

Chapter 2

In-Migrants from West Bengal to NCT of Delhi

In the previous chapter, an attempt was made to examine the trends of migration and socio-economic characteristics of the migrants residing in NCT of Delhi. It also highlighted the increasing number of in-migrants in the NCT of Delhi; so much so that today it supports more than one-third of its population as migrant population which is an exception to any other state in India. To study internal patterns of migration is, however, equally important as such a study reveals the source, direction and destination of people's movement within the country. Since, migration patterns are the most volatile component of population growth and are also sensitive to its economic, political and cultural factors (Singh, 1998), the reliability and dependability of these estimates entirely depends upon a consideration of all the temporal factors such as birth, death and internal migration; on which population grows in its finest precision (Chakraborty, 1997). Therefore, inter-state patterns of migration in Delhi; population characteristics of these migrants; reasons for their migration and select attributes of in-migrants from West Bengal are studied in the present chapter.

NCT of Delhi: Inter-State Patterns of In-Migration

The process of in-migration plays an important role in the overall growth of population of the NCT of Delhi. The continuous flow of in-migrants to Delhi is mainly due to constant inter-state migration from seven states including Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Uttaranchal, Rajasthan, Punjab and West Bengal. The capital city of Delhi with 39 per cent migrant population to its total population presents an important case to study not only the demographic and economic characteristics of its migrants but also the effects of their various socio-economic and cultural backgrounds on the process of in-migration in Delhi. Delhi, with a huge in-migrant population has shown a great variation in the pattern of inter-state migration over the year 2001. The Census of 2001 recorded that from all the above mentioned seven states, Uttar Pradesh alone accounted for more than 2/5th (43.1 per cent) of the total migrant population in Delhi which is followed by Bihar (13.6 per cent) Haryana (10.4 per cent), and other states as shown in (Table 2.1).

Table 2.1
NCT of Delhi: Pattern of Inter-State In-Migration, 2001

States	Share of Migrant Population to Total Migrant Population in NCT of Delhi
Uttar Pradesh	43.1
Bihar	13.6
Haryana	10.4
Uttaranchal*	5.7
Rajasthan	5.2
Punjab	4.8
West Bengal	3.2
Others	14.0

Source: Computed from D-3 Migration Tables of NCT of Delhi, Census of India, 2001

* Known as Uttarakhand as per Census of India, 2011

Table 2.2
NCT of Delhi: Reasons for Migration from Different States, 2001

Reasons of Migration	Uttar Pradesh	Bihar	Punjab	Haryana	Rajasthan	Uttaranchal*	West Bengal	Other States
	Migrants as per cent of total migrants							
Work/ Employment	36.04	50.79	21.26	20.41	29.68	35.88	45.4	36.42
Business	0.44	0.29	1.66	1.14	0.93	0.36	0.6	0.72
Education	1.76	3.31	1.95	2.14	2.47	3.09	2.6	1.48
Marriage	14.39	6.93	22.88	29.78	15.72	14.64	11.1	16.12
Moved after Birth	2.45	1.93	3.09	1.76	3.56	1.8	1.8	2.27
Moved with Household	38.86	30.52	41.05	38.78	41.43	37.17	32.9	33.73
Others	6.06	6.23	8.11	5.99	6.21	7.06	5.6	9.26
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Computed from D-5 Migration Tables of NCT of Delhi, Census of India, 2001

* Presently known as Uttarakhand as per Census of India, 2011

Traditional geographers recognize the process of migration in the light of a decay distance relationship stating that the frequency of migration among people decreases with the increase in the distance (Zipf, 1946) thereby, proposing that migration is only favorable from within or nearby areas. However, in case of NCT of Delhi; the observations are interesting. The study reveals that the in-migrants of Delhi are in-migrating not only from different districts of nearby states but also from far off places in the states of West Bengal, Kerala, Tamil Nadu etc. From amongst these far off states sending migrants to different parts of the country, West Bengal witnessed the highest percentage of long distance out-migrants going to NCT of Delhi and accounted for 3.2 per cent of the total migrant population in Delhi (Table 2.9).

Furthermore, when the reasons of migration were analyzed in relation to the top seven migrant-sending-states (mentioned above), these were found to be in different magnitude in different states (Table 2.2). Work/ Employment was noted to be the predominant reason for migration from the states of Bihar (50.79 per cent) and West Bengal (45.4 per cent) (Table 2.2). The second most dominant reason of migration to NCT of Delhi was 'Moved with household'. This reason for migration was prominent among the states of Rajasthan, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, and Uttaranchal accounting for 41.43 per cent, 41.05 per cent, 38.86 per cent, 38.78 per cent and 37.17 per cent of in-migrants respectively. Besides this, the third important reason for inter-state migration towards NCT of Delhi was 'marriage'. It was observed that in comparison to other states, Haryana and Punjab were sending the highest number of migrants to Delhi for marriage purposes (Table 2.2).

In-Migration from Top Seven States to Individual Districts in NCT of Delhi, 2001

Census 2001 revealed that the NCT of Delhi received migrants from almost all the states of the country. It is interesting to note that seven states out of the total 34 States and Union Territories had sent 86 per cent of the total migrant population in NCT of Delhi in 2001 (Table 2.1). It was also seen that in every district, the largest percentage was of migrants from Uttar Pradesh except in North district of Delhi where the largest percentage of migrants was from Rajasthan and not Uttar Pradesh (Table 2.3).

North East district of Delhi exhibited the highest percentage of migrants (68.2 per cent) from Uttar Pradesh followed by East district with 44.8 per cent of the migrants from Uttar Pradesh. One of the possible reasons for high magnitude of migration from the

state of Uttar Pradesh towards these two districts in NCT of Delhi was close proximity of the state which may tempt the migrants to relocate themselves closer to their homes. Similarly, Haryana which contributed to 10.4 per cent migrants in Delhi (Table 2.1) also had majority of its migrants settled in South-west, North-west and West districts of Delhi since Haryana borders the NCT of Delhi from the three sides (Table 2.3).

Though the majority of the interstate migrants in the NCT of Delhi are coming from the neighboring states of Haryana, Bihar, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttaranchal yet more than 4 per cent of the migrant population in each of the three districts of North, South and Central in

Table 2.3
NCT of Delhi: In-Migration from Top Seven States to Individual Districts, 2001

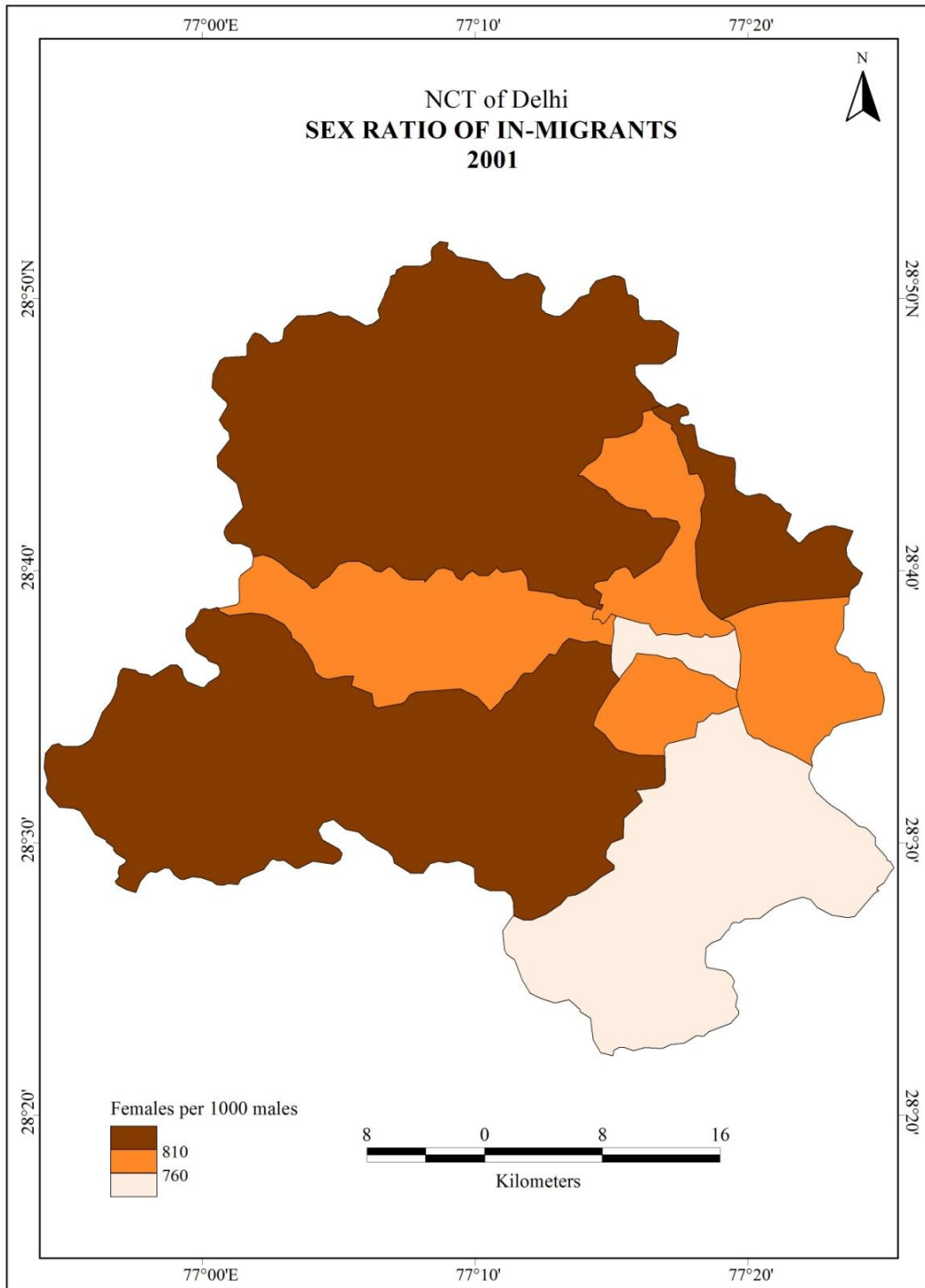
Districts of NCT of Delhi	Percentage of Migrants in NCT of Delhi from various States of Origin					
	Rank					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
North West	Uttar Pradesh (33.2 %)	Haryana (13.9%)	Bihar (12.4%)	Rajasthan (4.4%)	Punjab (4.4%)	Others* (31.7%)
North	Rajasthan (37.8%)	Uttar Pradesh (13.1%)	Uttaranchal (7.1%)	Chandigarh (6.9%)	West Bengal (4.2%)	Others (30.9%)
West	Uttar Pradesh (28.7%)	Bihar (12.3%)	Haryana (10.9%)	Punjab (8.5%)	Rajasthan (5.8%)	Others (33.8%)
South West	Uttar Pradesh (28.5%)	Haryana (14.4%)	Bihar (12.5%)	Uttaranchal (6.1%)	Rajasthan (5.8%)	Others (32.7%)
East	Uttar Pradesh (44.8%)	Bihar (10.80%)	Uttaranchal (6.5%)	Haryana (5.4%)	Punjab (4.5%)	Others (28.0%)
Central	Uttar Pradesh (31.2%)	Bihar (15.5%)	Haryana (5.5%)	Rajasthan (4.9%)	West Bengal (4.1%)	Others (38.8%)
North East	Uttar Pradesh (68.2%)	Bihar (6.8%)	Uttaranchal (4.4%)	Haryana (3.0%)	Punjab (1.8%)	Others (15.8%)
New Delhi	Uttar Pradesh (29.9%)	Uttaranchal (9.5%)	Bihar (9.1%)	Haryana (4.2%)	Rajasthan (3.4%)	Others (43.9%)
South	Uttar Pradesh (38.5%)	Bihar (14.5%)	Uttaranchal (6.1%)	Haryana (5.6%)	West Bengal (4.9%)	Others (30.4%)

Source: Computed from D2 Migration Tables of NCT of Delhi, Census of India, 2001

* Remaining States and Union Territory

Delhi belonged to the far off state of West Bengal (Table 2.3). The initiation of the process of migration from a state almost 1500 kms away is associated with the most captivating history of migration from this state which dates back to the shift of capital of India from Calcutta to Delhi in the 1911 (Discussed in Chapter 3).

Map 2.1



Source: Census of India, 2001

Male-Female Composition of In-Migrants in NCT of Delhi

Though there is not a wide gap in the percentage of male migrants and female migrants in different districts in Delhi yet the two districts where male migrants are far more than female migrants are Central and South districts of Delhi; which accounted for 57.9 per cent and 57.1 per cent of male migrants respectively (Table 2.4). The sex ratio of these two districts is, thus, less than the state average (Map 2.1). In the districts of North West and South West of NCT of Delhi, the sex ratio of migrants is higher than the state average. The possible reason for a higher sex ratio of migrant population in these districts could be the in-migration of more female migrants than male migrants for marriage purposes from the bordering state of Haryana (Census of India, 2001).

Districts	Male (%)	Female (%)
North West	54.5	45.5
North	56.4	43.6
North East	54.7	45.3
East	55.4	44.6
New Delhi	56.7	43.3
Central	57.9	42.1
West	56.0	44.0
South West	54.3	45.7
South	57.1	42.9

Source: Computed from D-2 Migration Tables of NCT of Delhi, Census of India, 2001

Reasons for Migration of In-Migrants in NCT of Delhi

As per the Census of India 2001, the seven reasons for migration to take place included 'employment', 'business', 'education', 'marriage', 'moved after birth', 'moved with households', and 'others'. However, in order to have a more comprehensive overview regarding the reasons for migration in Delhi it has been studied under two heads i.e. migration for all duration of residence and migration during 1991-2001. Migration for all duration of residence included all the migrants staying in Delhi for all the duration till the census 2001 while in-migration during 1991-2001 included those migrants who migrated to the NCT of Delhi only during the decade 1991-2001.

The main reason for migration to the NCT of Delhi during the decade 1991-2001 was 'employment'. It was followed by 'moved with household', 'marriage', 'education',

‘moved after birth’ and ‘business’ which accounted for 36.78 per cent, 13.80 per cent, 2.68 per cent, 2.35 per cent and 0.54 per cent of the migrants respectively (Table 2.5). Thus, ‘employment’ and ‘moved with household’ are the most dominating factors accounting for approximately, 75 per cent of the migration to Delhi during 1991-2001. The share of migration due to ‘employment’ is 36.42 per cent for all duration of residence while it was 37.56 per cent during the decade 1991-2001. Similarly, the share of migrants due to ‘education’ was 2.68 per cent during 1991-2001 as compared to 1.48 per cent for all duration of stay. While the share of migrants for the reason ‘moved with household’ was 36.78 per cent during 1991-2001 as compared to 33.73 per cent for all duration of stay.

Table 2.5
NCT of Delhi: Reasons for Migration for All Duration and During 1991-2001

Reasons of Migration	Migration for all duration of residence			In-migration (1991-2001)		
	Total (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Total (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)
Work/ Employment	36.42	61.64	4.37	37.56	62.76	5.08
Business	0.72	1.14	0.18	0.54	0.83	0.17
Education	1.48	2.09	0.70	2.68	3.77	1.27
Marriage	16.12	0.28	36.25	13.80	0.23	31.30
Moved after Birth	2.27	2.37	2.14	2.35	2.20	2.55
Moved with Household	33.73	21.99	48.66	36.78	23.24	54.25
Others	9.26	10.49	7.70	6.28	6.97	5.38
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Computed from D5 Migration Tables of NCT of Delhi, Census of India, 2001

The migrants arriving to NCT of Delhi for the reason due to ‘marriage’ during 1991-2001 was 16.12 per cent it was 13.80 per cent from the category of migration for all duration of residence (Table 2.5).

In case of sex wise reasons of migration for all duration of residence, it is observed that the predominant reason for migration among males was ‘work/employment’ (61.64 per cent) whereas for females it was ‘moved with household’ (48.66 per cent) and ‘marriage’ (36.25 per cent). Similarly, during 1991-2001 the predominant reason for male migration to NCT of Delhi was ‘work/ employment’ accounting for 62.76 per cent of total male migration while the dominant reasons among female migrants were ‘moved with household’ and ‘marriage’ accounting for 54.25 per cent and 31.30 per cent of female migrants respectively.

It is interesting to notice that there has been a decline in the percentage of females migrating for the reason of ‘marriage’ while an increase has been noticed among them for the reason of ‘work/employment’ ‘education’ and ‘moved with household’. This shows that ‘marriage’ which earlier used to be the predominant reason for female migration is changing and slowly getting replaced by the reason of ‘work/employment’ and ‘education’ and the females who were left behind by their family/husband are now being accompanied by their males (Table 2.5).

In the context of migration among migrants outside India, ‘beyond the state of enumeration’ and ‘within the state of enumeration’, a different picture is revealed (Table 2.6). ‘Moved with household’ was the major reason among the migrants who were

Table 2.6
NCT of Delhi: Reasons of Migration for All Duration of Residence, 2001

Reasons of Migration	Migration outside India	Migration within the state of enumeration	Migration for all duration including within the state of enumeration	Migration for all duration including migrants outside India	Migration for all duration including beyond the state of enumeration
Work/ Employment	15.83	7.00	34.31	33.45	36.42
Business	0.57	0.33	0.69	0.69	0.72
Education	0.53	0.31	1.40	1.36	1.48
Marriage	4.57	11.36	15.78	15.26	16.12
Moved after Birth	0.71	1.60	2.22	2.15	2.27
Moved with Household	38.45	29.54	33.43	33.67	33.73
Others	39.35	49.86	12.18	13.67	9.26
Total	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Computed from D5 Migration Tables of NCT of Delhi, Census of India, 2001

migrating within the state of enumeration followed by ‘marriage’ while ‘employment’ accounting for only 7 per cent of migrants was at serial number three. Contrary to this, for migrants migrating for all duration beyond the state of enumeration ‘work/employment’ formed the major reason for migration accounting for 36.42 per cent of the migrant population. While the percentage share of migration outside India for ‘work/employment’ was only 15.83 per cent, the reason to ‘move with household’ held the top priority with 38.45 per cent.

In-Migrants from West Bengal to NCT of Delhi and their Distribution

Delhi, the most preferred destination among the migrants, accommodated 39 per cent of its population as migrant population in 2001 (Table 1.2). It is interesting to note that majority of inter-state migration tends to occur from the neighboring states of Delhi but, the only far off state initiating a similar pattern of migration is West Bengal (Table 2.1). Though the share of the migrant population from the state of West Bengal is much less than that from the neighboring states, yet its importance could be amicably calculated in respect to the distance over which such a migration is taking place (Table 2.8).

One of the foremost factors which make the study of in-migrants from West Bengal significant is the pattern of migration taking place from rural and urban areas amongst the six migrant sending states of India to NCT of Delhi (Table 2.7). As far as the pattern of in-migration in NCT of Delhi is concerned, it is important to note that the top seven states such as Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttaranchal, Haryana, Punjab and West Bengal are together contributing 86 per cent of the inter-state migration in Delhi (Table 2.1). Though West Bengal is at the seventh position in terms of sending migrants to NCT of Delhi yet it is interesting to note that it is the only state which is sending about sixty per cent of its migrants from urban areas (Table 2.7) as compared to the other top five states,

Table 2.7
NCT of Delhi: Patterns of Interstate In-Migration, 2001

States	Percentage of In-Migrants	
	From Rural Areas (%)	From Urban Areas (%)
Bihar	81.06	18.94
Uttar Pradesh	71.96	28.04
Rajasthan	66.04	33.96
Uttaranchal	65.89	34.11
Haryana	65.54	34.46
West Bengal	42.09	57.91

Source: Computed from D2 Migration Tables of NCT of Delhi, Census of India, 2001

each one of which accounted for less than 35 per cent migration from the urban areas. This supports the fact that in all probability migrants coming from the urban areas of West Bengal are likely to be better skilled, highly qualified and professionally more competent than the migrants originating from the rural areas.

Moreover, at the district level, the top six states contributed significantly to migrants in Delhi. These top six states included twenty districts contributing to one-third of the migrants in NCT of Delhi. Moreover, these districts from where large number of

migrants originate are either backward or have agricultural background. However, when West Bengal is put to the scrutiny of a district wise analysis of the patterns of migration, it can be observed that the major scale of migration from West Bengal is occurring particularly from the district of Kolkata. The metropolitan city of Kolkata alone articulates 1.31 per cent of the total 3.2 per cent of the migration which is occurring from West Bengal. Kolkata, besides being the present capital of West Bengal and a historic capital of the British India;

Table 2.8
NCT of Delhi: In-Migration from Top 20 districts

Place of Last Residence	Distance from Delhi (kms)
Ghaziabad	19
Sonapat	44
Bulandshahr	60
Meerut	65
Rohtak	71
Muzaffarnagar	116
Aligarh	131
Etah	151
Agra	203
Budaun	304
Chatra	744
Gorakhpur	763
Azamgarh	795
Garhwal	850
Madhubani	929
Patna	1015
Muzaffarpur	1021
Samastipur	1133
Darbhanga	1171
Kolkata	1461

Source: National Capital Region Planning Board, 2008

today stands up supporting a literacy rate of 87.14 per cent; which exceeds the all India average as well. A literacy rate as high as 87.14 per cent is not only indicative of Kolkata's urban character but also symbolizes the distinctive scenario at which migration is taking place over such a long distance.

Moreover, when seen in terms of distance covered, Kolkata, amongst the top twenty districts proposing migration, is the farthest district from where migrants are arriving in Delhi covering a distance of 1461 km (Table 2.8). It is worth noticing that in spite of being a metropolitan city with history and facilities guarding its importance, the reason

that still manages to pull large population from this far off place to the NCT of Delhi further probes and adds to the significance of its selection. Furthermore, when the position of West Bengal is compared with the far off states in India in relation to the patterns of the inter-state migration it is revealed that West Bengal holds a prominent position among all the other far off states in India (Table 2.9). West Bengal contributed

Table 2.9
NCT of Delhi: Interstate Migration from Far off States, 2001

States	Migrants as per cent of Total Migrants in NCT of Delhi
West Bengal	3.2
Kerala	1.3
Tamil Nadu	1.0
Andhra Pradesh	0.4
Karnataka	0.3

Source: Computed from D2 Migration Tables of NCT of Delhi, Census of India, 2001

3.2 per cent of the total migrants to the NCT of Delhi in comparison to the other far off states such as Kerala and Tamil Nadu which accounted for only 1.3 per cent and 1 per cent respectively of the total migrants. Above all, West Bengal also strengthens its

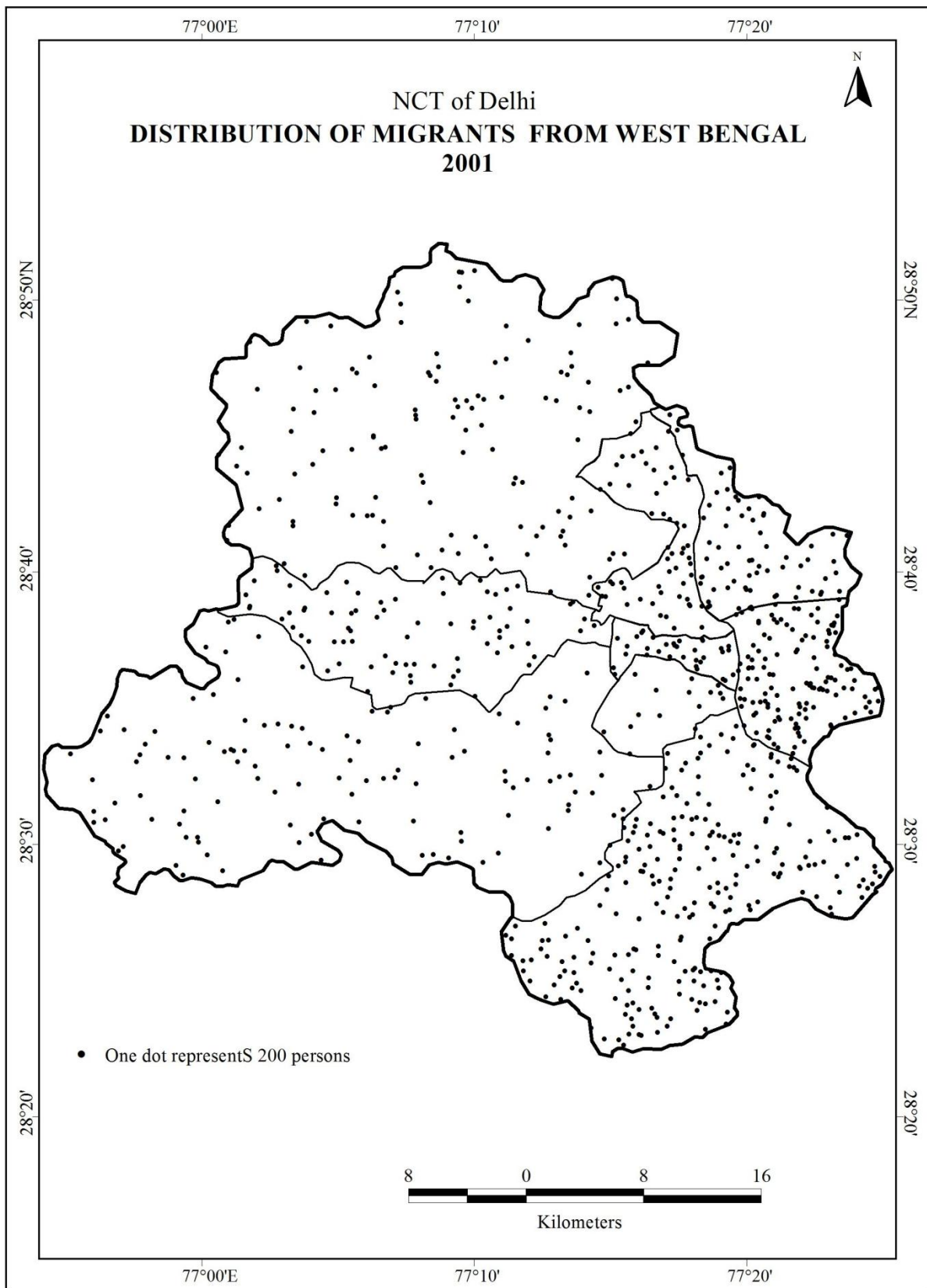
Table 2.10
NCT of Delhi: Prominent Languages Spoken by Per cent of Population

Languages	1991	2001
Hindi	81.64	80.94
Punjabi	7.94	7.14
Urdu	5.45	6.31
Bengali	1.29	1.51
Tamil	0.91	0.67
Others	2.77	3.43

Source: Economic Survey, 2012-14

position in terms of the top languages that are spoken in the NCT of Delhi (Table 2.10). Out of the 22 listed languages that are spoken in the NCT of Delhi, the Bengali language is the fourth most widely spoken language after Hindi, Punjabi and Urdu. In fact, the percentage of Bengali speaking population has also increased from 1.29 per cent in 1991 to 1.51 per cent in 2001, while a decline has been noticed amongst Hindi and Punjabi speaking population over the same span of time (Table 2.10).

Map 2.2



Source: Census of India, 2001

Therefore, all the above mentioned factors and features accentuate the relevance of studying the patterns, reasons and traits of the migrants relocating themselves from the state of West Bengal to the NCT of Delhi. It also helps in understanding why and how a state with a migrant population of 3.2 per cent in Delhi is still important to be studied. Moreover, a study of Bengali migrants' distribution; patterns of rural-urban migration in various districts of Delhi; their population characteristics such as sex composition; their duration of residence assumes special significance and thereby, is discussed in the following section of this chapter.

The district wise distribution of the migrants from West Bengal to the NCT of Delhi reveals that a majority of migrants prefer to live in the South district of Delhi (Map 2.2). One-third of the total migrants in South district are from West Bengal. However, the second most favored district after South district is the North West district followed by the East and South West districts of Delhi.

However, looking into the urban and rural migration from West Bengal to various districts of the NCT of Delhi; it can be noticed that the majority of the migration is occurring from urban areas. Amongst all, the district of New Delhi recorded 74.28 per cent of migrants from the urban areas; primarily because it is the most influential administrative district of Delhi, attracting people in white collar jobs. Whereas, South district which is the most favored choice of destination of Bengali migrants accommodated 65.18 per cent of urban migrants and only 34.82 per cent of rural migrants. With the exception of North and North East districts which received 58.46 per cent and 51.66 per cent of migrants respectively from rural backgrounds all the nine districts of Delhi, accommodated more urban migrants than rural migrants. This considerably impressive scale of migration from the urban areas is suggestive of the progressive trends in Delhi of receiving a skilled and professional class as its migrant population.

Characteristics of In-Migrants from West Bengal

The study of demographic characteristics of the migrants from West Bengal in the NCT of Delhi suggests that over a span of ten years during 1991-2001; the number of migrants from West Bengal experienced a large increase. In 1991, the number of migrants coming from West Bengal to NCT of Delhi was 81,049 persons which more than doubled to 1,71,904 persons in 2001. Out of the total migrant population in NCT of Delhi from

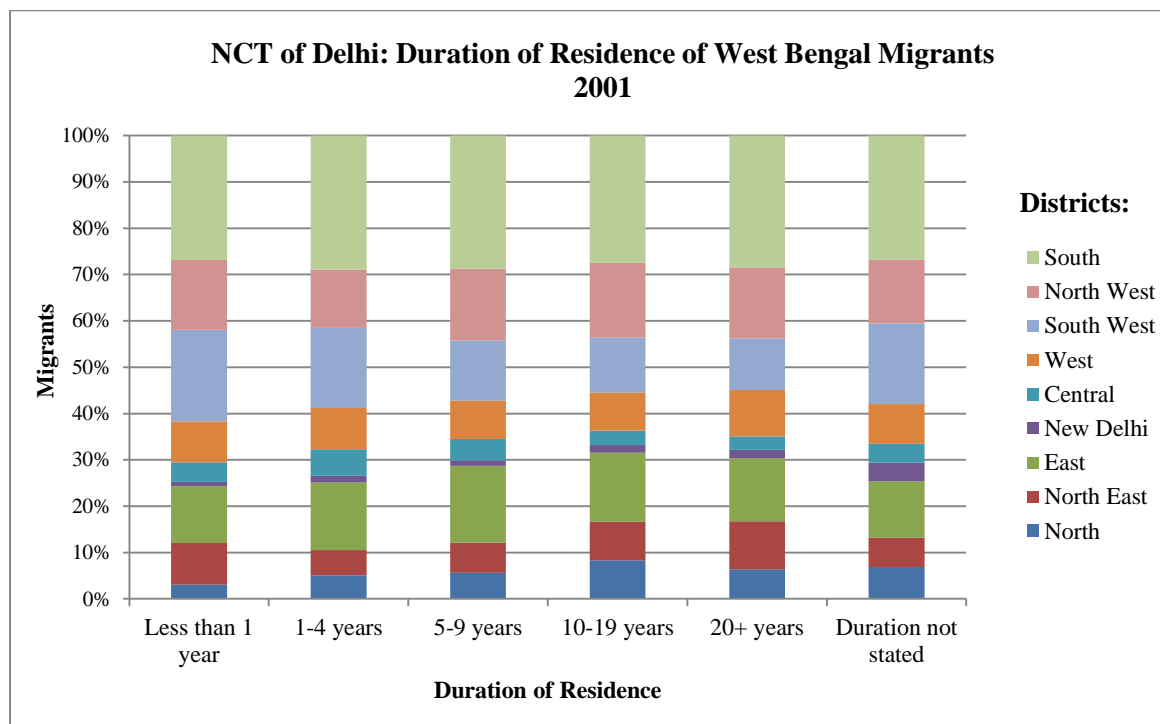
West Bengal in 2001, 56.70 per cent consisted of male migrants and 43.30 per cent of female migrants.

As mentioned earlier, a high percentage of in-migrants from urban areas (57.91 per cent) of West Bengal was recorded in 2001 (Table 2.7). Of these migrants only 3.1 per cent are migrating from urban to rural areas whereas migration from urban to urban areas accounted for 96.9 per cent of the total urban migrants.

Duration of Residence of Migrants from West Bengal

The inter district analysis regarding the duration of residence amongst the migrants from West Bengal reveals that approximately 30 per cent of the migrants living in the NCT of

Figure: 2.1



Source: Computed from D2 Migration Tables of NCT of Delhi, Census of India, 2001

Delhi for more than 20 years, are residing in South district of Delhi; followed by the East district with 13.57 per cent of the migrants with the same duration of stay (Figure 2.1). Similarly, the patterns of recent migration revealed that for duration of residence of 1-4 years or less, South district of Delhi had the highest concentration of migrants from West Bengal. In terms of duration of residence, South district of Delhi not only displayed a liking of the community of Bengali migrants for this district but also brought into light another area for future study i.e. why South district of Delhi, among all the nine districts,

has an attraction for the migrants from West Bengal? Nonetheless, there are certain factors which act strong enough to pull or attract migrants towards a certain location. One such factor attracting Bengalis towards South district of Delhi (accommodating 43.6 per cent of the total migrants from West Bengal) is the presence of a locality 'Chittaranjan Park' which is so popular among Bengalis that it is termed as "Mini Kolkata of Delhi". The name of the locality itself reflects its importance and is the reason behind migration towards this particular district.

Conclusion

It can, thus, be concluded that the process of in-migration plays a significant role in increasing the overall growth of population in the NCT of Delhi. The inter-state migration in Delhi tends to occur mainly from the neighboring states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Uttaranchal, Rajasthan, and Punjab with an exception of West Bengal from where the far off migration is taking place. Furthermore, the reasons of migration within these top seven states varied differently; where on the one hand, 'employment' occurred to be the major reason of migration for states such as Bihar and West Bengal and on the other hand, reason for 'moving with the household' was prominent among the states of Rajasthan, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Uttaranchal. It was also observed that even though West Bengal is at the seventh position in terms of sending migrants to the NCT of Delhi yet it is the only state sending sixty per cent of its migrants from the urban areas.

Moreover, all districts, included in the top seven states excluding the state of West Bengal, from where large number of migrants are originating are either backward or having agricultural background. In West Bengal major portion of migration is occurring from the metropolitan city of Kolkata. Besides this, what is worth noticing is that in spite of being a metropolitan city with a literacy rate of 87.14 per cent Kolkata is the farthest district from where migration is taking place to the NCT of Delhi. Moreover, Bengali after Hindi, Punjabi and Urdu is the fourth most widely spoken language in NCT of Delhi. District wise distribution of migrants from West Bengal in the NCT of Delhi reveals their largest concentration in South district of Delhi as well as the presence of a locality known as "Mini Kolkata of Delhi" within that district. Bengali migrants thus, hold a very significant position in the NCT of Delhi. In the following chapters an attempt is made to analyse their distribution patterns, various attributes of their social identity and the level of integration enjoyed by them in the host society.