SUMMARY

The importance of rural to rural migration in developing countries cannot be overestimated. It is a major factor in economic development and manpower planning. It has acquired special significance in the context of commercialization of agriculture. It has major implication for social change and has notable effects on the place of origin as well as on the place of destination. The existing literature deals mostly with the rural-urban form of migration. Little attention has so far been paid to investigate rural-rural migration. Since the last few decades, rural-rural migration increased at a faster rate. The increased inflow of migrant laborer has far reaching socio-economic consequences which warrants scientific analysis.

The present study entitled ‘Migrant Labours in North Kanara : A Sociological Study of Rural-Rural Migration’ is based on the field work carried out during the year 1995. Following the systematic random sampling techniques, a sample of 250 immigrant labours and hundred samples of local employers was selected for the study from four mandals of Yellapur Taluk of North Kanara district of Karnataka State, India. The primary data was collected from the respondents through personal interview of the head of the household by the specially structured and pre-tested schedules.

The study is concerned with those migrants who belong to the adjoining coastal district of South Kanara in Karnataka State, India who migrated to the study area. It deals with the factors responsible for migration, socio-economic characteristics of migrants at the time of migration, and the present socio-economic aspects of immigrants, settlement, adjustment and acculturation process and the opinion of the locals (hosts) towards immigrants.

The thesis is divided in to 9 chapters. The first chapter gives the migration scene in India and a brief account of earlier studies on migration. The theoretical frame work and
methodology of the study are presented in the second chapter. The third chapter deals with area of study (Yellapur Taluk) and a brief account of North Kanara district.

The present socio-economic characteristics of migrant families is presented in the fourth chapter. The migrant population has a large numbers of youngsters who are unmarried and literate; have small families with an average of 3.3 earning members. The economic condition of the immigrants is comparatively better.

In the fifth chapter determinants and cause of migration are discussed. The analysis reveals that the major to influx of respondents to the destination occurred before 1975. A majority of them were young, illiterate and unmarried and belonged to large families before migration. The economic consideration was the main criteria for migration.

The settlement of respondents is presented in the sixth chapter. Migrants have given priority for the center place of villages for their settlement and have Kachcha houses and also a few of them acquired land. Majority of the immigrants visit their native places rarely and have settled down permanently in the place of destination.

The seventh chapter describes the adjustment and acculturation pattern of the immigrants. It mentions about their high level of social participation in the place of destination and the new skills they have mastered.

The opinion of local employers towards immigrants is in presented in the 8th chapter. The local farmers prefer to employ immigrant labours due to their skills and sincerity in work and treat them as locals without any discrimination. Thus, the immigrants have mixed themselves with the local fabric.

The last chapter presents the conclusions and recommendations.