

## Chapter-2

### **Socio-Economic Background of the Native and Migrant Respondents.**

The present chapter will focus on the socio-economic background of the respondents which includes religion, caste, mother tongue, size of the family, native places and time spent in the area and their political back ground that is found in the study area.

#### **NATIVES RESPONDENT.**

**Table No.1 Age of the Respondents**

<b>Age of respondents</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Up to 20 years	10	6.7
21-30	45	30.0
31-40	45	30.0
41-50	30	20.0
51-60	10	6.7
Above 60	10	6.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The above table shows that most of the respondents are young i.e. up to 40 years (67.7%). Moreover a significant number of the respondents are also in the age group above 50 years (13.4%).

Hence as the households are selected by using simple random sampling but, the respondents are voluntarily participating in the interview, we can see the uneven share of the respondents in the different age groups.

**Table No.2 Sex of the respondents.**

<b>Gender of the respondents</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Male	92	61.3
Female	58	38.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The data reveals that most (61.3%) of the respondents fall under male category while the next 38.7% of the respondents are female.

Hence in the above table the male respondents are showing high in number as compared to the female respondents.

Only when there are no male members available in the family when the researcher went for the interview, female respondents came up to give the information. Since female (wife) they somehow sat at home when their young one are at home and looking taking care of the household or doing gardening work at home, sitting in the shop nearby their home. So it is easy for the researcher to find them at time of going to interview them.

**Table No. 3 Marital status of the respondents.**

<b>Marital status of the respondents.</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Married	129	86.0
Unmarried	10	6.7
Divorced	5	3.3
Widow	6	4.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The above table shows that most of the respondents (86.0%) are married, followed by the respondents who are unmarried (6.7%), widow (4.0%) and divorced (3.3%).

Though the samples of the study are selected by convenient sampling, the researcher made a conscious effort to cover diverse age groups as possible so that the possibility of diversity of their perspectives can be explored. Married male people who are generally the head of the family are also taken seriously by the family members, hence mostly opted to be the respondents and give required information to the researcher. Out of the married significant number of them are newly married together with matured and elderly ones which will help to capture the perspective of respondents from different age groups. Divorce is very rare in the study area which is also reflected in their number among the respondents and widows themselves generally not prefer to give information to outsiders about family as they are mostly confined within the house with very negligible outside world exposure.

**Table No. 4 Relationship between the age of the respondents and the number of children that the respondents were having.**

Age	No of Children of the respondents				Total
	0	1-5	6-10	Above 10	
Up to 20 years	10	0	0	0	10
21-30	0	45	0	0	45
31-40	0	45	0	0	45
41-50	1	15	14	0	30
51-60	0	0	9	1	10
Above 60	0	0	0	10	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>150</b>

*Source: Field work*

When we try to see the relation between age of the respondents and the number of children, the data clearly shows that with the rise in age there is a rise in the choice of having more children, hence aged people have more children than the young ones.

Hence in table it show that majority of the young respondents are having 1-5 number of children because this group of respondents they are residing in the nuclear family and the other fact is that with passage of time the age at marriage is increasing particularly for women which results in shorter reproductive phase to give birth to more children. Moreover the young respondents also reported the problems they faced in their family with more siblings; hence they are aspiring for smaller family where they can focus on giving their children better education which can bring upward social mobility. Therefore these families are parting with their traditional family structure to address the modern challenges.

The respondents who are having 6-10 children and above 10 children are mostly from higher age groups who believe in more members will bring more money and the family will be numerically strong to face other outside problems. Moreover as most of them are dependent on agriculture where they need more labors, hence having a bigger family is always an advantage.

**Table No. 5 Social category of the Respondents.**

<b>Caste Category</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
General.	7	4.7
Schedule caste	5	3.3
Schedule tribe	134	89.3
OBC	4	2.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The above table reveals that Schedule Tribe respondents are in the majority (89.3%). In the study area whereas the other three caste category i.e. the General, Schedule caste and OBC have (4.7%), (3.3%), and (2.7%) respectively.

As the study is conducted in a tribal state i.e. Meghalaya, majority of the respondents are from ST category. The general, schedule caste and OBC (Bengali, Nepali, Bihari etc) are found in the study since they are the people who have migrated long time ago during their great grandfather era so presently they are settling in the present area and they have been known as the village native people since they have learned and share their livelihood with the other native people i.e. those who are belonging to the scheduled tribe caste and this three category of caste besides schedule tribe are permanently residing in the native place for generation and have their own property and residents and hence the village authority have recognized them as one of the native villagers.

**Table No. 6 Religion of the Respondents**

<b>Category of religion</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Christian	128	85.3
Hindu	12	8.0
Muslim	4	2.7
Indegenious	6	4.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The above table shows that majority of the respondents (85.3%) are Christian when it comes to religion of the respondents, followed by Hindus (8%), Indigenous (4.0%) and Muslim (2.7%).

Hence the data reveals that most of the respondents are Christians since most of the tribal native people are converted to Christian religion and only a few families still

follow the traditional indigenous religion among the Khasi community (*Niam Khasi*) which is also reflected in the number of respondents. The Hindu and Muslim respondents are those who belong to general, OBC and SC category families.

**Table No. 7 Types of family of the Respondents.**

<b>Types of family</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Nuclear	118	78.7
Extended	32	21.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The data reveals that majority of the respondents (78.7%) are living in nuclear family and the rest (21.3%) are extended families. In the study area most of the respondents are practicing matriarchy where daughters after marrying together with their husband shifted to either their grandparents' house or other plot of land which is giving to them and start a neo local family. The study also found that in cases of even younger daughters married to migrants, are starting neo local family leading to change in the traditional family structured of the natives. It has also been observed when native men are marrying migrant women they are living with the native men family or started a neo local family.

Moreover, the newly wedded couples prefer to live separated from their parents and family by moving to neo local family as it is more comfortable and calls for less future family problems.

Whereas, some of the respondents who are still staying in the extended family they are the ones who are practicing patriarchal family system (Hindu and Muslim communities), where more than one families are staying under one roof. Also during data collection it has been found that some of the matriarchal families too are staying in extended family, the reason is that when wife becomes a widow or divorced in order

to get shelter and to support her children she is force to shift back to her parent's home and stay together with them, making it an extended family.

**Table No. 8 Number of the earning member in the family of the respondents.**

<b>Number of the earning member in the family</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
One	27	18.0
Two.	115	76.7
Three.	6	4.0
More than four.	2	1.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The above shows that in majority of the households (76.7%) two members are earning, followed by the families (18.0%) were only one members is earning. Only in few of the households has three (4.0%) or more (1.3%) earning members.

The data confirms that majority of the households has two earning members as most of the natives families in the study area are from lower and lower middle class background where both husband and wife are contributing in their family income. But due to lack of high qualification and training their household income remains humble.

**Table No. 9 Relational between age of the Respondents and the Educational qualification of the respondents.**

Age	Educational status of the respondents					Total
	Illiterate	Primary	Secondary	Higher	Graduate	
Up to 20 years	0	0	9	1	0	10
21-30	0	1	16	23	5	45
31-40	0	23	22	0	0	45
41-50	0	0	24	6	0	30
51-60	0	6	4	0	0	10
Above 60	9	1	0	0	0	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>150</b>

*Source: Field work*

The data in the above table established that there is a direct link between age and educational qualification of the respondents as the younger respondents are having better educational qualification than their elder counterparts. Hence, as the earlier already established we can see the relationship between migration and the improving status of education among the young native members.

**Table No. 10 The relation between possession of professional qualification by the respondents and their age group**

Age group	Possession of Professional Qualification by the respondents		TOTAL
	YES	NO	
Up to 20 years	0	0	0
21-30	14	41	55
31-40	0	45	45
41-50	0	30	30
51-60	0	10	10
ABOVE 60	0	10	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>150</b>

*Source: Field work*

When we look at the relation between possession of professional qualification by the respondents and their age group, we can see that all the respondents who are having professional qualification are from 19-30 age groups, which suggest that only the youths who are also having better education qualification are learning the importance of professional qualification. But there is still much vacuum felt for both traditional education and professional education in the area. The other respondents are either engaged in agriculture or working as skill and semi-skilled labours which is mostly suiting their educational qualification.

**Table No.11 Nature of village of the respondents.**

<b>Nature of village.</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Purely tribal	23	15.3
Tribal dominated village	7	4.7
Semi-tribal village.	33	22.0
Rural village	15	10.0
Semi-urban	72	48.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The above table reveals that majority of the respondents (48%) have reported that found their village has semi-urban, followed by semi-tribal (22%), purely tribal (15.3%), rural (10%) and tribal dominated (4.7%) village.

The respondents who look upon their village as semi urban are those who have experienced a bit of exposure of outside area apart from their village lifestyle, they find their village is changing in all area be in development in education, infrastructure, dynamics of culture, lifestyle of people, new generation market and employment opportunities and it has opened the opportunities towards positive development in the village of everyday life. Hence, they feel that their village can be categorized as semi-urban.

Respondents who perceive their village as semi-tribal village as majority of the villagers belong from, the tribal background who are still practicing their tribal identity in their daily life in the way they dress, eat communicate, celebrate, and keeping their culture alive. But parallel to these modern cultural practice are also penetrating in the tribal way of life as diverse communities co existing which is adding more modern practices to the existing tribal practices.

For the respondents who identify their village as purely tribal reported that it is because the people are still confined to the tribal way of life without having much

exposure to outside world. Hence, the orthodox tribal culture and life is still practiced in its virgin form in the village and modernity has not yet penetrated to bring change in the typical traditional tribal mind set of the people who are mostly resisting any kind of change.

The respondents who have reported that their village is tribal dominated one is because the demography of the village more tribal based with majority of the population being tribal. Though there is significant number of migrants settling in the village but most of them are tribal from different North Eastern States, hence the demographic nature of the village still remains tribal dominated with very few non-tribal residing in the village. Moreover, the tribal population of the village is holding all the powerful positions in the village and the other groups who are the minority in the village remains dominated.

**Table No. 12 Job status of the respondents.**

<b>Job status of the respondents</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Permanent (Govt jobs)	37	24.7
Temporary (contract labor)	21	14.0
Self-employed	92	61.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The data reveals that most of the respondents (61.3%) are working as self-employed followed by those (24.7%) who are having permanent jobs and. those who are working as temporary contractual labor (14.0%) on daily wages.

Most of the respondents who are self-employed are mostly agriculturalist that used to cultivate organic products and sell in the market. Moreover, women street vendors in the village also comes under the category of self-employed, followed by those who are

setting up small business by opening up shops. Some of the respondents give rent to the people.

Among the respondents who are working as permanent employees are mostly working in the various government offices in different posts and teachers in different schools.

The respondents who fall into the category of temporary employees/labor are those who are working as wages labor in the households of family as housemaids as most of them do not have any plot of land to cultivate and also do not have enough educational qualification to get a descent permanent job, followed by those who are working as contractual laborers in stones quarry near by the village.

**Table No. 13 Types of occupation performed by the Respondents.**

<b>Types of occupation performed by the respondents.</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Skilled	13	8.7
Semi-skilled	25	16.7
Un skilled	112	74.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The above table show that majority of the respondents are unskilled (74.7%), followed by semi-skilled (16.7%) and skilled (8.7%).

Respondents who fall in the category of unskilled labors are those who are not having any technical skills and not much education qualification hence are forced to work as farmers, wage laborers in stone quarries and shops, domestic help in others house, shopkeepers, street vendors. Semi-skilled workers are those who are holding fourth grade government jobs as peon, security guard, tailors, Registered Medical Practitioners (RMP), cyber café owners. Skilled workers are working as teachers with B.Ed training, technicians as electrician, mobile phone repairers, computer hardware technician e

**Table No. 14 Family Income of the Respondents.**

<b>Family income(in Rs)</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Up to 5000	2	1.3
5001-10000	8	5.3
10001-15000	34	22.7
15001-20000	62	41.3
20001-25000	30	20.0
25001 and above.	14	9.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The above table exhibits that majority of the household's monthly income falls in the category of Rs15001-20000, followed by Rs10001-15000, Rs20001-25000, and Rs25001 and above.

Hence, we can observed that though in majority of the households at least two members are earning but still majority of them are from the lower middle class and lower class background in the village. Household who are earning below Rs5000 monthly have mostly single earners in the family who are either streets vendors, domestic helps, or other un-skilled laborers. Those who are earning above Rs25000 are mostly having at least two earning members in the family and at least one of them are having a permanent job with more stable source of income and moreover families who are having property to give as a rent are also coming under the category as it is an addition to their professional income.

**Table No. 15 Relationship between the monthly income and the major spending of the respondents from the monthly income.**

Income class	Major spending of the respondents from the monthly income					Total
	Family income of the respondents.	Spend on family consumption	To repay loan.	Spend on education for children.	Spend on purchase property (land, livestock's constructions etc).	
Low class	Below 5000	2	0	0	0	2
	5001-10000	8	0	0	0	8
Lower middle	10001-15000	34	0	0	0	34
	15001-20000	11	5	46	0	62
Upper middle	20001-25000	0	0	0	30	30
	25001and above.	0	0	0	14	14
Total		55	5	46	44	150

*\*The source of income categories is World Bank classification of income-level, 2017-2018*

When we look at the correlation between the monthly income and sources of their major part of expenditure, we can see that most of the respondents comparatively higher incomes groups are spending most of their earning on purchasing properties like land, livestock and buildings, whereas most of the middle earning groups are spending more on education of their children and the lower earning groups are spending most of their earning on just family consumption. Hence, the focus of higher

learning groups is to expand their possessions and wealth, whereas the middle earning groups priority is the education and training for their children which can bring inter-generational upward mobility and the lower income groups still struggling to fulfil the basic needs of the family.

**Table No. 16 Land acquired by the native respondents.**

<b>Land.</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
1-2 acres.	53	35.3
3-4 acres.	55	36.7
5-6 acres.	9	6.0
7-8 acres.	4	2.7
9-10 acres.	22	14.7
Above 10 acres.	7	4.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The data reveals that most of the respondents owns smaller plot of land i.e 1-2 acres (35.3%) to 3-4 acres (36.7%) of land. Very few respondents are having bigger plot of land i.e. 9-10 acres (14.7%) to above 10 acres (4.7%) of land.

Hence, migration can be termed as one of the reason of the native people selling out their traditional lands to the rich migrants and are reduced to just small plot of land which is only somehow enough for constructing small household, the luxury of having agricultural field is only enjoyed by very few of the respondents.

## MIGRANTS DATA.

**Table No. 1 Age of the respondents.**

<b>Age of respondents</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Up to 20 years	9	6.0
21-30	38	25.3
31-40	42	28.0
41-50	27	18.0
51-60	20	13.3
ABOVE 60	14	9.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The above table shows that out of 150 migrant respondents more respondents are from 31-40 age group (28.0%), followed by 21-30 age group (25.3%), 41-50 age group (18.0%), 51-60 age group (13.3%), above 60 years (9.3%) and finally below 20 years (6.0%). Hence the data is collected from 150 migrant respondents who are well dispersed in almost all the age groups, as the data is collected following convenient sampling.

**Table No. 2 Sex of the respondents.**

<b>Sex of respondents</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Male	72	48.0
Female	78	52.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The data is collected from (48 %) male and (52.0%) female migrant respondents.

Hence the data reveals that almost equal number of male and female respondents volunteered to participate in the interview, and as the respondents are selected by convenient sampling the number is not exactly identical.

**Table No 3. Marital status of the respondents.**

<b>Marital status of the respondents.</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Married	121	80.7
Unmarried	9	6.0
Divorced	16	10.7
Widow	4	2.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The above tables shows that majority of the respondents are married (80.7%), followed by divorced (10.7%), unmarried respondents (6.0%) and finally widows (2.7%).

Hence, the data reveals out that the migrants respondents majority of them were married because in most of the household the head of the family is the husband who when available preferred to give the interview, as he is believed to have more exposure

to answered the questioned of the interview, in his absent the wife generally feel confident to act as the interviewee. Only when both husband and wife are not in the position to give the interview or there are no married members in the family, the other members come forward for the interview.

**Table No. 4 Number of Children of the respondents.**

<b>Number of children.</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
1-3	38	25.3
4-5	78	52.0
6-10	21	14.0
Above 10.	4	2.7
Not applicable (unmarried youth)	9	6.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The table shows that majority of the respondents (52 %) are having 4-5 children in their family, followed by the respondents who are having 1-3 children (25.3%), 6-10 children (14%) and above 10 with (2.7%).

Hence, the data reveals that almost half of the respondents are young i.e. below 30 years, hence they do not have many children (1-3) children, the respondents who are late 40 and above, are having more children (above 4). Moreover the migrants who are from lower class working as wage labors and labors in construction, stone quarries, vegetables venders etc have comparatively lesser children hence smaller families than the migrants who are mostly tribal and economically from well off families.

**Table No. 5 Social category of the Respondents.**

<b>Social category of the Respondents</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
General.	11	7.3
Schedule tribe.	75	50.0
Schedule caste.	40	26.7
OBC.	24	16.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

In the above table the data reveals that most of the respondents are from Schedule Tribe (50%), and Schedule Caste category (26.7% each), followed by the OBC (16%) and the General Category (7.3%).

Hence, the table shows that the migrant's respondents are not from homogeneous caste categories but from different categories as schedule tribe, the schedule caste, OBC and general category. Out of the migrants who inhabit in the entire five villages, the schedule tribe migrants they migrated from mostly the tribal states of North East like Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram and within the states of Meghalaya, and the schedule caste migrants have migrated from the states of Assam, Tripura, Kolkata, Jharkhand and Bihar. Whereas the OBC categories are found mostly in Maikhuli, Pillangkata A, Pillangkata B and few in Umtyrnga village and they are migrants who migrated mostly from the states of Assam. The General category migrants they are found in Pillangkata A, Pillangkata B and Maikhuli Village and they are migrants who belong from the states of Manipur, Agartala, Assam and few from within the states of Meghalaya.

**Table No. 6 Religion of the respondents.**

<b>Religion of respondents</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Christian	71	47.3
Hindu	58	38.7
Muslim	17	11.3
Indigenous.	4	2.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The table shows majority of the respondents are practicing Christianity (47.3%), followed by Hinduism (38.7%) and Islam (11.3%) a very small section of the respondents (2.7%) also following the indigenous religion (*Niam Khasi*).

Hence, the diversity of the migrants can also be observed from the religion that they are practicing.

Most of the migrant who are practicing Christianity are mostly tribal migrants who migrated mostly from the states of Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram and Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh. The Hindu migrants are mostly coming from the states of Agartala, Bihar, Kolkata, Jharkhand, Nepal and within the district of Meghalaya. The Muslim migrants are coming from the states of mostly Assam and last the indigenous religion they are migrants who migrated from within the states of Meghalaya who belong to purely tribal society.

Also it has found out that few of the migrants respondents they were not Christian at first but after migrated to the destination areas they have converted themselves to Christianity.

**Table No. 7 Language mostly used to communicate with others community.**

<b>Language mostly used to communicate.</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Assamese+Hindi+Khasi.	44	29.3
Khasi+ Hindi.	26	17.3
English + Hindi+ Khasi.	22	14.7
Hindi+ Khasi.	21	14.0
Bengali+Hindi.	17	11.3
Nepali+ Khasi+ Hindi.	11	7.3
Garo+Hindi+Khasi.	9	6.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The study shows that majority of the migrant respondents are multilingual but, during day to day conversation they mostly interact in Assamese language (29.3%), followed by Khasi (17.3%), English (14.7%), Hindi (14%), Bengali (11.3%), Nepali (7.3%), Garo (6%).

As the area is sharing its border with Assam, Assamese language is popularly used for communication in the area. The study area is located in Khasi dominated place hence even migrants are learning the local language and preferred to inter act in Khasi language. English language is mostly used by the respondents who are educated and also confining most of their conversation with educated people. As the people inhabiting in the place are from different linguistic background, Hindi is popularly used as a common language of communication. A significant number of respondents are from Bengali linguistic group, hence, it is one of the most popular language used in communication. Nepali and Garo are comparatively least used language as their number is also negligible.

Therefore, we can observed that multilinguality, which is one of the very imperative perquisite and characteristics of any cosmopolitan society, is also fulfilled by the present society where all these communities coming from diverse linguistic backgrounds finds themselves reaching out to each other, their culture, food habits, dressing, rituals etc. because of their skill of multilinguality. One of the very important reasons for the mutual acceptance and co-existence of these different communities with the host community is also their ability to connect and communicate with them in their local tongue and also understanding and appreciating their cultural way of life. Moreover, the local people also shares the same competence of multilinguality where they are also equipped with the language of the migrants as Hindi and Assamese which acts as an advantage for them, particularly for the entrepreneurs (migrants) who are giving them the opportunity of jobs and also helping in the growth of local economy in the study area.

**Table No. 8 Type of family of the respondents.**

<b>Types of family</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Nuclear.	97	64.7
Extended family	53	35.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

In the above table shows that majority of the respondents (64.7%) are having nuclear families followed by extended families (35.3%).

When we look at the patterns of migration almost majority of the cases migration starts with individuals who slowly brings their dependents (wife and children) to the place of destination. These individuals may come to the place of destination alone or in a group with fellow migrants. When the migration ends with the individual and the immediate dependents it is a nuclear family which is mostly common in the study area,

when migration continues until the extended members of the family also joins the family in the place of destination, it is an extended family.

**Table No. 9 Size of family of the respondents.**

<b>Size of family</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Smaller (up to 5)	68	45.3
Bigger (6 and above)	82	54.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The table shows that majority of the migrants are having bigger size of family with (54.7%) as compared to migrants who are having smaller family size with (45.3%).

Hence, even though majority of the migrants are practicing nuclear family but are also having children up to 5 as seen in the table No 4.

**Table No. 10 Number of earning members in the family.**

<b>number of earning members in the family</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
one	14	9.3
Two	89	59.3
Three	23	15.3
More than three	24	16.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The table shows that in majority of the households (59.3%), in the study area there are two earning members, followed by more than three (16%) and three (15.3%), few of the households (9.3%) also have only one earning member.

The single earners are the migrants who are either well settled, or those mostly those laborers who have settled recently hence, the women of the family is still looking after the household chores activities and she will join the work soon. Moreover in this category we can also find single migrants who are working alone.

The families where two members are earning are broadly from two categories, one who are working (both husband and wife) mostly as wages laborer to fulfill the basic demands of the family, and the other category belongs to the families who are engaged as self-employed in business, where they feel that working together will yield more profit hence, more income for the family as the area is the ideal market for such businesses. Moreover, in the families who are dependent on agriculture (native people, tribal migrants from Assam) for their family income we can observed that both husband and wife are engaged.

Migrant's families where three members or more are working are mostly those who are self-employed and running their educational institutions, hostel, restaurants and shops and are working as family business. This group of migrants are coming from the good economic background before migration to the destination areas whereas the another category of migrants are the daily wagers and laborers who found employment opportunities in the factories or as daily wagers where any family members can be employed most of them are accompanied by their children apart from the parents because they are working in the kind of job where the salary or wage is not enough for fulfilling the basic demands of the entire family.

Hence, the table reveals that the place of destination are giving the opportunities to every group of migrants but to the migrants who are more advanced economically and educationally are getting more profitable opportunities to earn and get rich. The place is also giving earning opportunities to the poor families too but it is only enough to fulfil their basic needs.

**Table No. 11 Relationship between sex and educational qualification of the respondents.**

Educational Qualification	Sex		Total
	Male	Female	
Illiterate	3	13	16
Primary	14	28	42
Secondary	4	0	4
Higher secondary	4	2	6
Graduate	34	24	58
Post graduate	13	11	24
Total	72	78	150

*Source: Field work*

The table reveals that the respondents are either highly qualified with graduation and post-graduation degree or partially literate or completely illiterate.

Hence, we can see the existence two different classes of who are economically, occupationally and also educationally very different from each other.

When we look at the sex wise distribution of the data the above table shows that male respondents are more qualified than the female respondents as their members are more in Graduate and Post graduate category whereas female respondents in illiterate and primary level education.

**Table No. 12 Relationship between the name of the villages with the nature of village.**

Village Name	Nature of Village					Total
	Purely tribal	Semi-tribal village	Semi-tribal village	Rural village	Semi-urban	
Umtyrnga	13	17	0	0	0	30
Pillangkata A	0	0	0	0	30	30
Pillangkata B	0	0	9	21	0	30
Mailhuli	0	0	5	0	25	30
Iionghuli	0	0	2	4	24	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>150</b>

*Source: Field work*

The data from table No. 12 shows that majority of the migrants in the study area perceive their place of destination as semi-urban in nature, followed by rural villages, semi-tribal village, tribal dominated village and purely tribal village.

When we split the data on the basis of perception of the respondents regarding the type of village and place of destination of the respondents, the data shows that most of the respondents from Umtyrnga villager find their village either tribal dominated or purely tribal in nature. The respondents from the Pillangkata A mostly find their village as semi-urban in nature. Majority of the respondents from Pillangkata B perceived their village as rural and semi-tribal in nature. The respondents from Maikhuli village mostly find their village as semi urban. In case of Iongkhuli village, the migrants who live their perceived the place as semi-urban in nature.

**Table No. 13 Facilities that are available at the destination area.**

<b>Facilities available at the destination area.</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Residential accommodation+ health facilities+ education institution (up to higher education)+ availability of electricity+ amenities centre+ proper drinking water	92	61.3
Residential accommodation+ basic health facilities+ drinking water+ availability of electricity+ education institution (up to primary education)	47	31.3
Residential accommodation+ health facilities+ education institution (up to higher education) + availability of electricity+ proper drinking water + education institution	11	7.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The above data from table No. 13 shows the existence of three categories of migrants in the study area. Majority of the respondents (61.3%), because of their superior economic condition are availing most of the facilities available in the study area, they came to settle in the present study area mostly of the attraction of the facilities that they are getting in the study area and also from the Guahati City which is well connected and also not very far for this people who mostly possesses their own personal vehicle. Followed by this category are the respondents who are economically in the humble status, mostly engaged as wages laborer or laborers in stone quarries or other industries, are only availing basic facilities of residence, drinking water, electricity and basic health facilities, they are more open to adapting with the environment and face challenges as long as they are getting the basic facilities of residence and a decent job. The third category belongs to the middle class respondents who are availing almost all the faculties apart from the luxuries of amenity centers, as their priority with their decent earning job is more o fulfills their basic requirement of

their family and their education of their children which can bring intergenerational mobility.

**Table No. 14.<sup>i</sup> Nature of work.**

<b>Nature of work.</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Skilled	106	70.7
Semi-skilled	31	20.7
Un-skilled	13	8.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The table reveals that majority of the respondents are skilled (70.7%), in the study area followed by semi-skilled (20.7%) and un-skilled (8.7%).

Thus we can observed that the host society are receiving the group of migrant who are more skilful and even the migrant who are semiskilled and unskilled are learning at the same time from other skilled migrant. So it is a platform for both the skilled and unskilled migrants to perform in the destination areas and become more skilful with their job and contribute to the host society.

**Table No. 15 Additional Professional Skills/Job of the migrants.**

<b>Professional qualification/job.</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Yes	98	65.3
No	52	34.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The above table reveals that most of the migrants (65.3%) are having additional professional skills apart from the present profession that they are serving.

Thus, in this category we can find migrants who apart from being a cultivator also possess the skills of carpenter. Similarly, there are respondents who are serving as Government servant but also possess the skills of business and opening shops, restaurants etc. We can also find some migrants who were nurse before coming to the place of destination and engaged in family business, hence they now occasionally served the sick people in the area with their skills of nursing. In some cases migrants where engaged in jobs as drivers, craft men's but after coming to the destination area they unearth the potentiality of agriculture in the area and hence engaged in agriculture which can provides better returns to their family.

Hence, the data established that migrants are more flexible as far as opting for profession in the destination area. Most of them are wise enough to understand the demands of the market and adapt accordingly which may demand them to change their profession from the skills that they possess already. Though at times, they may still continue to follow their passion for their skills together with the new job that they are engaged.

**Table No.16 Satisfaction of the present job.**

<b>Satisfaction of job.</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Yes	133	88.7
No	17	11.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Field work*

The above table reveals that majority of the respondents (88.7%) finds their job satisfactory, followed by those who are not satisfied with their present job (11.3%).

Hence the respondents who have reported to be satisfied with present job are mostly comparing their job and lifestyle in the destination place with their place of origin and hence finding the present job more economically more fruitful, it is helping them in their growth as a professional and also where they getting more job satisfaction.

The respondents who have reported not to be satisfied with their present occupation are mostly those who have shifted to a different job from the one they were doing earlier which demands far more adaptation, those respondents who are newly married and are forced to join work because of the financial necessities of the family mainly as laborers, which is physically more demanding. The other category of the respondents who were also not satisfied with their present job are the one who want to shift their job and migrate to other place but when they compared the facilities in those places in comparison to the present one, they preferred to stay back even though they are not happy with the job.

**Table No. 17. Duration of staying in the destination areas.**

<b>Duration of work.</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
One day.	4	2.7
Three month	22	14.7
Six month	16	10.7
One year	41	27.3
More than five years	67	44.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100</b>

*Source: Field work*

The data in the table No. 17 reveals that majority of the respondents (44.7%) are working or staying in the study area for than five year, followed by one year (27.3), three month (14.7%), six month (10.7%), and a day (2.7%).

The study established that the migrants who are working for more than five year in the study area are the migrants who are working in Central and State Government jobs or they are having they own businesses at times after their retirement from their respective jobs, we can also find migrants who are engaged in agriculture in this category.

The migrants who are working for one year are those who have just started to work in the destination areas mostly as self-employed business person. They have recently settled in the place mostly after retiring from their previous jobs or discontinuing their previous jobs as they find more scope for their economic growth in the present places.

Migrants who are working for three month are those who have just started working in the destination area doing their business, helping their relatives business who migrated to the destination areas and laborers who have just shifted to the area to work in the factories. There are migrants who came as a laborer but later they change their profession to vegetables vendors by selling vegetables, fruits in the market since they found that it can give them better returns.

Migrants who are working for one day are mostly those unskilled laborers who came from nearby the areas in search of daily wages in large group. Their job is nomadic in nature and also temporary, hence they assemble in one place where the agent of the employers used to come and take them for short duration work for which they are paid daily. They are mostly engaged in the construction sites for loading and unloading construction goods. These people are mostly very flexible about their choice of doing work.

**Table No. 18 Relationship between household family income and number earning members in the family.**

Number of Family Earning members						
Income class	Income	One	Two	Three	More than three	Total
Low income	Below 5000	6	0	0	0	6 (4%)
	5001-10000	8	1	0	0	9 (6%)
Lower middle	10001-15000	0	32	0	0	32(21.3%)
	15001-20000	0	11	0	0	11(7.3%)
Upper middle	20001-25000.	0	45	3	0	48(29.3%)
	25001 -50000.	0	0	5	3	8(5.3%)
High class	50001- 1 lakh	0	0	28	4	32(21.3%)
	1 lakh and above	0	4	4	0	8(5.3%)
<b>Total</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>150(100.0)</b>

*Source: Field work*

Table No. 18 shows that with the rising income of the household, the number of earning members in the family also increases. Hence, the lower earning families mostly have one earning members and the highest earning families are having two to three family members who are contributing to the economy of the family. Therefore, higher family income does not mean higher individual income for a particular member of the family but, rather it signifies more engagements of family members to contribute to the economy of the family.

In the above table the respondents who are earning 50000 and above are migrants who are working in central and state government jobs (executive jobs) and also doing their business since these migrants have good capital to invest even before their migration to the destination area. Moreover, in this family two to three members (Government job + family business) are engaged to contribute to the family income which is boosting their family income.

Migrants who are earning of 20000-50000 have shifted to the destination areas and opened up business in the area. Most of them are retired professionals who settled in the places with their children to start their business, their family income is solely dependent on the family business, where almost all the family members are engaged.

Migrants whose monthly income comes in the third category between 10001-20000 are the migrants who are working in the private sector after migration and though more than one family member is engaged in work but still in their household income is comparatively lower as they are working mostly as laborer migrants earning humble wages. We can also see respondents who are working as vegetable vendors or wage laborers in other people's business in this category.

Migrants whose monthly income comes in the third category between 10000 and below are also mostly working as wage laborers or vegetable vendors or running petty business but in this category mostly only one family earning member is there who may be the male head of the family or the widow.

It is also found in the study area that the tribal respondents who are earning more than Rs 50000 are also having their own residences and plot of land in the study area.

Moreover, they are also mostly having the other business which is run by the family members together with their job. The respondents who are earning 20000-50000 are mostly the non-tribal respondents who are running their business in the study area and mostly staying in rented house provided to them by the natives or the other tribal migrants. The respondents who are earning below 10000 are mostly the laborers who are living in small rented rooms which are stationed in seclusion to the others settlements, provided to them by the natives or the tribal migrants.

**Table no. 19 Relationship between monthly income of the household and the patterns of spending.**

Utilization of Income	Monthly income								Total
	Below 5000	5001-10000	10001-15000	15001-20000	20001-25000	25001-50000	50000-1 lakh	above 1 lakh	
Spending on family consumption	6	9	27	0	0	0	0	0	42
Repayment of loan.	0	0	5	7	0	0	0	0	12
Spending on education for children.	0	0	0	4	15	0	0	0	19
Spending on purchase property (land, livestock, construction etc...).	0	0	0	0	4	1	29	8	42
Spending on medical.	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	4
Used for self-consumption.	0	0	0	0	0	2		0	2
Deposited in bank/post office.	0	0	0	0	29	0	0	0	29
Total	6	9	32	11	48	4	32	8	150

*Source: Field work*

The data shows that majority of the respondents spend their household monthly income on their family consumption (28.0%) and purchased of property (28.0%),

followed by deposited in bank (19.3%), spending on education (12.7%), payment of loan (8%), spending on medical facilities (2.7%) and sending home (1.3%).

When we attempt to see the relation between the monthly household and patterns of spending of the respondents the table shows that the respondents who are earning above Rs50000 are mostly spending on buying properties. The respondents who are earning from Rs20000 to Rs25000 are mostly saving their money in bank/post office and spending on their children's education. The respondents who are earning Rs15000 to Rs20000 are spending their money mostly on repayment of loan and their children's education. More than Rs10000 to Rs15000 earning respondents is spending their money mostly on family consumption and repayment of loan. The least earning respondents i.e. from below Rs5000 to Rs10000 are spending their money mostly on household family consumption only.

**Table No. 20 Relationship between monthly income and the plot of land which they are capturing.**

Income of the respondents									
Amount of Land	Below 5000	5001-10000	10001-15000	15001-20000	20001-25000.	25001-50000	5000-1 lakh	1 lakh and above	Total
No land.	6	9	32	11	20	0	0	0	78
1-2 acres.	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	28
3-4 acres	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	0	19
5-6 acres	0	0	0	0	0	4	13	0	17
7-8 acres	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4
9-10 acres	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Above 10 acres.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>150</b>

*Source: Field work*

The table shows that most of the respondents do not have any land followed by those who are having 1-2 Acres of land, 3-4 Acres of land, 5-6 Acres, 7-8 Acres, 9-10 Acres and above 10 Acres of land. But when we relate it with the monthly income of the respondents the data highlights that there is a clear relationship between the monthly income and possession of the size of land, as the higher income groups are having the bigger plots than that lower income groups.

## **Chapter Summary**

### **Socio economic background of the natives.**

As the respondents are selected by convenient sampling we can see the uneven share of the respondents in the different age groups though most of the respondents are young i.e. up to 40 years (67.7%). Moreover a significant number of the respondents are also in the age group above 50 years (13.4%). When it comes to gender wise representation of the respondents, The researcher found that male members (61.3%) feels more comfortable and the families also relies on male members more to interact with outsiders vas they mostly feel that they have more exposure to give information to outsiders. Similarly, married men (86.0%) who are generally the head of the family are also taken seriously by the family members, hence mostly opted to be the respondents and give required information to the researcher. When we try to see the relation between age of the respondents and the number of children, the data clearly shows that with the rise in age there is a rise in the choice of having more children, hence aged people have more children than the young ones. As the study is conducted in a tribal state i.e. Meghalaya, majority of the respondents (natives) are from ST category. Since most of the tribal native people are converted to Christian religion, we can find most of the respondents following Christianity (85.3%) and only a few families still follow the traditional indigenous religion among the Khasi community (*Niam Khasi*) which is also reflected in the number of respondents (4%). Majority of the respondents (78.7%) are living in nuclear family as neo local families are mostly preferred among the newly married natives, native's men marrying migrant's women

and also among the migrants man marrying natives women. The data confirms that majority of the households (76.7%) has two earning members as most of the natives families in the study area are from lower and lower middle class background where both husband and wife are contributing in their family income. But due to lack of high qualification and training their household income remains humble. There is a direct link between age and educational qualification of the respondents as the younger respondents are having better educational qualification than their elder counterparts. Hence, as already established by earlier data, we can see the relationship between migration and the improving status of education among the young native members. Similarly, we can see that all the respondents who are having professional qualification are from 19-30 age groups, which suggest that only the youths who are also having better education qualification are learning the importance of professional qualification. Consequently, most of the respondents are engaged as self-employed in agriculture sector (61.3%) and also falls in the category of unskilled workers (74.7%). Though in majority of the households at least two members are earning but still majority of them are from the lower middle class and lower class background in the village. When we look at the correlation between the monthly income and sources of their major part of expenditure, we can see that the focus of higher learning groups is to expand their possessions and wealth, whereas the middle earning groups priority is the education and training for their children which can bring inter-generational upward mobility and the lower income groups still struggling to fulfil the basic needs of the family. In terms of possessing plot of land the study shows that migration is one of the reason of the native people selling out their traditional lands to the rich migrants and are reduced to just small plot of land i.e 1-2 acres (35.3%) to 3-4 acres (36.7%) of land, which is only somehow enough for constructing small household, the luxury of having agricultural field is only enjoyed by very few of the respondents 9-10 acres (14.7%) to above 10 acres (4.7%) of land.

### **Chapter summary for migrant's respondents.**

The data is collected from 150 migrant respondents who are well dispersed in almost all the age groups, as the data is collected following convenient sampling. Similarly, though almost equal number of male (48%), and female (52%) respondents volunteered to participate in the interview, and as the respondents are selected by convenient sampling the number is not exactly identical. Majority of the migrant respondents are married because in most of the household the head of the family is the husband who when available preferred to give the interview, as he is believed to have more exposure to answered the questioned of the interview. Almost half of the respondents are young i.e. below 30 years, hence they do not have many children (1-3) children, the respondents who are in their late 40s and above, are having more children (above 4). Moreover the migrants who are from lower class working as wage labors and labors in construction, stone quarries, vegetables venders etc have comparatively lesser children hence smaller families than the migrants who are mostly tribal and economically from well off families. The respondents are not from homogeneous caste categories but from different categories as schedule tribe (50%) and schedule caste (26.7%), OBC (16%) and general category (7.3%). the schedule tribe migrants they migrated from mostly the tribal states of North East like Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram and within the states of Meghalaya, and the schedule caste migrants have migrated from the states of Assam, Tripura, Kolkata, Jharkhand and Bihar. Whereas the OBC categories are found mostly in Maikhuli, Pillangkata A, Pillangkata B and few in Umtyrnga village and they are migrants who migrated mostly from the states of Assam. The General category migrants they are found in Pillangkata A, Pillangkata B and Maikhuli Village and they are migrants who belong from the states of Manipur, Agartala, Assam and few from within the states of Meghalaya. The diversity of the migrants can also be observed from the religion that they are practicing. Most of the migrant who are practicing Christianity (47.3%) are mostly tribal migrants who migrated mostly from the states of Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram and Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh. The Hindu migrants (38.7%) are mostly coming from the states of Agartala, Bihar, Kolkata, and Jharkhand, Nepal and within

the district of Meghalaya. The Muslim migrants (11.3%) are coming from the states of mostly Assam and last the indigenous religion (2.7%) they are migrants who migrated from within the states of Meghalaya who belong to purely tribal society. The study also reveals that the respondents are either highly qualified with graduation and post-graduation degree or partially literate or completely illiterate. Hence, we can see the existence two different classes of who are economically, occupationally and also educationally very different from each other. Majority of the migrant respondents are multilingual but, during day to day conversation they mostly interact in Assamese language (29.3%), followed by Khasi (17.3%), English (14.7%), Hindi (14%), Bengali (11.3%), Nepali (7.3%), Garo (6%). Therefore, we can observed that multilinguality, which is one of the very imperative perquisite and characteristics of any cosmopolitan society, is also fulfilled by the present society where all these communities coming from diverse linguistic backgrounds finds themselves reaching out to each other, their culture, food habits, dressing, rituals etc. because of their skill of multilinguality. One of the very important reasons for the mutual acceptance and co-existence of these different communities with the host community is also their ability to connect and communicate with them in their local tongue and also understanding and appreciating their cultural way of life. Moreover, the local people also shares the same competence of multilinguality where they are also equipped with the language of the migrants as Hindi and Assamese which acts as an advantage for them, particularly for the entrepreneurs (migrants) who are giving them the opportunity of jobs and also helping in the growth of local economy in the study area. When we look at the patterns of migration almost majority of the cases migration starts with individuals who slowly brings their dependents (wife and children) to the place of destination. When the migration ends with the individual and the immediate dependents it is a nuclear family which is mostly common in the study area, when migration continues until the extended members of the family also joints the family in the place of destination, it is an extended family. Though majority of the migrants (54.7%) are practicing nuclear family but are also having bigger size of family (6 and above). Majority of the households (59.3%), in the study area there are two earning members, followed by

more than three (16%) and three (15.3%), few of the households (9.3%) also have only one earning member. Therefore, the place of destination are giving the opportunities to every group of migrants but to the migrants who are more advanced economically and educationally are getting more profitable opportunities to earn and get rich. The relation between monthly household income and number of earning members of the family shows that with the rise in income of the household, the number of earning members in the family also increases. Hence, the lower earning families mostly have one earning members and the highest earning families are having two to three family members who are contributing to the economy of the family. Therefore, higher family income does not mean higher individual income for a particular member of the family but, rather it signifies more engagements of family members to contribute to the economy of the family. The place is also giving earning opportunities to the poor families too but it is only enough to fulfil their basic needs. The relation between the monthly household and patterns of spending of the respondents shows that the upper middle class are mostly spending on buying properties, the middle class preferred to save their money in bank/post office and spend more on their children's education, and finally the lower middle class is spending more on repayment of loan and their children's education and the lower class is found to spend more on household family consumption only. Moreover, the data also highlighted that there is a clear relationship between the monthly income of the respondent's household and possession of the size of land, as the higher income groups are having the bigger plots than that lower income groups

Most of the respondents are engaged in permanent jobs (58%), followed by temporary (21.3%) and self-employed (20.7%). Thought most of the respondents have engaged in permanent jobs but, most of them are male members of the family but when we look at the laborer migrant both the male and female migrants are working because of the demand of their family and the meagre amount earn in these jobs. In case of the self-employed respondents again both male and female migrant because of the returns that the business can yield if more members of the family co-work for the growth of the business. Moreover, the host society are receiving the group of migrant who are more

skilful(70.7%) and even the migrant who are semi-skilled (20.7%) and un-skilled (8.7%) are also learning at the same time from other skilled migrant. So it is a platform for both the skilled and unskilled migrants to perform in the destination areas and become more skilful with their job and contribute to the host society. As far as having additional professional skills the data established that migrants are more flexible as far as opting for profession in the destination area, hence they mostly (65.3%) have additional professional skills. Most of them are wise enough to understand the demands of the market and adapt accordingly this may demand them to change their profession from the skills that they possess already. Though at times, they may still continue to follow their passion for their skills together with the new job that they are engaged. The diverse opportunities available in the study areas for the different categories of migrants are reflected in majority of the respondents (88.7%) who finds their job satisfactory. The respondents who have reported to be satisfied with present job are mostly comparing their job and lifestyle in the destination place with their place of origin and hence finding the present job more economically more fruitful, it is helping them in their growth as a professional and also where they getting more job satisfaction.

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