The major findings of the study are given below:

Socio-economic Profile of Male Migrants

- A little more than half (51.33 per cent) of sample male migrant workers were found to be Hindus, followed by Christians who had accounted for 42 per cent.

- More than half (58 per cent) of male migrant workers belonged to the Backward caste, followed by the Most Backward Caste who had formed 32 per cent and scheduled caste by 10%.

- More than half of migrants had moved from their native place mostly as single individuals (52 per cent) at the time of their migration.

- Regarding the educational level of the sample respondents, more than half 58 per cent of the respondents had completed their primary school level.

- More than two-thirds of the respondents (70 per cent) belonged to the nuclear family type, followed one third by 30 per cent of the respondents who had belonged to the joint family system.

- Regarding the ownership of the houses, more than four fifths of the respondents (83.33 per cent) had reported that they were living only in rented houses.

- Out of the 150 sample male migrant workers, only 43 respondents (28.67 per cent) came under the category of possession of land holdings.
More than half of respondents (57.33 per cent) had taken loans from the professional money lenders at relatively higher rates of interest, followed by about 12 per cent of the respondents who had taken loans from their past savings in banks.

Fifty five respondents in the age group of 41 to 50 years and 47 respondents in the age group of 31 to 40 years migrated to the present place of destination.

More than two-fifths of the respondents had known about their present place of destination through informal contacts with friends (41.33 per cent)

DETERMINANTS FACTOR OF MALE MIGRANTS

Among the various push factors for migration, the most influencing factors for the causes for migration were found only be economic factors only, such as, low wages, landlessness, small land holdings and under employment and unemployment. Social conflicts and communal hatred got only the fifth rank, which came under the sociological factor for migration. Apart from this sociological factor for migration, economic factors for migration, like joblessness after harvest, burden of loan’s agricultural insolvency, lack of alternative sources for income and drought conditions had also contributed to migration.

Among the pull factors for migration, ‘Higher wages’ had been stated by the majority of the respondents (120 respondents) as the most important “pull” factor. The next important factor was related to the employment and
better employment opportunities which had been indicated by most of the respondents as a pull factor for migration (138 respondents).

- It had thus become clear that whether it was due to a pull or a push factor, the economic motive (higher wages and employment) had played an important role in encouraging immigration into the study area.

- Two fifths of the respondents (40 per cent) had reported that their place of origin was the Cuddalore district, in Tamil Nadu and within a distance of 26 km to 75 km. Apart from the Cuddalore district,

- 60 per cent of the respondents had migrated from the other districts of Tamil Nadu such as Thiruchirappalli, Vellore, Theni Karur, Thanjavur and Nagapattinam district.

- A high percentage of the migrants (80 per cent) had come from the rural and the sub-urban areas compared to the percentage of male migrant workers (20 per cent) from the urban areas.

- Fifty five respondents in the age group of 41 to 50 years and 47 respondents in the age group of 31 to 40 years migrated to the present place of destination.

**WORKING STATUS OF MALE --BEFORE AND AFTER MIGRATION**

- As in the case of the before migration period, three-fourths of (76.67 per cent) respondents were found to have been engaged in work for only two to four days in a week.
After the migration to their current place of migration, 84 per cent of the workers were found to have been engaged in work in a week up to five days.

A large number of the respondents (85.33 per cent) were found to be having been working for more than 10 hours per day.

More than half of the respondents (57.33 per cent) had taken loans from the professional money lenders at relatively higher rates of interest.

More than half of the migrants had moved from their native place mostly as single individuals (52 per cent) at the time of their migration.

**ECONOMIC STATUS OF MALE MIGRANTS:- BEFORE AND AFTER MIGRANTION**

Before the period of migration three-fifths of the respondents (60 per cent) had reported that their income level was in the range of Rs.1000 to Rs.1500 per month.

During the post migration period, more than half of the respondents (52 per cent) had reported that, their income level was in the range of Rs.2000 to Rs.2500 per month.

During the pre migration period, three fifths of the respondents (60 per cent) had an expenditure level ranging between Rs.1500 to Rs.2000 per month.
During the post migration period, less than half of the respondents (48 per cent) had reported that their expenditure level was between Rs.2500 to Rs.3000 per month.

Nearly 16 per cent of the respondents had short-term savings during their pre-migration period and in the post migration period nearly 26.67 per cent of the respondents were possessed of short-term savings.

Only 5.33 per cent of the respondents had long-term savings during their pre-migration period and during the post-migration period, 9.33 per cent of the respondents came under this category.

Fourteen per cent of the respondents had saved in post-offices during the pre-migration period while during the post-migration period 24 per cent of the respondents had their postal savings.

Nearly 20 per cent of the respondents had saved a sum of Rs.1000 to Rs.1500 per annum during the pre-migration period. On the other hand, 38 per cent of the respondents had reported that, they had saved a sum of Rs.1000 to Rs.1500 during the post-migration period.

As many as 14.67 per cent of the respondents had reported that they had saved upto Rs. 2000 to Rs. 2500 per annum during the pre-migration period and in the post-migration period, 20 per cent of the respondents had reported that they had saved a similar amount.
Only 33 of the respondents (22 per cent) had stated that they were sending money for the purpose of supporting the family at their respective native places.

More than two-thirds (73.67 per cent) of the respondents had savings habit during the pre-migration period whereas all the 150 respondents had developed their savings habit during the post-migration period.

More than half respondents (57.33 per cent) had taken loans from the professional money lenders at relatively higher rates of interest, followed by about 12 per cent of the respondents who had taken loans from their past savings in banks.

Regarding the purpose of raising loans more than two-fifths of the respondents (44 per cent) had raised the loan for the purpose of meeting the family consumption expenditure.

Socio-economic Profile of the Female Migrants

Majority of the (88 per cent) sample female migrant workers were Hindus, followed by Christians who formed 10 per cent.

More than half of the female migrant workers (56.67 per cent) belonged to scheduled castes, followed by the Most Backward workers who had accounted for 29.33 per cent.

In the case of the female migrant workers 39.33 per cent of the respondents had finished their education up to the primary school level followed by
24.67 per cent of the respondent who had studied upto the high school level and 30.67 per cent of the respondents were found to be illiterates.

- With regard to the female migrant workers, family system had revealed that, 82 (54.67 per cent) respondents belonged to the nuclear family system and sixty eight (45.33 per cent) of the respondents belonged to the Joint family system.

- Regarding the types of houses occupied, 63.33 per cent of the respondents had lived in Thatched cum roofed houses, followed by 26.67 per cent of the respondents who had lived in Hutments and 10 per cent of the respondents only had lived in the Tiled cum roofed house.

- With regard to the ownership of their houses, 70 per cent of the respondents had lived in their own houses,

**DETERMINANTS FACTOR OF FEMALE MIGRANTS**

- The most influencing factors for the causes for migration, among the identified ten push factors ‘low wages’ was given as the reason by the largest number of respondents (120 respondents). The next factor indicated was unemployment (100 respondents) which was the second largest number among the group of the respondents. Out of the ten identified factors nine factors were found to be economic factors which had acted as the major ‘push factor’ for migration. There was only one factor, namely social conflicts and communal hatred, under the category of the non-economic factors which had contributed to migration.
In the case of the pull factors, employment and better employment opportunities had been pointed out as the most important factor by a large number of respondents (135 respondents). The second important attraction was the regular availability of work as indicated by most of the respondents (120 respondents). Out of the eight factors, six factors were found to be economic factors, which had motivated the respondents to migrate to a very large extent. The remaining two non-economic factors, namely better living condition and present work access to their health condition were stated as the important pull factor for migration.

The majority of the respondents (70.67 per cent) had reported their place of origin as was the Nagapattinam and Thanjavur districts in Tamil Nadu.

Nearly 92 per cent of the respondents had migrated from the rural areas whereas only eight per cent of the respondents had migrated from the suburban areas.

Nearly 92 per cent of the respondents had migrated from the rural areas whereas only eight per cent of the respondents had migrated from the suburban areas.

**WORKING STATUS OF FEMALE MIGRANTS:- BEFORE AND AFTER MIGRATION**

Out of the 150 sample female migrant workers, only 56 respondents (37.33 per cent) were found to belong to the category of land holders.
Nearly two-thirds of the respondents (64 per cent) had changed their occupation from their pre-migration to their post-migration period.

At the current place of destination almost three fifths (73.33 per cent) of the respondents were found to have been engaged in their work for five days in a week.

**ECONOMIC STATUS OF FEMALE MIGRANTS-BEFORE AND AFTER MIGRATION**

As many as 45 of the respondents (30 per cent) had raised loans for the purpose of meeting their family consumption expenditure.

Fifty-nine (38.67 per cent) of the respondents had reported that they had borrowed loans between Rs.15000 to Rs.20000.

Close to three fifths the respondents (74.67 per cent) had reported that their main source of borrowing was professional money lenders at relatively high rates of interest.

Just as in the before the migration period, close to three-fourth 73.33 per cent of the respondents had reported that their income level was below that of Rs.1000 per month.

During the post-migration period, nearly one fourth 24 per cent of the respondents had reported that their income level was below that of Rs.1000 per month.
Before migration, more than one fifth (26.67 per cent) of the respondents had an expenditure level, which was below that of the level of Rs.1000 per month;

After migration, a two thirds percentage of the respondents (63.33 per cent) had stated that their expenditure level was between Rs.1000 and Rs.1500 per month.

The expenditure level of the sample respondents had become higher in the period after migration compared to the period of before migration.

Nearly 10 per cent of the respondents had short term savings during their pre-migration period.

Savings in insurance policies was resorted to by only 40 per cent of the respondents in the pre-migration period and in the post–migration period nearly 45.33 per cent of the respondents had saved through insurance policies.

Nearly 30.67 per cent of the respondents had reported that their savings level was of the order of Rs.1000 to Rs.1500 per annum during the pre-migration period. On the other hand 46.67 per cent of the respondents had reported that their savings was at this level during the post-migration period.

Nearly 12 per cent of the respondents had reported that their savings was of the order of Rs.2000 to Rs.2500 per annum during the pre-migration period.
and in the post-migration period 14.67 per cent of the respondents were found to be in the same category in respect of their savings position.

- In terms of the amounts sent, it was found that 46 respondents had sent money to their respective native places in the range of Rs.100 to Rs.200 per year.

- Nearly 22 per cent of the respondents had stated that they sent money for the purpose of supporting their family members residing at their native place.

**SUGGESTIONS**

- Poverty alleviation measures and employment generation programmes have to be strengthened in rural areas irrespective of gender to minimize push factors of migration. It would reduce the density of population in urban areas.

- Individual migration is seen in male workers as they feel, standard of living in the place of destination is costly. If they get employment with reasonable salary in their place, they would have been in their native places. For that Rural Infrastructure planning development programmes have to be implemented properly in the study area to avoid people to migrate in urban areas.

- The migrants can drive the growth engine of the economy and there by their economic status has to be increased by increasing the level of wages.
Wage discrimination is prevailing in unorganized sector. As per minimum wages act, the wages have to be fixed for the caused laboures irrespective of gender. It is essential to form a trade union to improve bargaining power with the employer, to eliminate gender discrimination in wages and to regulate working hours for male and female migrants.

**SCOPE FOR FUTURE RESEARCH**

- A comparative study of rural migration and urban migrants can be done.

- Different studies on streams and such as rural-rural, urban- urban, urban-rural, rural- urban can be possible.

- Studies on in migration and out migration in different districts may also be conducted.

- Gender specific studies on migration in different districts with different streams may have a novelty in research.