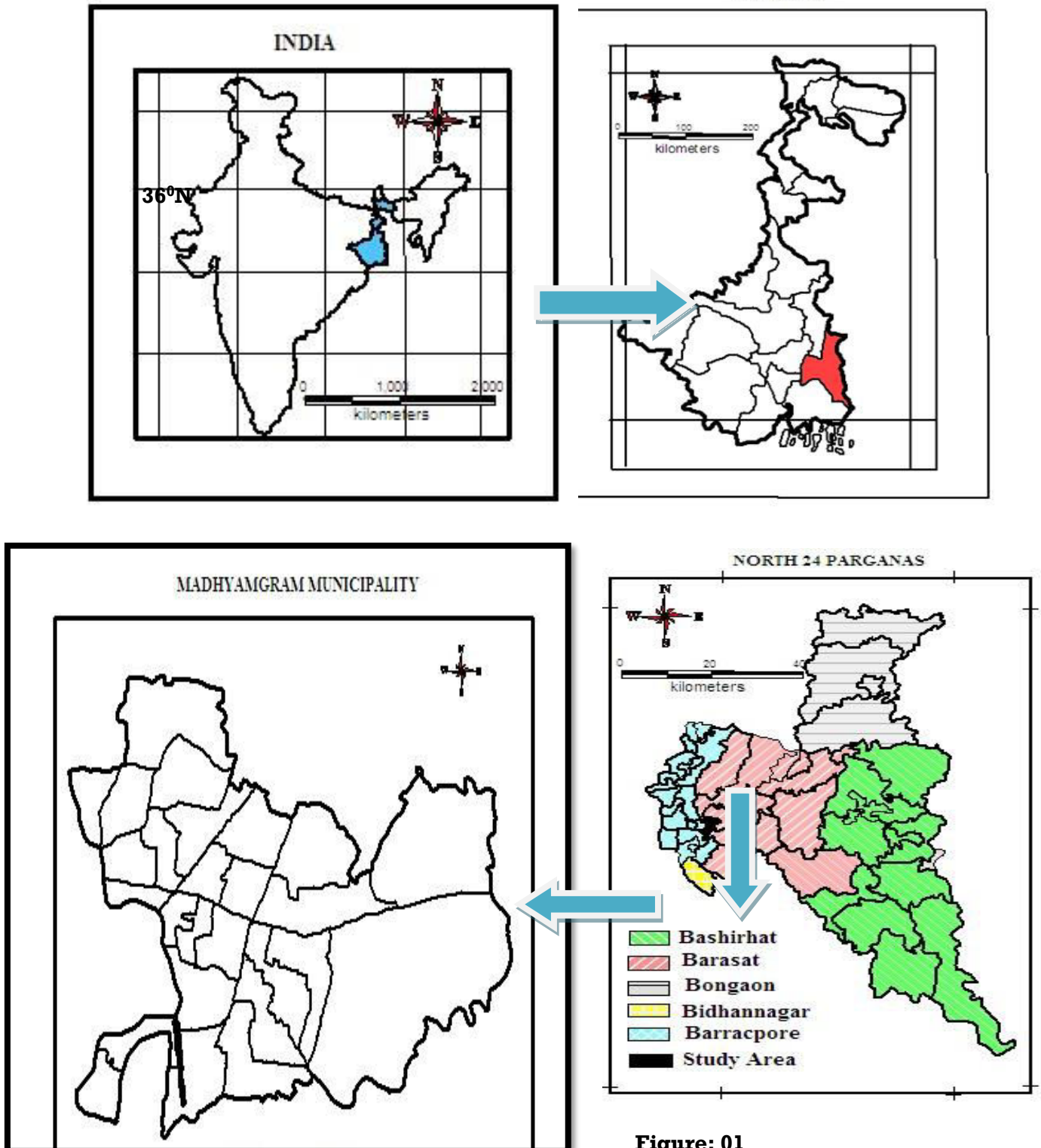
Objectives of the study

The main objectives of the study are

1. To highlight the volume, trend and patterns of migration.
2. To know the rural-urban differential of migration.
3. To know the age-sex differential of migration.
4. To find out the causes of migration.
5. To know the educational and occupational characteristics of migration.

Hypotheses of the study

1. People of certain age group have greater propensity to migrate.
2. There exists negative relation between distance and volume of migration.
3. Rural population is more migratory than urban population.
4. Males are more migratory than females.

Location map

Figure: 01

Location of the study area

From the point of demographic profile North 24 Parganas is highly significant in terms of population growth as well as behavioural diversity of migration patterns. It is the most populous district in West Bengal. It is also the tenth largest district in the state by area and second most populated district in the country. Its total population is 10009781 and growth rate is 12.04% in 2011.This district comprises five subdivision i.e. Barracpore, Barasat sadar, Bashirhat, Bangaon and Biddhannagar. In which Barasat is the head quarter of the district. Madhyamgram Municipality is located within the jurisdiction of Barasat Sadar Sub-division. The location of the study area is $22^0 33^/ 07^{//}$ north to $22^0 57^/ 22^{//}$ north latitude and $88^0 48^/ 01^{//}$ east to $88^0 27^/ 14^{//}$ east longitude. Madhyamgram is a small town within the suburban of metropolitan city Kolkata and also is a part of the area covered by Kolkata metropolitan development area. It is established in 1993 and it has 25 wards. According to 2011 census it has 196127 populations and decadal growth rate is 26.17%. This area exhibits dual migration pattern both internal and international.

Data base

In the present study two types of statistical data both primary and secondary have been used.

Secondary data source: Some important sources are Census of India, Statistical handbook of West Bengal, Primary Census abstract of North 24 Parganas, District Census Hand book of North 24 Parganas and demographic data from Municipality office.

Primary data source: This study is largely dependent on Primary data from field survey in response to a predetermined questionnaire. The questions are in the line of the objectives of the study.

Sample design and methodology

The methodology of any study is based on both ideographic and nomothetic approach. In this study both qualitative and quantitative methods have been used.

The pre- field method: The first phase involves extensive study of previous works to formulate the research hypotheses. In this stage secondary data sources have been studied in greater depth and detail. Elaborate information about the district has been gathered to formulate the research design.

The field method: The second phase includes detailed field investigation in the study area with the help of a structured questionnaire and door to door survey. Simple Random sampling technique has been used to select the sample. Total sample size is 585 populations.

The post-field method: The third phase involves analysis and interpretation of the collected data with help of statistical and cartographic techniques. The spatial data base is prepared with the help of Map Info Professional 10.0 GIS software. The research findings have been logically interpreted.

Results

Age – sex selectivity of migration

In the study area among 585 persons 290 persons are non-migrants and 295 persons are migrants. Out of the total in-migrants about 39% are male migrants and about 61% are female migrants.
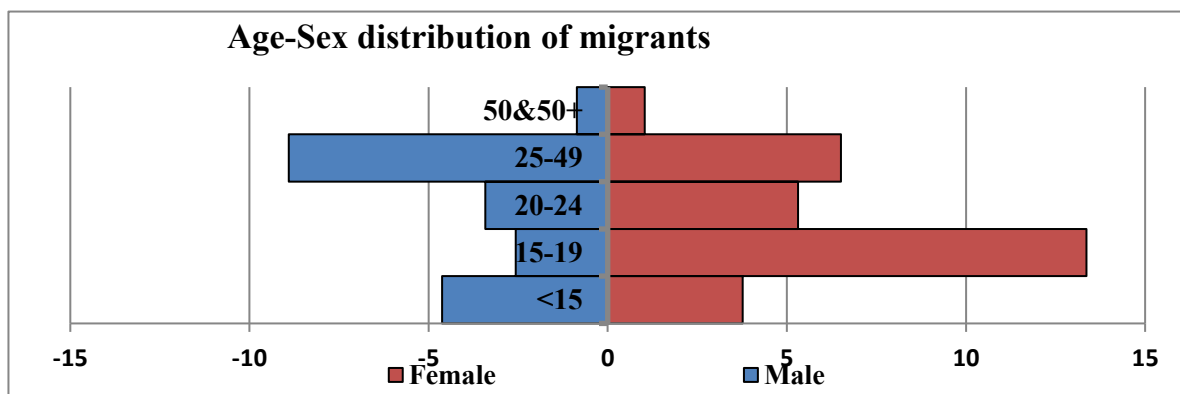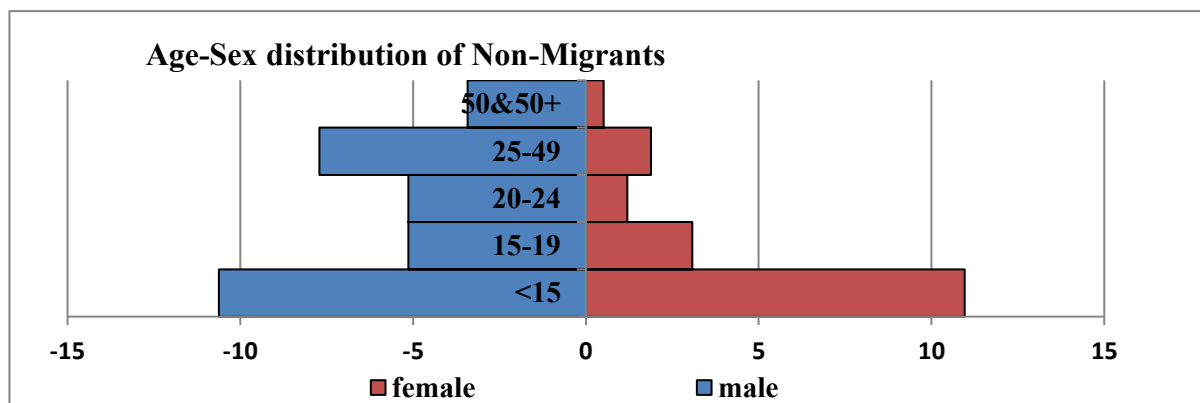
Figure : 2

Age-Sex distribution of migrants

Figure : 3

Age-Sex distribution of Non-Migrants

Among male migrants 28% are in the below 20 years age group,66% are in the 20 to 60 years age group and 6% are in the above 60 years age group. On the other hand 65% female migrants are in the below 20 years age group,29% are in 20 to 60 years age group and only 6% are in the above 60 years age group.

In the study area out of total population 10.62% males are non-migrants and 10.96% females are non -migrants in the below 15 years age group. Sex ratio of this age group is 1032.Out of the total population 5.14% males are non-migrants and 3.08% females are non-migrants in the 15 to 19 year age group.In the total population of this area 5.14%males are non-migrants and 1.20% females are non-migrants in the 20 to24 years age group. Out of the total population non-migrants males are 70.71% and non-migrants females are 1.88% in the 25 to 49 years age group.In the above 50 years age group only 3.42% malesand 0.51% females are non-migrants.

Index of dissimilarities by age

Age	Migrants	% to total	Non migrants	% to total	Index
<15	49	16.67	126	43.45	-26.78
15-19	93	31.63	48	16.55	15.08
20-24	51	17.35	37	12.76	4.59
25-49	90	30.61	56	19.31	11.3
50 & 50	11	3.74	23	7.93	-4.19

Table: -1   Source: - Primary Survey

In the study area 26.78% non-migrants are more than migrants population in the below 15 years age group. 15.08% migrants are more than non-migrant populations in the 15 to 19 years age group.4.59% migrants are more than non-migrants in the 20 to 24 years group.11.3% migrants are more than non-migrants in the 25 to 49 years age group. Again 4.19% non-migrants are more than migrant population.

Index of dissimilarities by sex

Age	Male migrants	% to total	Male non migrants	% to total	Index	Female migrants	% to total	Female non migrants	% to total	Index
<15	27	22.69	62	39.49	-16.8	22	12.57	64	62.14	-49.57
15-19	15	12.61	30	19.11	-6.5	78	44.57	18	17.48	27.09
20-24	20	16.81	30	19.11	-2.3	31	17.71	07	6.80	10.91
25-49	52	43.70	45	28.66	15.04	38	21.71	11	10.68	11.03
50 & 50+	5	4.20	20	12.74	-8.54	6	3.43	03	2.91	0.52

Table: - 2   Source: - Primary Survey

It is seen that in the below 15 years age group males dissimilarities index is -16.8 that means male non-migrants are more than male migrants. On the other hand female dissimilarities index in the below 15 years age group is -49.57 that means females migrants are more than male non-migrants in this age group. In the age group 15 to19 years male and female dissimilarities index are -6.5 and 27.09 that mean male migrants are less than male non-migrants but female migrants are greater than female non-migrants. Male and female dissimilarities index are -2.3 and 10.91 in the 20 to 24 years age group. Here male non-migrants are greater but female non-migrants are less. In the 25 to 49 years age group male and female dissimilarities index are 15.04 and11.03 respectively and in the above 50 years age group male and female dissimilarities

Distribution of migrants by marital status

Out of 294 migrants 55(18.71%) are married male migrants. And 13.95% of married male migrants are in the 25 to 49 years age group. In the study area it is found that out of total migrants 156 (53.05%) are married female migrants. Out of total female married migrants 50% are in the 15 to19 years age group and 17.95% are in the 20 to 24 years age group. 8.97% female married migrants are in the below 15 years age group. This proves early marriage system in the society.
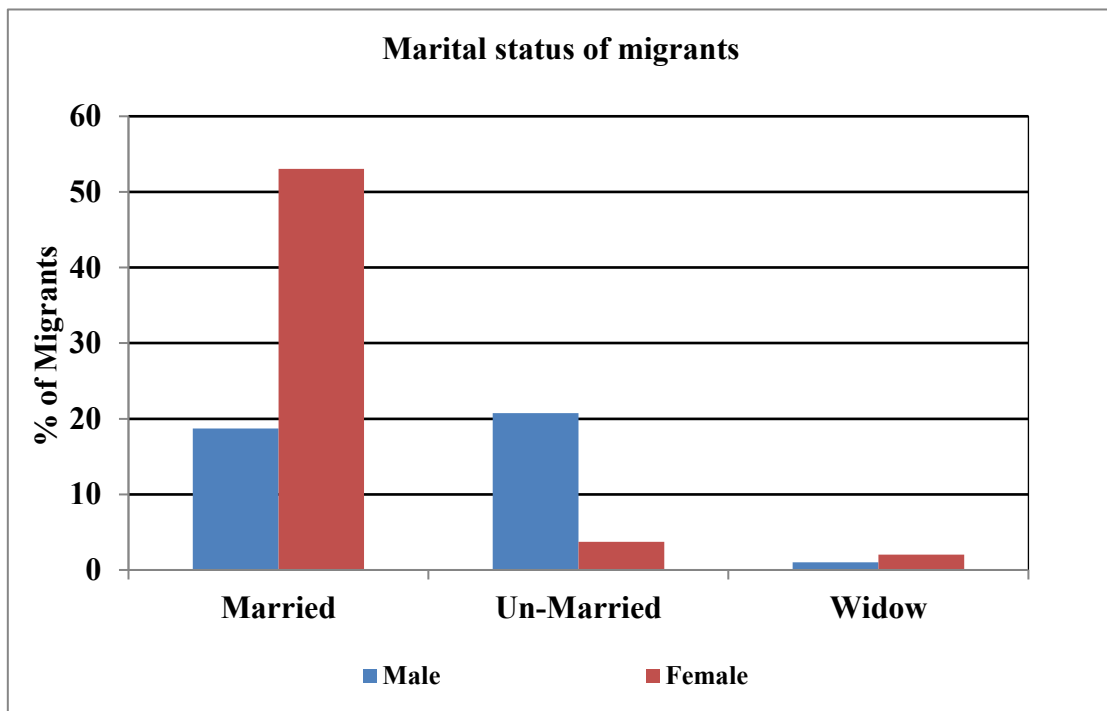

Figure: - 4

Out of 294 migrants 61(20.75%) are unmarried male migrants. In which 45.9%are in the below 15 years age group,21.31% are in the 15 to19 years age group, 18% are in the 25 to49 years age group. Only 11(3.74%) migrants are female migrants. In which 90.91% in the below 15 years of age who have come with their family heads. Out of total294 migrants only 3(1.02%) males are widow and 6(2.04%) females are widow.

Distribution of migration by literacy level

Literacy level of 43(14.63%) out of 294 migrants and 73(24.83%) female migrants out of 294 migrants are below class five. Among 43 males 37.21% are in the 25 to 49 years age group and out of 73 female 38.36%are in the 15 to 19 years age group.
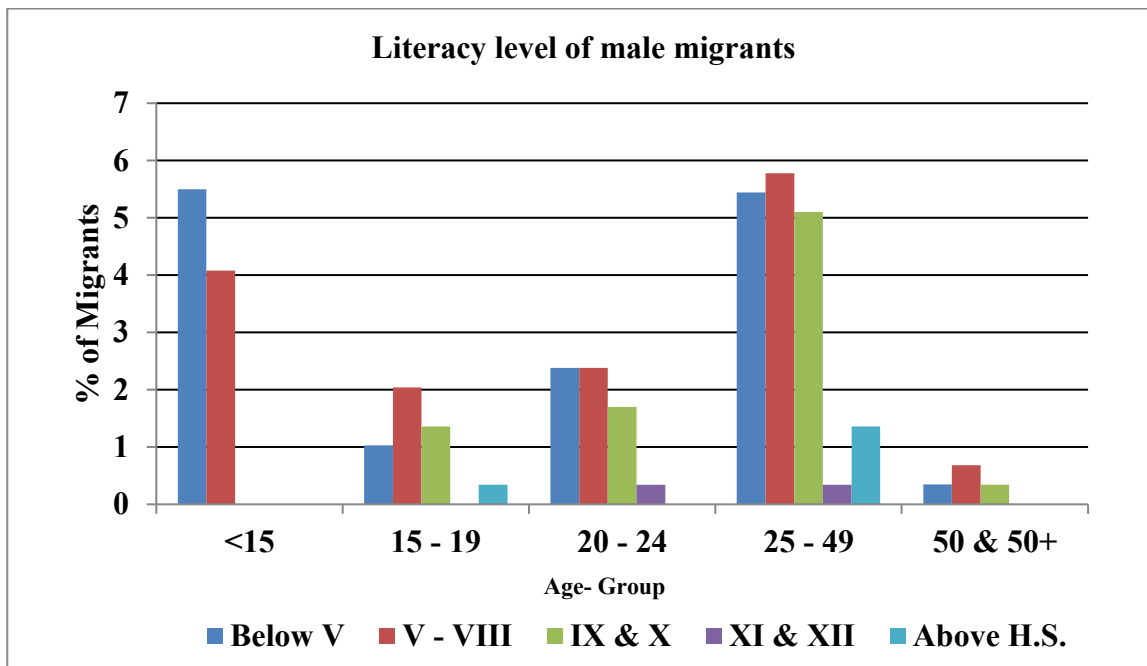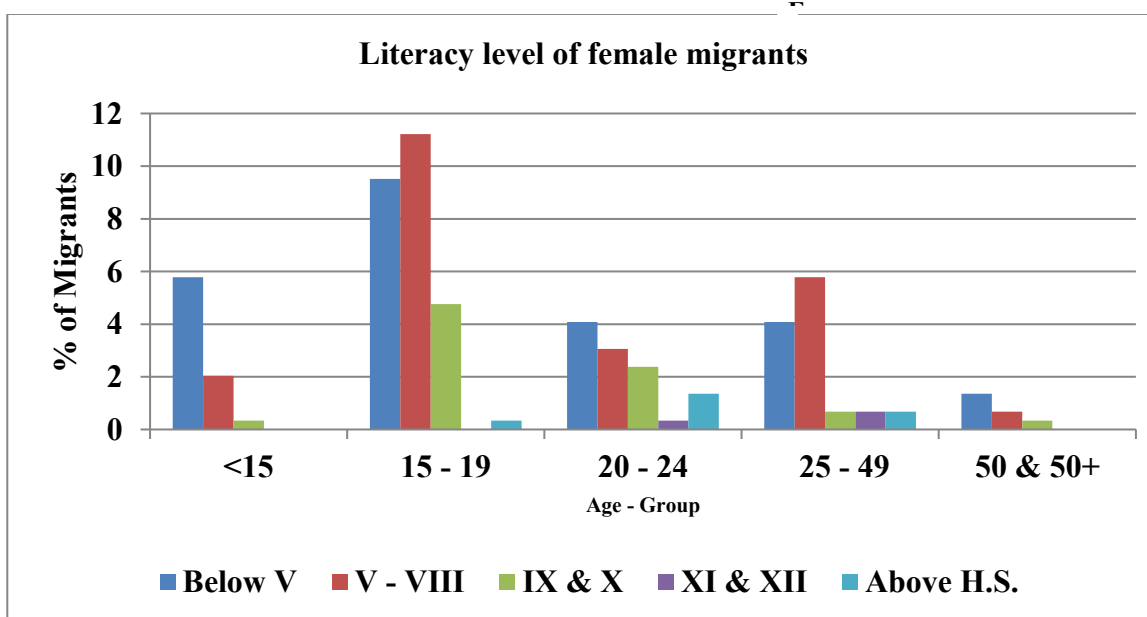
Figure: 05

Figure: -6

Literacy level of 44(14.97%) males and 67(22.78%) female out of 294 migrants are between five to eight class passed. Literacy level of 25(8.5%) males and 25(8.5%) females are lower secondary. Only 2(0.68%) male and 3(1.02%) females have completed higher secondary level. Above higher secondary level 5(1.71%) males and 6(2.38%) females have come here.

Migration streams

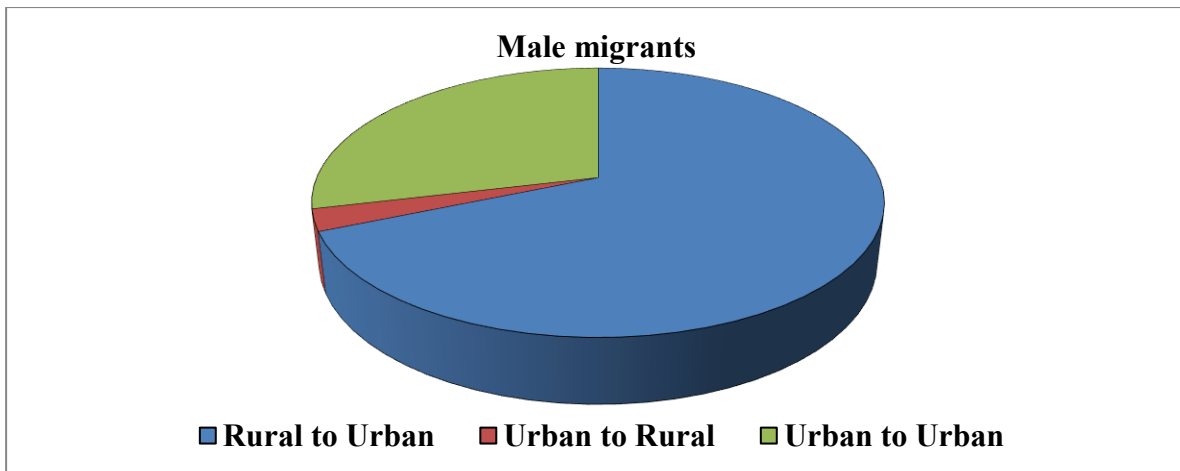In my study area three types of migration streams have been found. These are follows:-
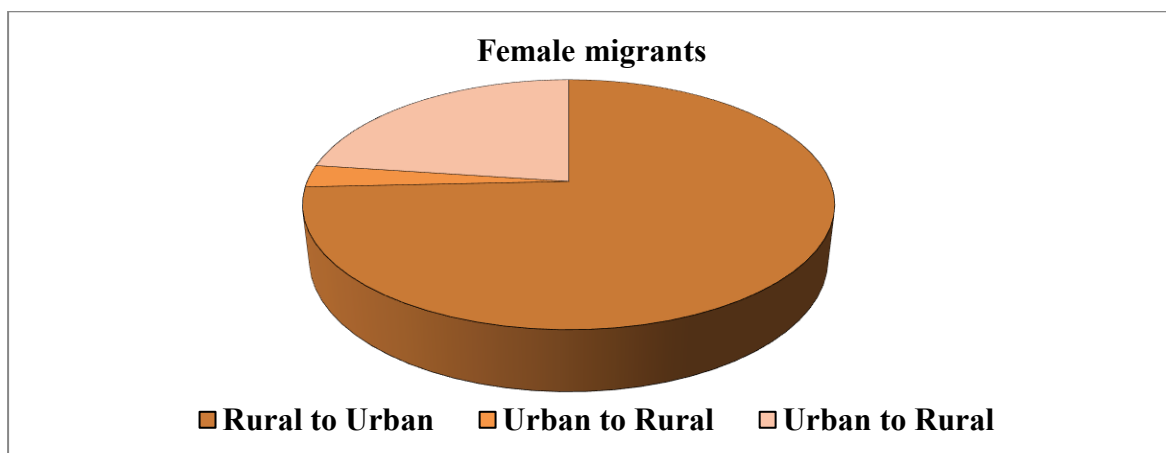

Figure: 7

Figure: 8

Rural to urban migration

Out of the total migrants 26.86% are male populations who have come from rural areas. Out of total migrants 44.21% are females who have come from rural areas. Among these female rural migrants 43% are in the 15 to 19 years age group, 22.31% are in the 25 to 49 years age group, 19.23% are in the 20 to 24 years age group. Among male rural migrants 40.51% are in the 25 to 49 years age group,25.32 % are in the below 15 years age group,20.25% are in the 20 to 24 years age group population.

Urban to rural migration

Only 3(1.02%) male migrants have come from urban area. They have come here for permanently settled down as land value is less than their previous place of residence. Again 4(1.7%) females have come from their previous residence to here after marriage and with their spouse.

Urban to urban migration

Out of total migrants 11.22% males have come from another urban area. Out of these migrants 48.65% migrants are in the 25 to 49 years age group. Other hand 13.6% female migrants have come from other urban areas. Among these migrants 50% females are in the 15 to19 years age group.

Distribution of migrants by place of birth and place of last residence
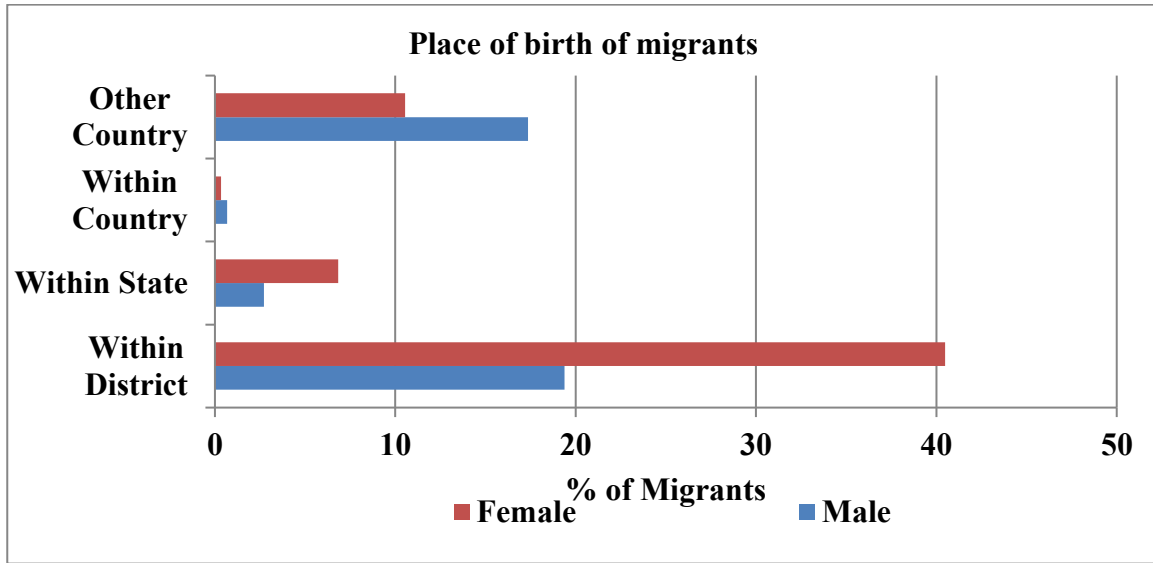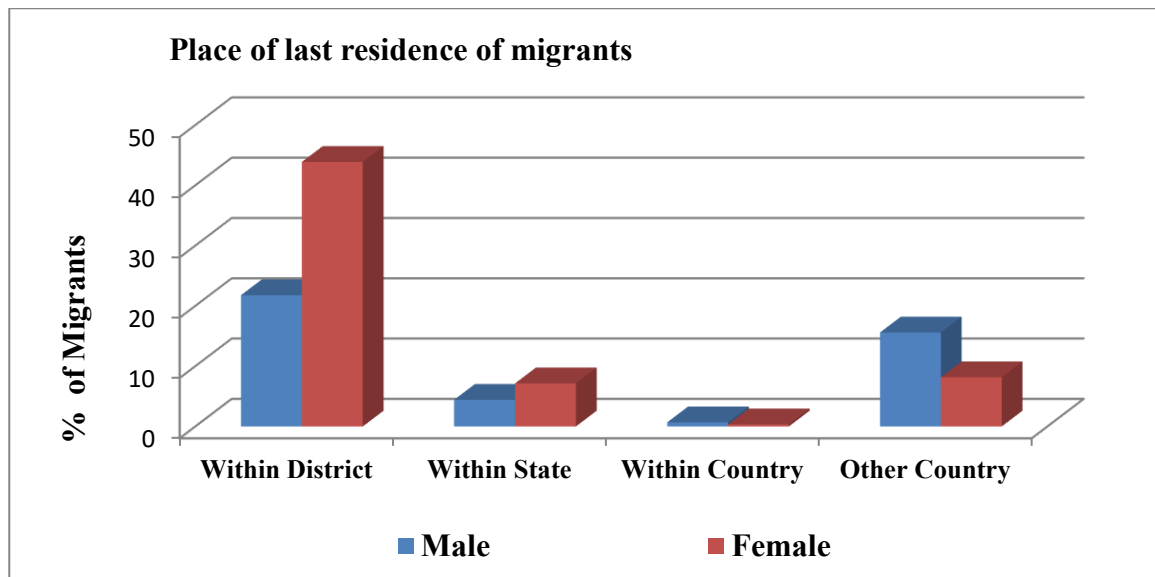
Figure: 09

Figure: -9

Figure: 10

Figure: -10

Out of 294 migrants 57(19.39%) males were born within the district of enumeration. Out of total immigrants 119(40.48%) female were born within the district of enumeration. Only 8(2.72%) males and 20(6.84%) have borne within the state. Only 2 males and 1 female have borne within the country. Out of 294 migrants 51(17.35%) males and 31(10.54%) females have born in other country. From within the district 59.87% migrants have come and from other country 27.89% migrants have come.

Last place of residence of 64(21.77%) males and 129(43.88%) females out of total migrants were within the district. Last place of residence of 13(4.42%) males and 21(7.14%) females out of total migrants were within the state. Only 2 males and 1 female have come within the country. Last place of residence of 37(15.59%) males and 24(8.16%) females have come from other country.

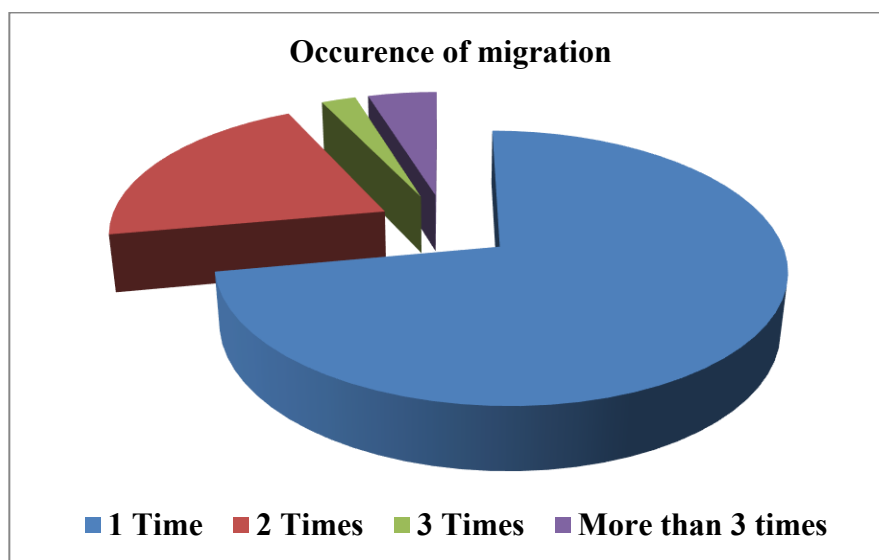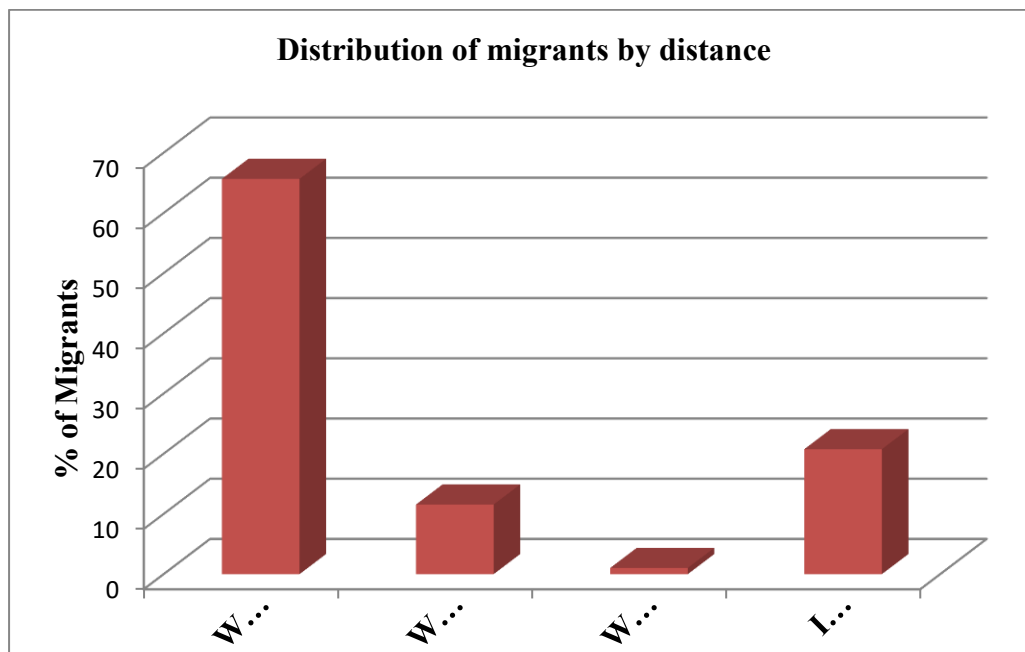## Distribution of migrants by occurrence

Figure: 11

It reveals from the figure -10 that 212(72.11%) migrants have come here for first time that means from their place of birth. In these migrants females are greater in number. Out of total immigrants 61(20.75%) have come from second time. Only 7(2.38%) migrants have come for third time and about14(21.76%) migrants have come for more than three times. So it is clearly stated that population are more or less immobile.
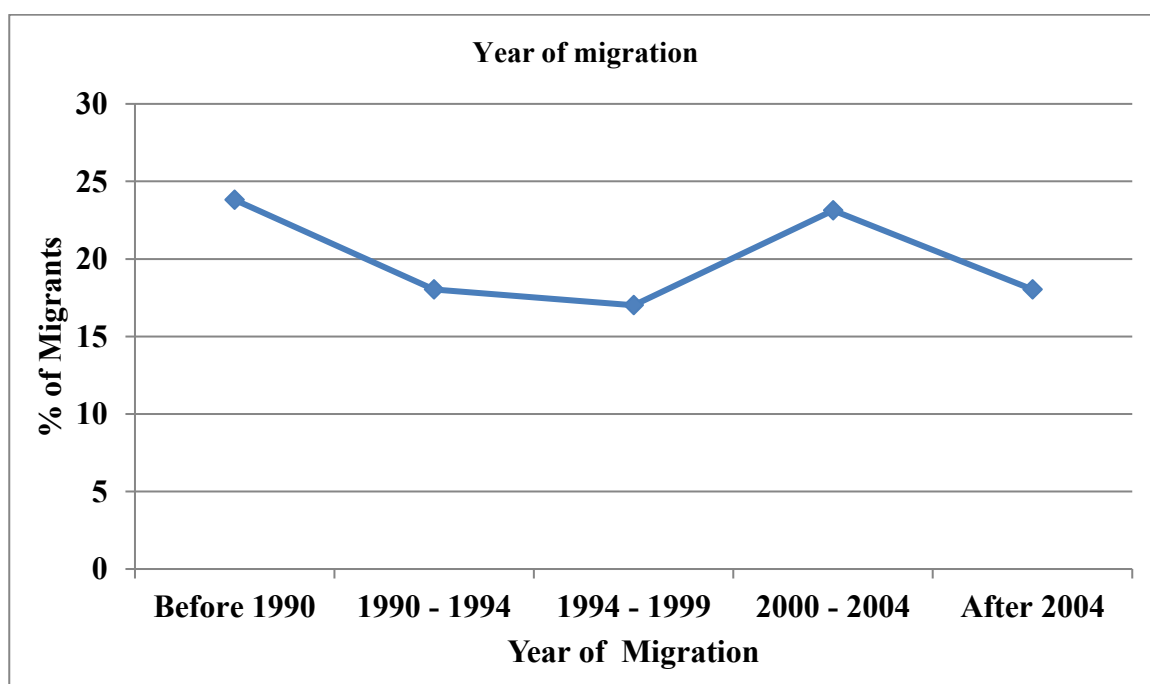
Distribution of migrants by distance

Figure:12

From the field survey (Fig.-12) it is found that out of 294 migrants 178 (60.54%) migrants has come from within thedistrict. In these migrants females are predominant. Out of 294 migrants 46(15.63%) have come from within the state and 3(1.02%) migrants from within the country. Being a border area of Bangladesh 67(22.79%) migrants has come from Bangladesh.

Distribution of migrants by year of migration

Figure: 13

About 70(23.81%) came here before 1990. Out of total immigrants 53(18.03%) have come in 1990 to 1994, 50(17.01%) migrants have come in 1995 to 1999. After 1999 to 2004 68(23.18%) migrants have come. After 2004to till now 53(18.03%) population have come here.

In the study area it has been shown that 16% migrants were migrated due to force factors or to find out better
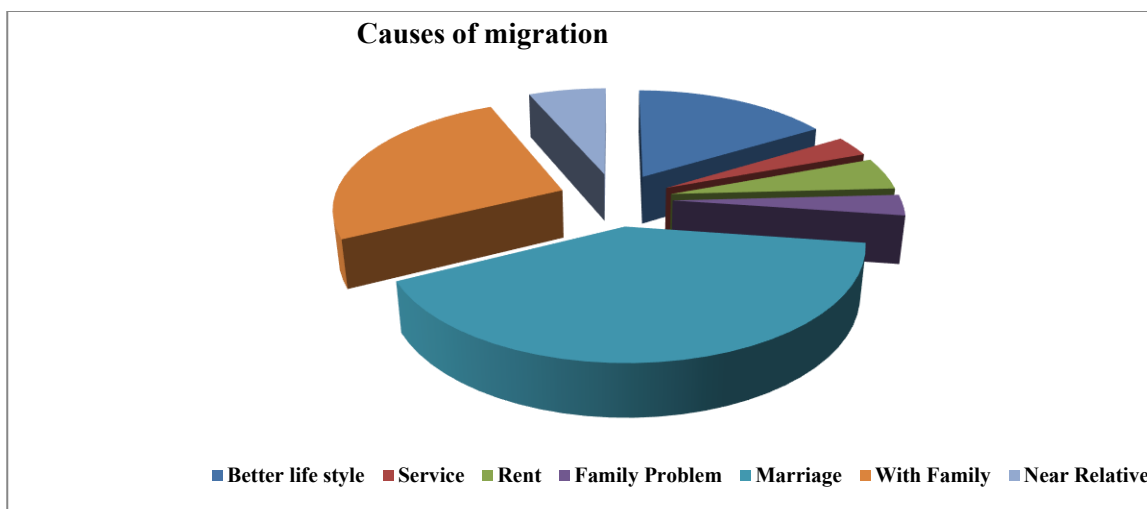

Figure - 14

life style.3% have come to find out service .3% have come due to family problem.40% migrants have come due to marriage.6% populations have come to near relatives.

Discussion

The present study is conducted to understand the patterns and selectivity of migration in Madhyamgram Municipality. The present study has brought about some interesting facts which are discussed with the similar studies carried out in the past.

Migration is selective of young adults nearly 50% of all migrants are adults and female are likely to be younger than males. About 78(26.53%) female migrants are in the 15 to19 years age group and 52(17.69%) males migrants are in the 25 to 49 years age group. Due to early marriage system in the society below 20 years age female migrants are predominant.

Over shorter distance females are more migratory than male migrants. Where 129(43.88%) females havecome from within the district, only 64(23.47%) males have come from within the district.

Again over longer distance males are more migratory than females. Where 37(12.58%) males have come from other country, only 24(8.16%) females have come from other country. It has shown that many of the female migrants have come from within the district after marriage and from within the state for working purpose. Generally people do not cross the border of his native country until he is compelled to do so. My investigation reveals that the partition of India in 1947 on religious lines is the main stimulant for cross border migration from Bangladesh to India. The partition of India followed by Riots and religious oppression has led to insecurity of property and life minorities in Bangladesh, especially of the Hindus. Insecurity of life was the first major cause of migration. Riot was the second major cause of migration followed by religious oppression. So

insecurity of life, riot, and religious oppression worked together as the major push factor for the migration.

People of certain age group have greater propensity to move in comparison to the other age group. Out of total male migrants 75(65.79%) males are in the working age group. But in contrast 118(65.19%) females out of total female migrants are in the below 20 years age group.

Rural population is more migratory than urban population. It is found that 209(71.19%) migrants have come from rural areas in which female migrants are predominant. Only 85(28.91%) migrants have come from urban areas.

Generally negative co-relation is existing between distance and volume of migration. But here it is seen that 193(65.65%) migrants have come from within the district, 34(11.56%) from within the state, 3(1.02%) from within the country and 61(20.75%) from other country. Here international migrants are more in number.

Conclusion

Migration is a decision making process. Being an important component of population dynamics the process of migration has played an important role for changing demographic scenario of the study area. North 24 Parganas district is strategically very important due to location along the international border of Eastern India. Infiltration of thousands of refugee in time of partition of India and on wards might change the pattern of demographic picture as has been identified from the secondary data. Internal migration due to financial and living opportunities as well as natural tendency of rural to urban migratory behaviour primarily has been assumed as great important factors for high growth of urbanisation newly built Census Town. Such process of changing behaviour has been studied carefully to investigate how those factors influenced to establish the present scenario. How migrational attitudes of men have become a developmental trait in the study area have been analysed with the help of the personal interview method and data analysis. This has also been tried to find out the basic component that may influence the process of development of the study area so that future policy formulation would be helpful.

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