CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Migration is a hot topic, politically, economically, socially and also culturally in India, gaining more and more glare from the public eye in the last few decades. Why do people shift/ migrate from one place to another place either in the same State or to another distant State? Is it to get an employment opportunity – or to look for better living conditions – or for better education facilities for their children – or for better medical facilities for the ailing family member/s – or to run away from pressing creditors – or to escape from domestic problems – or to survive from local unrest and disturbances – or a host of other reasons? In India, unlike China, there is no system of recording the movement of migrant population except at the times of the census. Hence it is rather difficult to either precisely quantify the migrant segments or the reasons for which they have migrated. The next question that arises in our mind is whether the migrants have achieved the purpose for which they had migrated or whether they are satisfied with their lives after migration. Well, these are much more difficult questions to answer.

While there are some research works done on migration – physical migration, viz., movement of people from one place to another, its patterns, socio-economic issues involved therein, etc., the second question, viz., whether they have achieved what they wanted by migrating and whether they are satisfied with their life are empirical in nature, i.e., abstract mental concepts, turning out to be historical in nature,(as most of them have migrated long back, they have to recall their olden days and respond from old memory while answering the questionnaire taken at the present time) on which it is rather difficult to apply any mathematical or statistical model, in order to arrive at a precise relationship between the several variable factors that co-exist in the day-to-day lives of the migrants, most of whom belong to the low income group or on the verge of poverty line in the Indian context.

These are some of the vital questions that have been addressed in this research work and sincere attempt has been made to find precise answers to the grey areas of life satisfaction and social inclusion in the lives of inter-state migrants of Dharavi. This has been achieved by application of latest statistical tools such as Correlation analysis, Partial Correlation Analysis, etc. using SPSS version 20 package to analyze complex multiple data base to bring out a consistent and
rational inter se relationship among the variable factors to arrive at a reliable finding. While any research, corporate analysis, business strategy, weather forecast, medical journal or gene dissection depends highly on statistical tools and their efficacy, the current research paper being statistics-oriented, adequate care has been taken to concentrate on the main theme of the subject of proving efficacy of application of statistics to a lively hot topic of social nature of utmost importance in today’s environment. Nevertheless, the background of the social topic undertaken for the study needs to be elaborated threadbare to prove the effective and precise application of the statistical tools on the variable factors involved therein and the results obtained thereof.

A pivotal point of study areas in migration research in the recent times has been the ‘issues of conflicts between migrants and the locals’ or the ‘creation of slums due to poor, rural migrants’, ‘migrants and their life conditions and health’, etc.

As far as the search goes, seldom in our country has one tried to study issues like ‘Life Satisfaction of the Migrants’ or ‘Social Inclusion’. Questions about the economic, physical, psychological and social well being of migrants have frequently surfaced, as the predominant focus of the migrant research. Finding appropriate answers to them could lead to a more meaningful analysis, research and solution to the various issues involved in respect of the migrants especially those who are living in slums and have led indirectly to the development of the society around them. Nevertheless, many of the migrants are by far not treated at par with the local citizens, despite their invaluable contribution to the society and are rather seen as competitors as far as employment opportunities are concerned. They are at times viewed as a strain on the over-populated cities’ saturated infrastructural amenities. ‘Migrant workers are currently making a considerable contribution towards productivity, but this is probably a fraction of what could be achieved, if resistance to migrant labour could be decreased at a systemic level so as to make a positive vision for creating a healthy market for migrant labour’ (Weinstein 2003).
1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Migration is defined by UNESCO as ‘crossing of the boundary of a less potential geographical area for a certain minimum period of time. It includes the movement of land-less labourers, refugees, displaced persons, uprooted people as well as economic migrants’. Movement from one area, a province, district, municipality or village to another within the same country is referred as internal migration. According to Classical theories, migration is a rational decision made by an individual to move from a less advantageous situation, to a more advantageous one.

1.1.1. Types Of Migration:

On a global scale, migration can be divided into the following categories:

- Inter-continental – migration from one continent to another
- Intra-continental – migration from one country to another country within the same continent
- Inter-regional – migration within the same country

When a person leaves a country to another country, it is called as Emigration. When a person moves into a new country from another country it is called as Immigration.

1.1.2. Migration in India

The Census of India has defined a migrant as one who has moved from a codified area to another codified area within the country. Such codified areas may be a rural or semi-urban or an urban area which are defined according to their population. But there is another restriction to qualify as a migrant, i.e. the shifting should not be a temporary or casual visit such as travel, going to relative’s place for some purpose, pilgrimages, medical treatments, long holidays, official trips, tours, etc.

According to the census of India, migrant is usually defined as ‘a person who has moved from one politically defined area to another similar area’. In Indian context, these areas are generally a village in rural and a town in urban. Thus a person who moves out from one village or town to another village or town is termed as a migrant provided his/her movement is not of purely temporary nature on account of casual leave, visits, tours, etc. In the
Indian context, migration can be divided into 2 major heads, viz, Internal Migration and Inter-State Migration.

Internal Migration is when a person shifts between two places within a district or state it is termed as Internal Migration. In this instance, usually the linguistic and cultural problems are minimal, in view of the proximity. Further internal migration can be divided as intra-district (within the district) and inter-district (outside the district). It is observed that the tendency to resort to internal migration, especially intra-district is quite rampant in view of the obvious advantages, as the migrants are quite familiar with the languages and local conditions including the cultural and social aspects of the areas. Further there is more internal migration among women due to marriage.

There is a high rate of internal migration in India, especially in the recent years. Lack of opportunities in their home towns or villages have made more people migrate to other parts in search of livelihood. This creates undue pressure on the infrastructure and social problems in the region they move to. South Indian states, Northern states like Punjab, Haryana, Delhi and Western states of Maharashtra and Gujarat have become attractive destination for migrants. This can be attributed to rapid urbanization and industrialization of these regions which have in turn created more job opportunities and living conditions for the migrant population (Singh 2010).

Inter-state Migration is when a person shifts from one place in a state to another state. When compared to internal migration, inter-state migration is lesser. Mostly, skilled and semi-skilled labour force from rural areas migrates to far off urban areas in other States, looking for better prospects of livelihood. Mumbai is highly cosmopolitan city, in view of the influx of large number of interstate migrants from other parts of the country, such as business communities from Gujarat, Rajasthan, and working class from U.P., Bihar and Southern States. A study was conducted by Kadi and Sivamurthy analysing the relationship of migration vis a vis the socio-economic condition in 14 states of India. In this research it was found that ‘the states that have large urban and industrial expansion, those states experiencing agricultural growth and the states that are preferred by Government policies, saw significant immigration during the decade’ (Kadi & Sivamurthy 1988).

Interstate migration in India is by far not very high compared to internal migration. The reasons may be linguistic problems, social segregation or cultural barriers. In spite of various benefits
like easy availability of skilled and un-skilled labour at lower wages, migration has led to several problems in India. ‘Despite the fundamental right cast in the Indian Constitution permitting the freedom to reside in any part of the country, experience has shown that it has also created friction in the society’ (Singh 2010).

1.1.3. Push Factors and Pull Factors

Reasons forcing migration ie. The Push factors that prompt out-migration can be

- Living below poverty line in the local area
- Non-availability of adequate employment
- Frequent failure of monsoon and famine
- Heavy borrowings from money lenders
- Inadequate infrastructure
- lack of any upcoming employment projects
- Political uncertainty and disturbances like Naxalite movements
- Lack of proper education facilities
- Urge to find nascent avenues to secure better living standards
- Ethnic seclusion by upper caste people

Pull Factors that attract and induce in-migration can be

- Employment opportunities
- Prosperous / fertile areas
- Good infrastructure
- Thriving industries
- Peaceful areas with good governance
- Good educational facilities
- Cosmopolitan nature of the society
- Impartiality and equanimity
1.2 CONTEXT OF THE STUDY

In India, as per census 2001, about 307 million persons have been reported as migration by place of birth. Out of them about 259 million (84.2%), migrated from one part of the state to another, i.e., from one village or town to another village or town. 42 million (2%) from outside the country. The data on migration by last residence in India as per Census 2001 shows that the total number of migrants has been 314 million. Out of these migrants by last residence, 268 million (85%) has been intra-state migrants, those who migrated from one area of the state to another. 41 million (13%) were interstate migrants and 5.1 million (1.6%) migrated from outside of the country.

According to the Census of India 2001, Out of about 98 million, total intra-state and inter-state migrants in the country during last decade, 61 million have moved to rural areas and 36 million to urban areas. Migration stream out of rural areas (73 million) to another rural areas was quite high (53million) in comparison to from rural to urban areas (20 million). About 6 million migrants went to rural areas from urban areas. On the basis of net migrants by last residence during the past decade, i.e., the difference between in – migration and out – migration, in each state, Maharashtra stands at the top of the list with 2.3 million net migrants, followed by Delhi (1.7 million), Gujarat (0.68 million) and Haryana (0.67 million) as per census. Uttar Pradesh (-2.6 million) and Bihar (-1.7 million) were the two states with largest number of net migrants migrating out of the state. There are various reasons for migration as per information collected in Census 2001 for migration by last residence. Most of the female migrants have cited ‘Marriage’ as the reason for migration, especially when the migration is within the state. For males, the major reason for migration are work/employment and education.

Urban migration has created a conflict between existing urban residents and the migrants from rural areas. The migrants feel they are discriminated against since they are permitted to work only at lower remuneration on those arduous and unpleasant jobs that urban residents hesitate to do. On the other hand, it is general feeling among the urban locals that as
migrant workers are ready to work on lower wages they rob the chance of the locals in getting work and reasonable wages. Hence the locals are threatened by migrant workers and look up on them as competitors. ‘In reality migration contributes fairly towards urban development and that new drift in urban to rural migration surge are emerging and then swings the focus to how cities are influenced by migrant population in shaping these cities’ (Beauchemin & Bocquier 2004).

There is a general feeling among the local population that some slums are formed by these poor migrants from rural areas and sometimes social and cultural turmoil is created and has even lead to violence in some parts of India. The urban infrastructure problems which had already existed previously became much more complicated in the city with migrations which caused many socio-cultural and economic problems in the city. The immigrants who brought with themselves their own culture and lifestyles transformed the city into a village with the slums they constructed. Though they got rid of their rural habits, they still could not get accustomed to the civic atmosphere (Deniz & Atlan 2009). Slums symbolize urban poverty and dense population without basic infrastructure or amenities. For the families living in them, they create unhygienic, unhealthy, hazardous and unsafe conditions. Poverty, illiteracy, under-employment, diseases, alcoholism, drug addiction, psychological disorders, etc. are rampant in slum areas.

United Nation has defined slum as a wide range of low-income settlements with poor human living conditions. A simple definition of a slum would be “a heavily populated urban area characterised by substandard and shoddy housing units with unhygienic conditions”.

UN-HABITAT State of the World’s cities 2006/7 defines a slum household as a group of individuals living under the same roof in an urban area who lack one or more of the following:

1. Durable housing of a permanent nature that protects against extreme climate conditions.
2. Sufficient living space which means not more than three people sharing the same room.
3. Easy access to safe water in sufficient amounts at an affordable price.
4. Access to adequate sanitation in the form of a private or public toilet shared by a reasonable number of people.
5. Security of tenure that prevents forced evictions.
Not all slums are homogeneous and not all slum dwellers suffer from the same degree of deprivation. The degree of deprivation depends on how many of the five conditions that define slums are prevalent within a slum household.

‘In poor countries, many slum dwellers live in very narrow alleys where it is difficult for emergency vehicles like ambulances and fire trucks to pass. The lack of civic services such as routine garbage collection gives rise to massive accumulation of garbage in slum areas.

The slums are not mere curses on the society, but they do have certain advantages as under :-

- Low cost workers are readily available to the manufacturing and service sector units.
- Skilled workers such as carpenters, masons, plumbers, electricians, etc. are accessible to the society at affordable costs.
- It gives livelihood to poor people who otherwise would have become beggars or anti social elements.

For instance, a mega-slum like Dharavi in Mumbai is a hub of business activities such as leather work, cottage industries, waste matter recycling, etc. Unlike Chinese citizens who need passes to enter Shanghai and Beijing (Zhu, 2003), Indians have the freedom to enter Mumbai or elsewhere in India without any paperwork and this reflects in daily influx of migrants to Mumbai, most of whom are poor and end up living in slums of Mumbai.

1.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

As has been noted above one problem area is the fact that many migrant workers in slums face various problems that can impact their overall state of well-being. Some migrants are able to solve these problems through their own efforts, while others find it difficult to cope with such challenges. The research problem involves in better understanding of whether there is any relationship in Life Satisfaction level and the Socioeconomic Status of the migrants. The second problem area that will be dealt with is whether the Life satisfaction level of the migrants increases with the Sense of Inclusion in the main stream.

In a nutshell, the migrants display different levels of life satisfaction, according to their personal perception with a view to improve their standard of living and well being as a whole which
includes their social standing and acceptance. The present research revolves around such subtle areas of migrants’ inner views and perceptions at the micro levels. In case an inter se relationship could be established between the major variables, viz., life satisfaction, socio-economic status as well as perception of social inclusion. If an association can be established between life satisfaction and improved socioeconomic condition or the sense of social inclusion, then it would be helpful to devise a model for spelling out the same. Such a model would come in handy to the government/semi-government/NGOs/voluntary service organizations etc. in formulating welfare schemes for the betterment of the lives of the poor migrant communities living in slum areas.

Any published research document highlighting inter se relationship between Social Inclusion aspect and Life Satisfaction level in the midst of migrant populace could not be traced. In this background, lies the importance of collecting relevant vital primary data of such slum migrants and collating them for statistical analysis with a view to undertake this research work using SPSS package and statistical tools in order to unearth existence of any such inter se relationship. The further scope and endeavor of this research is to find out a formula to precisely measure such relationship, which would come handy for any future researchers, slum redevelopers in designing the community development schemes, and concerned authorities to make use of the scientific findings of this research work.

Psychologists as well as sociologists are seized of the interesting study of the vague concept of Life satisfaction. Though everyone understands its meaning in some way or the other, in their own sense of perception, it is rather difficult to define it precisely or explain it scientifically. Life satisfaction is not a constant factor. It is rather a dynamic and changing phenomenon, i.e. at one point of time an individual may feel satisfied in life, but next moment he may become dissatisfied due to some external happening or even internal thought process. It is a combination of past, present and visualization of future phases of life as well as socio-environmental & psychological features including genetic factors that may have a triggering effect on the life satisfaction aspect of an individual. Similarly the sense of social inclusion is also a nebulous term, hard to define carrying such vague and wide characteristics like that of the life satisfaction aspect. But in the latter case the society plays a much more predominant role as a deciding factor. However, a careful approach has been undertaken in this research to take as much effort as possible to minimize subjectivity in the analysis.
1.4 HYPOTHESES

The analysis of data revolves upon two important hypotheses which will determine the entire analysis. First, it is hypothesized that socio economic status will be related to perceptions of life satisfaction among sample migrants. Those persons with a high socio economic status will tend to have perceptions of better degree of life satisfaction while low income levels will be related to low life satisfaction levels. In substance, this could indicate that it will be a possibility to forecast a person’s level of life satisfaction with the help of their socio economic status plus some of the factors such as education, age, gender and native state. Secondly, it is hypothesized that migrants who have a feeling of better social acceptance in the society tend to have higher life satisfaction than those who feel they have lesser social acceptance. The third hypothesis is to test the differences of these variables with respect to demographical factors like age, gender and native state of the migrants of Dharavi.

1.5 OVERVIEW OF METHODOLOGY

1.5.1 Research Design
The research work is based on elaborate collection of data of about 1000 inter-state migrants in Dharavi consisting of the cross-sections of the mega-slum in order to represent a proper sample study of the area. It is carried out by asking carefully designed questionnaire to them to elicit various questions on their feelings of life satisfaction, socio economic status and social inclusion. There is no scope for subjectivity or manipulation in the data collection process in the variables. Any differences in the variables will be legitimately due to spontaneous responses according to age, education, sex, native state, life satisfaction levels, and socio economic factor and social inclusion level.

1.5.2 Population And Sampling Plan

Only inter-state migrants who live in Dharavi area are considered for the study. According to Census of India, if the place of enumeration of an individual differs from the place of birth or last residence and there lie in two different states, the person is treated accordingly as an inter-State migrant with regard to birth place or last residence concept.

A sample of size 1200 was drawn by listing of inter-state migrants in randomly selected areas of Dharavi. Researcher prepared a carefully formulated Questionnaire and collected data from these 1200 migrants by schedule method. Out of this 213 questionnaires were discarded for various reasons like incomplete, discrepancy, etc. It is expected that obtaining a sample size of 987 people as described in the previous paragraph will encompass sufficient broad different classes of the population in the area belonging to various age groups, male females, different qualifications and illiterates/semi-literates, employed/unemployed people, etc. Further the study of 987 people’s responses would be substantial to arrive at a decent study of statistical survey for analytical purposes to determine the study’s hypotheses that may throw new light on the patterns of migrant research with regard to their life satisfaction levels vis-à-vis socio-economic status / social inclusion perception.

1.5.3 Data Collection Procedures
In the proposed study, one independent variable, one dependent variable, and two moderator (demographic) variables will be measured for each of the major hypothesis. These are outlined below.

Dependent Variable – Life satisfaction score, the dependent variable in this study signifies the satisfaction he got out of migrating to this current place. Since satisfaction is a finer feeling which is difficult to measure, attempts have been taken to give a broad perspective for it. Life satisfaction also comes from a sense of achievement, gratification and leading a better quality of life compared to the previous state. A self-developed scale of life satisfaction for migrants will be ‘Life Satisfaction Level’ for Migrants was used for the study. This includes

a) In most ways I’ve achieved what I wanted by migrating to this place.

b) The conditions of my present life are better than that of my previous residence.

c) I am satisfied with my life in my present place.

d) If I could live my life over, I would again come back to this place.

e) I am happy about my home life.

f) I am happy in my work place.

g) I often go for family outings.

h) I often go for long vacations.

The responses for these statements were recorded in a five point scale from Totally Agree to Totally Disagree.

Life Satisfaction Index to determine Life Satisfaction Level of a migrant which was extracted by Principle Component Analysis Method using SPSS is used for this research.

Independent Variable for the first hypothesis – The independent variable in this study is Socio Economic Status. Socio economic status not only includes movable and immovable assets or the financial aspect, but also education and type of occupation a migrant has. For eg. A beggar might have amassed huge sum of money by begging, but it will not put him in a higher socio-economic status. On the other hand a well qualified person may have lesser income now due to lack of experience, but he has got prospects for the future. Hence socio-economic status
scale which is based on three variables viz. education, occupation & family income along with material possessions like House, type of house, second house, shop, vehicle, Television, Computer, Phone, AC, Refrigerator, Washing machines, Microwave oven, Gas stove, Newspaper/Magazines is used for this research to measure the socio-economic status of an individual in an urban community. Socio Economic Status Index to determine the socio-economic status of a family extracted by Principle component Analysis Method using SPSS is used for this research.

Independent Variable for the second hypothesis – The independent variable for the second case is the social inclusion. Social Inclusion, another subjective and nebulous term, can be perceived as that feeling which makes a person to feel one among the society. Socio economic factor may be the most common reason for feeling out of place. For eg. A poor person living among rich neighbours or a rich person living among slum dwellers may feel socially excluded. Not only socio economic factor, but also cultural and social differences may also reflect in low social inclusion level. In the olden days people of certain castes were kept socially and culturally outside the society.

In the present context Social Inclusion in the main stream may be measured by the 5 aspects Social Inclusion Level for Migrants.

a) I feel a sense of acceptance in the community activities.

b) I’ve love & respect for the local people.

c) I would like to settle down in the place of current residence in old age.

d) If I’ve to go back to my native state for some reason I would miss this place.

e) I feel loyal towards matters of migrated state.

f) I would allow my family members to marry a person from the local community.

g) I am here not only for income sake, but because I like it here.

h) I have lot of friends from the local community.

i) I go out a lot with my friends.

j) I take part in the local community activities.

These were also measured by a 5-point ranking scale from Totally Agree to Totally Disagree. Social Inclusion Index to determine Level of social acceptance of a migrant in the society which was also extracted by Principle component Analysis Method by using SPSS is used for the present research.
Moderator Variables – In addition to the above independent and dependent variables, three secondary independent or moderator variables will be considered. The moderator variables can determine the extent to which the relationship between the two major variables is influenced by secondary factors. ‘A moderator variable is that factor which is measured, manipulated, or selected by the researcher to discover whether it modifies the relationship of the independent variable to an observed phenomenon’ (Tuckman 1978). In the current research, demographic variables like age, gender, education, occupation, rural/urban status and native states are included as the moderator variables.

1.5.4 Data Analysis

Four types of analysis of data are used for the current research. First, various Cross Tables shall be used to analyse significant differences in the response with respect to Rural/Urban Status, State, Gender, Age, Education, Occupation etc. cross sectional study. Second, in order to provide a description of the sample from which data will be collected, descriptive information on demographic variables are obtained, as well as the means and standard deviations for the dependant variables and independent variables. Third, to determine the simple relationships between Life Satisfaction Index, Social Inclusion Index and Socio Economic Status Index, Bivariate Correlation Coefficients are used. Further, to determine the relationship between Life Satisfaction Index, Social inclusion Index and Socio Economic Status Index between two variables, controlling the effect of the third variable Partial Correlation Coefficients are used. Finally, any differences in the effects of age, gender and native state etc., on the Correlation between the Variables used for study shall also be determined. All the analysis of Data are done using SPSS Software version 20.

The null hypotheses to be tested are shown below:

- There is no significant relationship between Life Satisfaction Scores and Socio Economic Status. This will be tested with both Bivariate and Partial Correlation Coefficient. **Partial correlation** is defined as the measure of the relation that occurs between two variables after controlling the effects of one or more additional variables. Life Satisfaction depends not only on Socio Economic Status of an individual, but also on Social Inclusion Level.
There is no significant relationship between Life Satisfaction Scores and Social Inclusion Scores. This also will be tested by both Bivariate and Partial Correlation Coefficient.

There is no significant difference in association between Life Satisfaction Scores and Social Inclusion scores according to gender, rural/urban status.

Regression Model will be fit for variables with significant relationship.

(Note: All hypotheses will be tested at a minimum of the 0.05 level of significance.)

1.6 SCOPE OF THE STUDY

There is a visible trend world-over particularly in major cities which are witnessing an alarming influx of rural population on large scale in the last two centuries, particularly during the last several decades. This trend is more on an accelerated scale in developing nations, due to obvious poverty and lack of full time employment in agriculture and agro-based as well as allied activities for the small / marginal farmers and landless labourers, particularly during the failure of monsoon and repeated famines. No wonder, they flock to the major cities and towns in search of livelihood. Mumbai in Maharashtra has seen a major trend of influx of such migrants during the last century. This study has taken Dharavi as a model slum which is big enough to gauge the life trend of such poor migrants.

According to the United Nations World Urbanization Prospects 2011 revision, there is significant diversity in the urbanization levels reached by different regions. The transformative power of urbanization was felt earlier in today’s more developed regions and they have reached high levels of urbanization. Thus, 78% of the inhabitants of the more developed regions lived in the urban areas in 2011, whereas just 47% of those in the less developed regions did so. Urbanization is expected to continue rising in both more developed and the less developed regions so that, by 2050, urban dwellers will likely account for 86% of the population in the more developed regions and for 65% of that in the less developed regions. Overall, the world population is expected to be 67% urban in 2050 (United Nations World Urbanization Prospects : 2011 Revision ).

Latest Census report of 2011 revealed a shocking fact that out of the total population of Mumbai and its suburbs, about 78% of the people live in slums. It further reveals that the density of
population per Sq.km. in Mumbai Metro is 20,038 and in Mumbai Suburbs it is 20,925. When we compare it with a crowded NCT (Delhi) of 11,300 (Census of India Gov Report 2011), we can imagine the over-crowding effect and the terrible strain on the age-old infrastructure and atmosphere/environment air/noise pollution, etc. The phenomenal growth in slum settlements in Mumbai during the recent past is in line with the earlier forecasts of the UN World Urbanization Prospects in the past. The obvious reasons are the easy availability of employment opportunities and true cosmopolitan nature of the mega city, notwithstanding the certain political oppositions from sections of the local communities resisting such huge influx of outsiders straining the already over burdened infrastructure of the city. Hence there is every reason to believe the reasonableness of the UN forecast in the long run in the normal circumstances.

In view of the above forecasts, a phenomenal influx of migrants is expected in Mumbai, especially in slums like Dharavi. It is expected that the findings of this research will be useful to understand the inner feelings of the migrant populations and their levels and life satisfaction in the new environment as well their perception of being accepted by the society in which they live in. More often than not the migrants feel they are discriminated against the local populace since they are permitted to work only at lower remuneration on those arduous and unpleasant jobs that urban residents hesitate to do. Despite the fundamental constitutional right permitting the Indian citizens the free choice to live anywhere in India, the poor migrants’ experiences, especially in Mumbai, have shown that it has also created conflict in the society. Further over-crowding of cities due to large influx of migrants puts additional burden on the already over-loaded infrastructure, pollution, transport, water supply, sewerage, dwelling, etc. This further erodes the life satisfaction and well-being of the migrant population also. This study aims to find whether these factors which affect their sense of Social Inclusion and their socio-economic status have any bearing on their life satisfaction.

1.7 LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The main limitations of the research are only 3 in number. The first being that there is no registration system in India to record the movement of migrants within the country either at the
exit point or at the entry point or at the transit point. In contrast, China has made it mandatory for migrants to register their movement with their authorities at the relevant places (Zhu 2003). As such, we don’t have reliable statistics on migration in India. Only limited data is available through decade old census data or National Sample Survey. Census does not provide detailed data on movement of migrants except scant information of place of birth and place of last residence which are not sufficient to decide the duration of migration and repeated migration and places thereon. Further census data of 2001 has been taken into account, as the latest 2011 data with regard to migration has not yet been released.

Secondly, there is a possibility that the subject might have responded according to his understanding of the nebulous terms like life satisfaction and social inclusion, which may have a bearing on the measurement of the indices for these variables.

The third limitation being the legitimacy of the self-developed instrument for measuring Life Satisfaction Level (LSL). Since the variable is difficult to define and abstract in nature, though adequate care has been taken in developing a sufficient instrument, it is being used for the first time in statistical survey of this kind. Hence its efficacy can be further strengthened only after repeated use in other similar populations. Further, the mechanism to scale another vague term like ‘Social Inclusion’ is also self-made i.e. Social Inclusion Level (SIL) and may have similar limitations. Socio Economic Status Index (SESINDEX) is also developed on the basis of migrants’ Education, Occupation, Family Income and possessions of household articles and buying newspapers/Magazines. Only subsequent research using these instruments with other such population will help re-affirm our understanding of the concepts being measured in this present study.