CHAPTER VII

SUMMARY AND IMPLICATIONS

INTRODUCTION

In recent years there has been a rapid growth of interest among population scientists in the study of migration and its influence on fertility behaviour. Now-a-days migration has an important effect on urban growth. The children born to migrants also add up to the urban growth through natural increase. The study of socio-economic factors contributing to fertility levels assume greater significance in view of the rate of increase in population growth. Hence, a thorough understanding of the determinants of migrants fertility is essential for initiating any planned effort(s) for fertility control and for sustained development.
Studies on migrants' fertility are very meagre especially in India. Even most of the existing studies confined only to residential background. They did not focus attention on the characteristics simultaneously. There is some merit in treating them simultaneously to see their effect on fertility. Therefore, the present study is distinctive feature by incorporation of socio-economic characteristics like religion and caste, educational level, type of family before migration, marital status before migration, occupation, family income and the like. The study also takes into account some of the important demographic features like present age of wife, age at the marriage of the wife, duration of married life, ideal family size, family planning status and lastly migrational aspects like place of birth, duration of migration (number of years stay in urban area), age at first move, provide explanations for observed fertility differentials. Further, it rightly covered both rural and urban born migrants to study the above aspects by residential background as well. Another important reason for conducting the present study was that there is hardly any study on fertility differentials in Tirupati town especially pertaining to migrants, which has been undergoing rapid urbanization in recent decades due to migration.
METHODOLOGY

The main objective of this research was to examine the fertility behaviour of migrants by residential background in relation to their characteristics. The study was carried out in Tirupati town which is situated in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh, South-Eastern part of India. Tirupati town is a famous religious centre gained half of its population on account of migration in the recent past. According to 1991 census 92 per cent of main workers were engaged in service sector. The sampling unit for the study was migrant household and wife in reproductive age having at least one surviving child. A total sample of 500 migrant respondents have been selected using multi-stage random sampling procedure. At first stage out of 20 wards, two wards were selected basing on mean households size of wards. In the second stage, migrant household and wife in reproductive age having at least one surviving child was listed out in the two selected wards. There were 1950 and 1250 migrants households with wives in reproductive age having least one surviving child. From this list 250 migrant households representing one respondent (migrant household) from migrant household families were selected in each ward. Information was collected by means of interview schedule. The collected data were analysed using computer facility. Frequency tables and cross tabulations were made for
presenting the data. Chi-square test was adopted for testing the significance among several migrational aspects in relation to residential background (i.e. rural and urban areas). Stepwise regression analysis was also carried out for total, rural as well as urban born migrants, to know the regression co-efficients to ascertain the nature of causal relationship of various factors on fertility behaviour and the order of their importance.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE OF MIGRANTS

Analysis of population characteristics throws light on socio-economic status of a population. Majority (58 per cent) respondents were of Hindu and forward caste. Similarly, higher proportion of Hindus of forward caste were found by place of birth of respondents. However, the number of forward caste respondents was marginally higher among urban born (60 per cent) than that of the rural born ones (56 per cent). The hypothesis related to caste is that the propensity to migrate will be more for lower caste group was not confirmed due to the prevalence of higher caste migrants in the sample. It can be attributed that usually upper caste people are socio-economically well off and better aware of outside opportunities than the lower castes. An overwhelming proportion of (97 per cent) respondents were literate. The same findings were found among rural and urban born respondents. Basing on the findings, the hypothesis is
that migrants are selective of educational status has been accepted. It may be due to the fact that literates are usually more aware of outside opportunities and able to benefit out of them. Adding to this, in rural areas, suitable employment for educators is not available. Hence, they migrate in search of gainful employment. An overwhelming proportion of (85 per cent) respondent wives were literate. Same findings were observed among wives of rural born and urban born respondents respectively. Further, the study revealed that four-fifths of (80 per cent) household members were literate. However, by comparing with place of birth of respondents, slightly higher proportion of literate household members was observed among urban born (82 per cent) than the rural born (79 per cent). Similarly, half of the household members were single at the time of survey. Same findings have been noticed by place of birth of the respondents. Further, three-fourths of (75 per cent) respondents were living in rented houses. Similar observation holds for rural as well as urban born respondents. The findings revealed that majority of respondents were still living in rented houses, with good housing conditions. Majority (62 per cent) were living in houses having 3 to 4 rooms. While in the corresponding category, slightly higher proportion of (65 per cent) urban born than the rural born (60 per cent) respondents were
found. The average number of household size was 4.92 persons. The mean number of earners and dependents were 1.42 and 3.50 persons respectively. It revealed that for every two earners there were 5 dependents. Same result holds for rural as well as urban born respondents. Further, the study revealed interesting findings regarding the shift in occupation after migration. For example, the percentage engaged in agriculture related works was about little less than one-fourth, (23.2 per cent) before migration. While, it was only two per cent after migration. Hence, the hypothesis is that migration would contribute change in occupational pattern has been confirmed here. Of the total respondents, two-thirds (66 per cent) were satisfied with their present occupation. By studying place of birth of respondents, a higher percentage (72 per cent) of job satisfaction was found among urban born than the rural born respondents (63 per cent). It may be due to the better knowledge on occupations at outside and having gainful employment among urban born respondents. After migration an increase in the income level of respondents has been found. The average family income was Rs.11,460/- per year before migration. It increased to Rs.32,874/- after migration. Further, the findings revealed that three-fourths of (77 per cent) respondents had a family income of ≤ Rs.15,000/- per annum before migration. The corresponding percentage was only one-
sixth (16 per cent) after migration. Basing on the result, the hypothesis that migration would contribute to the improvement in the economic conditions of migrants has been confirmed. Over one-third of (35 per cent) respondents have purchased better worth of house site(s). Same findings were obtained from rural as well as urban born respondents. This also revealed the improvement in the economic status of respondents after migration. Of total respondents an overwhelming proportion (95 per cent) possessed one to three modern gadgets (i.e. Television set, motor cycle, gas stove) Similarly, majority of rural born (96 per cent) and urban born (94 per cent) respondents had one to three modern gadgets. The mean number of modern gadgets possessed was 2.23 while it was 2.26 for rural born and 2.16 for urban born respondents.

MOBILITY PATTERNS

Analysis of the population mobility would give knowledge on flows and patterns of regional shift of manpower and will provide significant clues for influencing migrational streams. The mean ages at first move were 21 and 23 years for rural and urban born respondents respectively. It indicates that most migration is taking place in prime youth. The hypothesis that migrants are selective of age has been confirmed (i.e. young group people migrate more than older people group). The prime reason for the high
proportion of migrants in 15-24 years of age seems to be that they have a better ability to adapt to the new environment easily. Another reason is for advanced education and for begin their employment career. The mean age at secondary move (recent move) was 31.3 years. As compared to the first movers, the secondary migrants were older by about 10 years. Among rural and urban born respondents, the mean ages at secondary move were 32 and 31 years respectively. The findings revealed that the secondary migrants first moved to some other places and stayed longer period before coming to Tirupati. The mean duration of stay in Tirupati was 14.9 years for total respondents. While it was 15.3 years for rural born and 14.3 years for urban born respondents. It indicates that respondents settled in the new area, and got integrated with new community into which they migrated. On an average 1.8 persons have migrated from each respondents origin family. The same findings have been found among rural born respondents (1.83 persons). While it was 1.68 persons among urban born respondent families. These results indicate that slightly high rate of out-migration was found from rural areas than from the urban areas. Distance and the number of respondents are inversely related. However, by comparing the birth place of respondents interesting findings were noticed. With an increase in distance, the number of rural born respondents
has declined, but this trend was not observed among urban counterparts (35 per cent of moved medium distance). Generally, urban born migrants are better educated. Hence, they move longer distance to get prospective employment. Moreover, the probability of migration between two places diminish as the distance increases was found in this study. Basing on the results, the hypothesis related to distance has been accepted. The type of migration revealed that nearly three-fifths of (56 per cent) total respondents were from within the district as against to three-tenths (31 per cent) from inter district and the rest (13 per cent) were from inter-state. The hypothesis that intra-district migrants will predominate when compared to inter-district and inter-state migrants has been confirmed basing on the results. By studying the type of move according to the residential background, interesting findings were observed. Rural born were predominant (66 per cent) in intra-district migration. While higher proportion of urban born respondents were found in inter-district and inter-state migration. Here, it is worthwhile to note that usually, urban persons are highly educated and having better communication facilities, which led to move longer distance or other urban areas in search of better employment. Out of total respondents, three-fifths (60 per cent) hails from joint families and the remaining (40 per cent) were from nuclear
families. Similarly, majority of rural as well as urban born respondents came from joint families. However, the respondents who came from joint families, higher proportion (63 per cent) was found among rural born than from the urban born (56 per cent). It can be attributed that the joint families encourage migration to reduce unemployment, to get rid of financial burden on the family and to improve the socio-economic status by receiving remittance. The present result confirms the hypothesis that the propensity to migrate will be greater for a member of a joint family than a member of a nuclear. Regarding the decision made on migration, two-fifths (41 per cent) of respondents moved as a result of their parents' decision. However, the corresponding percentage was higher (47 per cent) for respondents who were born in rural than their urban counterparts (31 per cent). This clearly reveals the role of parents (especially father) in decision making process to migrate. This is due to the cultural heritage and the dependence of children on their parents. The study further revealed that with an increase in size of land holdings at the area of origin, the number of persons moving out was decreasing. These findings confirm the hypothesis concerned to land ownership and migration. More than three-fifths (64 per cent) of urban born respondents had no land. The corresponding percentage among their rural counterparts was
only one-fifth (21 per cent). It is due to the fact that usually urban born persons do not possess land. Source of finance is a major motivating factor for migration. It was found that more than one-third (35 per cent) respondents had previous job as a source of finance. However, slightly higher proportion of urban born respondents (40 per cent) than their rural counterparts (32 per cent) previous job as a source of finance. The mean number of moves made by the respondents in their life time were 2.21, 2.20 and 2.24 for total, rural born and urban born respondents respectively. On the other hand, mean number of times moved by the secondary migrants were 4.68; 4.83 and 4.66 for total, rural born and urban born respectively. At the time of migration to Tirupati, nearly half of the respondents were not married. Further, the proportion of unmarried migrants was higher among rural born than that of the urban born. These findings will not confirm the hypothesis that migrants are selective of marital status (i.e. single persons migrate more than the married ones). The mean duration of stay of respondents at various places and at Tirupati was 18.4 and 17.1 years for rural and urban born respondents respectively. Therefore, majority of migrants have longer duration of migration. Finally, majority of the respondents are not intending to move further out of Tirupati. Similar findings were found among rural and urban born respondents respectively.
MIGRATION AND FAMILY TIES

Migration does not involve in the movement of all members of the family. This holds for larger number of cases. Hence, this demands migrants to maintain strong links with their place of origin. They often transmit knowledge about socio-economic setting and modern social values to their kith and kin. Further, out-migrants encourage origin people to migrate to urban areas by offering facilities at initial stages. In view of such socio-economic and cultural aspects of the migrants, the variables considered are frequency of visits to native place, the main purpose of visit to native place, flow of remittance, value of remittance, purpose of remittance, kinship ties, assistance from kinsmen, type of assistance, major factors of attraction to Tirupati and the main reason for out-migration from native place. Three-fourths of the respondents (75 per cent) had contacts with their place of origin. Same findings were found for rural born respondents (75 per cent). While among urban born respondents slightly higher proportion (77 per cent) had contacts with their origin. Among respondents who maintained contacts, higher proportion (37 per cent) were visiting their native places once in a year. The same findings were noticed for rural as well as urban born respondents. Regarding the purpose of visit to their native place nearly one-third (30 per cent)
visited to see their parents and relatives. The same was major reason for rural and urban born respondents. Though, the findings revealed adequate empirical support maintaining ties with origin, only one-fourth (25 per cent) of these respondents were sending remittance. This proportion was slightly higher (26 per cent) among rural born than that of the urban born respondents (23 per cent). As duration of migration increases, it is expected that family ties might be weakened. This can be attributed to that parents might have been diseased, which reduces flow of remittance. Further the division of families and assets after the marriage of male persons, which encourages individual economic support even though the family members have close contact, decrease the flow of remittance. Among remitters, majority (38 per cent) were remitting upto Rs.1000/- per year. Similarly majority (41 per cent) of rural born respondents remit upto Rs.1000/-. While higher percentage (43 per cent) of urban born respondents were sending remittance of Rs.3001/- and above per year. Further, it has been found that three-fifths of (59 per cent) remitters were sending remittance to meet family expenses. The same was the major reason for rural as well as as urban born respondents. Nearly half of (47 per cent) rural born remitters were sending for this purpose. While it was double (85 per cent) among their urban counterparts. Here the findings revealed
that major share of the remittance was spent on non-productive activities like marriages, ceremonies and consumption. Majority of (56 per cent) respondents had no kinship ties at the time of migration to Tirupati. Similar findings were noticed for rural and urban born respondents. In the present study the respondents are non-slum-dwellers and nearly one-third (29 per cent) came to Tirupati as a result of transfer of job and parents' mobility. Hence, a small proportion of respondents had kinship ties. Respondents who have kinship ties at Tirupati, little over one-third of them (35 per cent) received assistance from their kith and kin. Same results were observed by place of birth of respondents. Among receivers of assistance, half of them got all types of assistance like food, shelter, money, job and the like. The corresponding reason for rural and urban born respondents was 45 and 60 per cent respectively. Among the attractive factors, employment was the major (40 per cent) reason. The same was the major reason by place of birth of respondents. These results confirmed the hypothesis that prime motive of migration is economic in nature. The main reason for out-migration from native place was lack of employment (35 per cent). Nearly one-third (32 per cent) of rural born and two-fifths (41 per cent) of urban born respondents out-migrated due to this reason.
FERTILITY BEHAVIOUR

Analysis of fertility behaviour of migrants in relation to their characteristics by residential background gives knowledge on determinants of fertility. This helps in economic planning and framing policies control fertility in urban areas. The fertility measure discussed was the average number of children ever born (MLBs). The migrants had 2.69 children ever born on an average. Rural born respondents had higher fertility (2.73) when compared to their urban counterparts (2.62). These results confirm the hypothesis related to fertility of migrants by residential background. Lower fertility (2.62) was noticed for the Hindu forward caste than the Hindu scheduled caste and scheduled tribe (3.48). Similarly, among rural born respondents, lower fertility (2.64) was observed for the Hindu forward caste than the Hindu scheduled caste and scheduled tribe (3.45). The corresponding fertility for urban born respondents was 2.59 and 3.60 respectively. It may be due to the prevalence of higher socio-economic status among upper caste people and greater acceptance of family planning. Fertility was inversely related with educational level of wife. Illiterate wives had higher fertility (3.41) when compared to the wives with the college level of education (1.73). Similarly, illiterate wives of rural born respondent had higher fertility (3.37) than the wives with college level of
education (1.80). The corresponding fertility among wives of urban born respondents was 3.48 and 1.67 respectively. Further, the findings revealed that the respondents who had a family income of Rs. 20,000-24,999 have higher fertility (2.89) than the respondents having higher family income (Rs. 30,000+: 2.51). Similarly, among rural born respondents, lower fertility (2.58) was found for higher income (Rs. 30,000+) group than for the respondents with lower income (< 15,000; 3.04). Among urban born respondents, higher fertility (3.08) was found for the income group of Rs. 15,000-19,999 and lower fertility (2.4) was noticed for higher family income group (Rs. 30,000+). Hence, in general, fertility was inversely related with present family income. Age at marriage of wife and fertility was negatively related. Wives who married at younger ages (< 15 years) had higher fertility (3.28) when compared to wives who married at later ages (22+ years; 2.2). Similar results were noticed among wives of rural and urban born respondents. However, wives of rural born respondents, who married during 16-18 years and 22+ years had slightly higher fertility than the wives of urban born respondents. Duration of marriage and fertility are positively related. In general, respondents who had shorter duration of marriage (< 9 years) have lower fertility (1.71). When compared longer duration of marriage (3.36). Similarly, findings were observed among rural as
well as urban born respondents with marginal difference. In general, lower fertility (1.31) was found for younger age wives (< 20 years) than the older age of wives (40-45 years; 1.36). Further, in the study, completed family size (wives of 40-45 years) was found to be higher (3.41) for wives of rural born respondents than the wives of urban born respondents (3.30). This may be attributed to that the rural born respondents start their reproductive behaviour with traditional values and customs, which encourage higher fertility. Among wives of rural born and of urban born respondents also, lower fertility was found for wives of younger ages than the wives of older ages. Respondents who arrived at younger ages had lower fertility (2.43) than the respondents who arrived at older ages (25 + years; 2.87). Similarly, age at arrival of the respondent was positively related with fertility by place of birth as well. However, respondents who arrived at younger ages (< 15 years), lower fertility was noticed for urban born than for rural born respondents. This is due to greater exposure to urban way of life since birth and better use of family planning methods. As the duration of migration (in various urban centres) increases, the fertility was also increasing. For total respondents lower fertility (1.91) was noticed for shorter duration of urban stay (< 4 years) than the respondents who stayed for longer duration in urban areas. (10 - 14 years,
Similarly, for rural born respondents, lower fertility was noticed for shorter duration of urban stay than the longer duration of urban stay. However, the respondents who stayed 0-4 year in urban areas, lower fertility was found among rural born respondents than the urban born. It can be attributed to the husband-wife separation and less marital duration. In the present study, despite their longer duration of urban stay, respondents did not have lower fertility. It can be said that even though the urban environment reduces the fertility, with an increase in duration of stay, they might have not had the desired family size. Hence, the increase in fertility was observed. Respondents who accompanied with their wives had higher fertility (3.43) when compared to those who did not accompany with their wives (2.42). Further, it has been observed that there exists lower fertility (2.5) for respondents who married after migration than those who married before migration (2.88). These findings confirm the hypothesis that the migrants who accompany with their wives will have higher fertility than the respondents who did not accompany with their wives; lower fertility exists for migrants who married after migration. Analysis by place of birth of respondents also revealed similar results. Ideal, actual family sizes were 2.6 and 2.46 respectively. While the expected (desired) and
additional family sizes were 2.74 and 0.28 respectively. Further, 2.6 and 4.4 children have been considered as small and large family sizes respectively. Moreover, similar findings were noticed for the respondents according to their place of birth.

Further, to have greater insight stepwise regression analysis was done for total, rural and urban; to find out the relative contribution of each independent factor and the cumulative effect of all independent factors on fertility. It is observed that out fourteen variables incorporated in the model for total migrants, only six variables altogether explained about 51 per cent ($R^2$ value of 0.5096) variation in the dependent variable. Two demographic variables (i.e. ideal family size, 24 per cent and duration of married life, 14 per cent) and two social variables (education level of respondent, 6 per cent; marital status before migration, 4 per cent) were found to have significant effect (at 0.01 level) on the fertility. The other two variables (i.e. duration of migration, 2 per cent; type of family before migration 0.8 per cent) also have significant effect on fertility (at 0.05 level). Out of 13 predictor variables entered in the model, for rural born respondents, six variables altogether explained 49.4 per cent variation. Of this, more than half of the variation was explained by only two demographic variables (i.e. ideal
family size, 26.6 per cent; duration of married life, 10.3 per cent) at 0.01 significant level. Another three variables (education level of respondents, 6 per cent; duration of migration, 4.0 per cent and marital status before migration, 1.7 per cent) contributed 13.2 per cent variation (at 0.01 significant level). The predictive power of family planning status was negligible (0.2 per cent). Similarly, for urban born respondents also only six variables altogether contributed 60 per cent variation on fertility. Out of this contribution, little over two-thirds variation was explained by only two demographic variables (i.e. duration of married life, 21.7 per cent; ideal family size, 21.5 per cent). Another three variables (i.e. type of family before migration, 2.7 per cent; martial status before migration, 4.7 per cent and education level of respondent, 4.8 per cent) explained 12.2 percent variation on fertility. The remaining percentage (4.15) was explained by educational level of wife, which is not statistically significant. Thus, the regression analysis reveals that the duration of married life and ideal family size are the most important variables having effect on fertility in this study.

PROGRAMME AND POLICY IMPLICATION

There is a considerable need for policy oriented and region specific research on the effect of migration on fertility. The results of the present study suggest that the
migrants of both rural and urban born should respond to the advantages and disadvantages of the number of children they have. Especially the rural born migrants should act decisively in deciding the number of children they should have. The average desired and actual number of children by the rural born migrants is less than their urban counterparts. The government should take this opportunity to create awareness and provide necessary methods to make their attitudes to adoption of small families. On the other hand the educational, employment and other opportunities are generally better in urban areas. People migrate to urban areas either on transfer of job or to secure employment there to improve their income and to provide better education to their children. This will have impact on the reduction of the fertility. There is also some evidence that the act of migration itself causes decline in fertility. Therefore, policies to reduce the rate of population growth, for a nation as a whole requires the attitude of rural people towards small family should be made to lead to adoption. Thereby leading to narrow down the rural-urban differentials.

These findings thus raise number of issues for formulating policies in the field of fertility control not uniformly for the country as a whole, but differentially for sub-groups in various parts of the country. Similarly, the
measures may also have to be suitably modified in view of the diversity of factors and their influence on family size decisions across different regional subgroups. Thus the findings are useful in many respects and should have far reaching theoretical and policy implications in population control programme. Some of the specific implication of the present study are given below:

1. Micro level research on such topics as socio-economic status and fertility behaviour of migrants in Tirupati town will facilitate to develop population policies that take into account the needs of migrants in urban areas. It may be argued that the policies developed on their basis will not only be useful but also more effective.

Migrants who had higher socio-economic status have lower fertility. The Government should aim at improving the socio-economic status of the poor people by taking the measures like distribution of surplus land, provision of agricultural credit, financial assistance for self employment, decentralisation of industries and other economic activities. These measures would bring about desirable socio-economic change, which in turn reduces fertility.
3. Higher fertility was noticed among rural born migrants that of the urban born. It can be attributed mainly to low standard of living and low skills of rural population. Hence, it is to be narrowed particularly through development of non-agro-based activities like poultry, dairy, fisheries, cottage and small scale industries which will bring about changes in socio-economic status. This in turn act on the demographic factors like age at marriage and adoption of family planning, there by reduction in fertility level.

4. Migrants (especially from rural and small urban areas) to larger urban areas were having higher fertility even after long period of stay in urban area. Therefore, greater emphasis should be taken to motivate and educate the young migrants by the paramedical staff to adopt small family norm during the early phase of their arrival to towns and cities. Such measures would prove effective in reducing population pressure in urban areas caused by natural increase due to children born to migrants.

5. Promotion of small family norm will bring out changes in their values about children. It is an human crime to bring forth of the children into this world who cannot offered. It is the responsibility of parents to pay the
way for the future of their children. Hence, parents should be oriented to take rational decisions regarding the family size. Population education programmes for women on child care, home management, personal hygiene, health, nutrition and the like should be organised. As the women's participation in employment will enhances the socio-economic situation, skills should be imparted to women to employ them. Further, employment opportunities for skilled labourers should be made more attractive and better remuneration should be offered. This will bring out changes in socio-economic and cultural values thereby bringing about desired changes in fertility.

As education is one of the determinants of fertility differentials, various educational programmes should be implemented to bring down fertility. Especially female education should be improved by making them to be in schools at least upto the completion of secondary level of education to have a meaningful impact on fertility. This would not only reduce effective duration of marriage, but also increase the awareness of women on the needs of children, growth and development and also raise their aspirations for better quality of children.
7. The development of several small urban areas by encouraging business, providing necessary infrastructural facilities and necessary climate suitable for industrial development, offers adequate employment, education and other socio-cultural facilities. This stimulate migration to small urban areas and curtail high volume of migration and its natural increase in large towns and cities.

8. Migration will not only improve the economic situation but also will have demographic impact on the areas of origin by the flow of knowledge on small family norm from urban migrant visitors to areas of origin (i.e. to rural areas). The infrastructural facilities like transport and communication should be developed to maintain the links.

The findings of present investigation suggest that stratification of migrant by their residential background in relation to their characteristics would be the best approach for studying the fertility behaviour of migrants rather than analysing the migrant population together, since the factors affecting their fertility behaviour are diverse in nature and the extent of their influence differs. Identification of differential factors influencing the fertility behaviour of different groups would be more valuable for policy implication.
These are only certain explicit items for programme and policy that desires serious consideration at the hands of population scientists, administrators and policy makers for the betterment of urban migrant population in particular and the society in general. The related issues further may be extracted from the preceding findings. Since the present study is one of the few efforts made in this direction in India, there is greater need for undertaking the same in different towns and cities of our country to have greater insight.