Population growth within the country, is the result of a balance of births, deaths, and migration. A country, or, community, gains population, either through a high birth-rate, or, in-migration, and, it loses population either through deaths among the residents, or, by out-migration. In other words, migration is a major factor which change the size and composition of a population. The migration process affects the areas to which migrants move, and also those which they leave. It also determines the availability of human resources, at a given point of time.

The essential character of migration is that it evolves a change in place of abode, or place of usual residence, that is a taking up of life in a new or, different place. Migration is neither an immediate action, nor, is it generated

by a simple, or, single impulse. The reasons for migration, may vary from person to person. There could be a variety of reasons, which may be economic, social, or political, or, a combination of some, or, all of these together. Thus, no manpower planner, or, analyst, can afford to ignore the phenomena of migration, whether in migration, or, out-migration, or, both while looking into the demographic aspect of human resources development planning.5

According to Dorothy Thomas (1983), the differentiation of various streams of migration, and the determination of both the number involved, and of the various demographic social, and economic characteristics of migrants, is an important as the determination of the balance between in and out migration.6

Also, according to the Rapporteurs statement "migration consists of two elements; an act of separation from one place and an addition to another, it differ from mortality and fertility primarily in situation that each even has both a separative and additive aspect simultaneously".7 Migration is not a self-generating process. It is influenced by a complex set of dissatisfaction, and aspiration situations, and

5. Ibid., p. 146.
opportunities, which are reflected in the histories, and, the characteristics of migrants.  

Demographers consider the migration impact to be threefold. The impact is:

1- On the area of in-migration,
2- On the area of out-migration, and
3- On migrants themselves.

Further, Lee says that migration is the result of certain pull and push factors, or, an attraction, or, repulsion, at both origin and destination. Zipf has defined the attraction as a simple inverse function of distance:

\[ A = \frac{P_o P_d}{D} \]

where, \( A \) stands for the attraction, \( P_o \) for the population at the place of origin, and, \( P_d \) for the population at the place of destination.

Now, net migration has been defined as an area may simultaneously be receiving migrants from some areas and losing migrants to other areas, the net balance between arrival and departure is termed as net migration.

Also, the study of migration is of special significance in the Indian context on account of the rising pace of its

8. Ibid.,
industrialization, and the economic development that ensues also because of the urbanization which accompanies and follows the first as a necessary concomitant, there has also an influx of refugees from Bangla Desh, as also the migration that followed the partition in 1947. Kingsley Davis has in broad terms discussed the pattern of migration from and to India after partition in his The Population of India and Pakistan.

Of course, the major factor responsible for the phenomenal rate of growth in India's population, is the widening gap between the birth and death rates, during the two decades first between 1951-61, and then, during 1961-71. By and large, before 1971, in-migration played an important role in adding to the population of India, but later out-migration played an equally significant role in losing the population. The net migration of the country has been presented in Table No. 6.1

Table No. 6.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Net-Migration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>+ 9661983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>+ 25909139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>- 15911503</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The above table depicts India's net-migration during the different decades. The net-migration has been calculated on the basis of birth and death-rates, because the data of out-migrants in other countries had not been enumerated in the Indian Census, till 1981. Therefore, in order to find out the net-migration, it has been decided to calculated it, through the birth and death rates in the Indian population. The results show that the net-migration was +9661983, in 1961, and +25909130, in 1971, which indicates an addition to the population. But the case was the reverse during 1981. The net migration during this period was -15911503, which shows fall demographic strength. The reason could be that during this period, particularly because of the Janta Government's policies which permitted movement to other countries, the out-migration rose, resulting in a fall in the population strength.

**Net Migration in Bihar:**

In a developing state like Bihar, interstate migration is caused by several factors, economic social and demographic, compelling people either to move, stay or even leave. High illiteracy and low economic development, and also high demographic density, increase the pressure on land. They act as Catalysts for inter-state out-migration. Suprunovich concludes that the major area of out-flow of
the agricultural population were the rural tracts of Bihar, including the lower Ganga plain and Chota Nagpur areas. And schedule castes backward classes and labourers constitute a very significant proportion in Bihar. Further, N.K. Soni's study yields a positive rank correlation, between the demographic strength of the state, and, the volume of inter-state migration. He concludes that "if the population size of a state increased, there will be increased migratory movements of persons from the state to other states". This appears true, and applies to the states of Bihar, U.P., and also to a few other states. Thus, according to the 1981 Census, the out-migration from U.P. (22 per cent), and from Bihar (13 per cent), are the heaviest, as the size of population is the heaviest. The total net-migration of Bihar, during different decades, has been shown in Table No. 6.2

Table No. 6.2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Net-Migration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>- 725000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>- 102942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>- 1189108</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Census of India, 1961, Vol. I, No.8, p.87

Table No. 6.2 shows that the figure of net-migration was in minus, throughout the three Censuses. According to the 1961 Census, the net-migration of Bihar was 725000. However, the proportion of net-migrants decreased to 102942, in 1971. It again increased in minus, and went to 1189108, in 1981. Therefore, it may be concluded from the table that through the Censuses of 1961, 1971, and 1981, net-migration was relatively insignificant, and therefore had no impact on the demographic growth in Bihar. The major factors responsible for the growth of the state's population is the increasing gap between the birth and the death rates.

Net-Migration in North East Bihar:

This may appear contradictory, and yet interesting to observe, that the all the three districts of north east Bihar, pull the migrants inside the districts, from outside the districts, while, the state itself pushes the migrants outside the state, to other states. Yet another feature of this migration was in that all the three districts net-migrants were recorded in plus, while the state of Bihar's net-migrants were registered in minus, during the period 1961-81. These details appear in Table Nos. 6.3, 6.4 and 6.5.
Net-Migration in Purnia District:

In the district of Purnia, out-migration is very limited. Despite heavy push factors, there has only been a lot of in-migration. This is due mainly to the backwardness of people, poor means of communication, and the way of social institutions, like the joint family, caste system, early marriage, as also, the illiteracy, and conservatism of the people.

According to the 1981 Census, the total out-migration of the district, was 30,629. Out of these, the male out-migrants were 7,330, and, the female 23,349. Therefore female out-migration was higher. However, the total in-migrants in the district were 258,596. Out of these, the male in-migrants were 94,852, and female in-migrants 1,63,744. Finally, the total net migrants were +227,967, which has been shown in Table No. 6.3

Table No. 6.3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Net-Migration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>+ 417433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>+ 707545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>+ 227967</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above table indicates the net-migration of the district. According to the 1981 Census, the net-migrants were +227967. In the previous Census, the data of out-migrants, of the district level, were not available, therefore, the net-migrants have been tabulated by birth and death rates. The results give the net migrants in plus, which implies an addition to the population of the district.

### Net-Migration in Saharsa District:

Saharsa district also has high a rate of in-migration, with a low rate of out-migration. According to the 1981 Census, the total out-migrants of the district were 63622. Out of there, the male out-migrants were 15,974, and female 47,648. However, the total in-migrants were 1,75,624 in the district, out of which the number of male in-migrants were 37,868, and female 1,37,756. The total net-migrants of the district were + 112002, which is shown in Table No.6.4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Net-Migration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>+ 346295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>+ 535695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>+ 112002</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above table shows the net-migrants to be plus, which means an addition to the population. Prior to the 1981 Census, out-migrants at the district level, were not enumerated in the Census. They were enumerated only in the 1981 Census itself. Therefore, in order to know the net-migrants, the calculation was made through the birth and death rates. The results show the migrants, in plus, that is, +346295, in 1961, and, +535695, in 1971. The proportion of out-migrants increased in 1971, but it decreased to +112002, in 1981. The conclusion drawn from the table is that the net migrants added to the population of the district.

Net-Migration in the District of Katihar:

In Katihar district, the rate of in-migration is high and out-migration low, inspite of the push factors. According to the 1981 Census, the total out-migrants in the Katihar district, were 17,046. Out of these, the male out-migrants were 3,440, and the female 13,606. Also, the total in-migrants in the district were 1,62,662. Out of these, the male in-migrants were 53,236, and the female 1,09,428. Therefore, the total net migrants were +145616 in the district. This has been shown in Table No. 6.5
Table No. 6.5

Net-Migrants in Katihar District in 1981
(migrants classified by place of birth)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Net-Migrants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Katihar</td>
<td>$+145616$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Census of India, 1981, Series 4 Bihar
Migration table pp. 185-90 and 440-532.

The above table shows that the migrants have been classified by place of birth. The net-migration has been calculated through the 1981 Census, and its results were found in plus, being $+145616$, which shows an addition to the population of Katihar district.