



## DETERMINANTS OF RURAL OUT-MIGRATION IN INDIA

Tarique Hassan\*

Dr. Jabir Hasan Khan\*\*

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**Abstract:** *The present paper investigates the geographical patterns of socio-economic causes of rural out-migration among the states and union territories of India. The study is based on secondary sources of data, collected from census of India publications (2001), New Delhi. The boundary of a state/union territory has been considered as the smallest unit of study. The overall analysis of the study reveals that majority of the rural migrants (62.49 percent) migrated from the rural areas to other states and UTs of the country due to social factors. It is also found that work/employment accounted for 35.88 percent and migration for business 1.9 percent of the total rural out-migration in the country.*

*The study also depicts that there is a wide range of variation in the spatial patterns of rural out-migration for different reasons. The high rate of rural out-migration for employment is witnessed from the central-eastern states and low from the north-eastern states, while, the high rate of rural out-migrants who moved with their households have recorded from the northern states and low from the eastern states of the country. However, western and north-western parts of India reported the high rate of rural out-migration for marriage, whereas, north-eastern states have witnessed the highest percentage of rural out-migration for education purpose.*

**Keywords:** *Determinants, exodus, out-migration, residence, destination*

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\*Senior Research Fellow, Department of Geography, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh (U.P.)

\*\*Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh (U.P.)



## **INTRODUCTION**

The elucidation of the migratory nature of man being credited to Beaujeu-Garnier (1966) for his statement: “Man is a mobile creature, capable of enquiring, susceptible to suggestion, and endowed with imagination and initiative. This explains why, having conceived the notion that his wants might be satisfied elsewhere, he may decide not merely on going there but also on the means by which his project can be achieved”. Thus, migration occurs because migrants believe that they will be more satisfied in their needs and desires in the place they move to than in the place from which they come.

Migration refers to the geographic movement of an individual or a group (Cigler, B. and Cigler, M. 1985). It is defined as a move from one migration defining area to another, usually crossing administrative boundaries made during a given migration interval and involving a change of residence (UN 1993). The change in residence can take place either permanent or semi-permanent or temporary basis (Premi, 1990). However, in simple term, migration may be defined as ‘any residential movement which occurs between administrative units or boundaries over a given period of time’ (White, P. and Woods, R., 1980).

The domain of internal migration covered a wide array of research on the issues related to the causes, distance, movement, pattern, decision-making processes of migration, etc. The general questions which may be asked by the researchers in the sphere of internal migration are: Why migration does occur? Who migrates? What are the patterns of origins and destinations and of the flows between them? How the process of the decision to move is formed and it changes over time?

However, the most important questions which are usually studied by the social scientist-why migration does occur and how the process of the decision to move is formed? To give the explanations of these questions, researchers have formulated different theories over time. The neo-classical migration theory views migrants as individual, rational actors, who decide to move on the basis of a cost-benefit calculation (Hein de Hass, 2008). On the Contrary, the theory of wage differentials implies a negative relation between out-migration and area earnings and a positive relation between in-migration and area earnings (Ritchey, P. N., 1976).



Besides, the desire for individual income gain, there are other conditions that influence the decision to migrate and, above all, that shape the decision to perpetuate migration across time and space (Mendola, M., 2006). The network theory of migration highlighted the role of social relationships in motivating migration phenomena (Boyd, 1989). Here, networks may be defined as sets of interpersonal ties that connect migrants, former migrants, and non-migrants in origin and destination areas through bonds of kinship, friendship, and shared community origin (Massey *et. al*, 1993:448). On the contrary, Migration systems theory assumed that migration changes the social, cultural, economical, and institutional conditions at both the sending and receiving areas i.e., the entire developmental space within which migration processes operate (Hein de Hass, 2008: 21). In other words, it brought the structural changes in the societies of origin and destination.

In the present scenario of urbanization and counter-urbanization, the continued process of out-migration of rural migrants from the countryside has not been given due importance as to the in-migration in urban areas. Though, depopulation from rural areas has been continued since a long time, particularly in the developing world, where it is a common livelihood strategy and an important form of population redistribution (Clark L. Gray, 2009). In this context, Stockdale, A. (2002) has rightly pointed out that whatever, research is being undertaken into rural out-migration trends and processes, these studies have only begun to touch the “*tip of the iceberg*” that is contemporary rural out-migration. Meaning thereby, pattern of in-migration at urban areas is getting more importance than the rural out-migration in the domain of internal migration.

Nevertheless, most of the recent studies in the field of rural out-migration have emphasized on the four aspects (Stockdale, A. 2004). The first one dealt with the individual decision-making process related with a move away from rural areas (Wallace et al. 1991; Jones 1992; 1995; 1999; Jamieson 2000; Ni Laoire 2000; Stockdale 2002a and 2002b). Secondly, it shows the community consequences of out-migration reporting on the physical, demographic and development impacts. Third aspect was associated with negative impact on rural communities, and the last one was related to the debate over the return of former out-migrants (Rhoades 1978; King 1985) and their role in rural development.

India is the second most populous country in the world after China, and where according to Census 2001, the total number of rural out-migrants whose duration of residence was 1 to 4



years at the place of enumeration, was 51.23 million which is much more higher than the total population of the countries like, South Africa (50.58 million), South Korea (50.00 million), Myanmar (48.72 million), Spain (46.16 million), Ukraine (45.56 million), Argentina (40.11 million) and many others. In the country like India, the rural population has shot up by nearly four times since 1901, whereas the urban population has risen nearly fifteen times. In 2011 census, it was revealed that first time the urban population of the country is increasing at a rate of over 12 percent, has led to an absolute increase in numbers compared to the rural areas. The trend of increase in the urban population continues, mainly on the back of migration from rural to urban areas (Kuruksheeta, 2012). Thus, the volume of rural exodus and process of rural de-population is still continuing. Therefore, it is the need of hour to analyze the patterns of inter-state variations in the socio-economic causes of rural out-migration among the states and union territories of India.

## **DATABASE AND METHODOLOGY**

The usual direct questions on internal migration in Indian census cover the following items: place of birth (village or town), place of last residence, duration of residence (stay) at the place of enumeration, places of residence on a specified date before the census, and reasons for migration. Since, 1981 census, information on reasons for migration from place of last residence and the duration of residence at the place of enumeration were included in the schedule of Indian Census. All reasons have been grouped into seven broad categories, viz., employment, business, education, marriage, moved after birth, moved with household and others. In case of persons who migrated other than first six reasons have been included under the category of 'others'. The category of 'others' is the sum total of the persons displaced due to developmental projects, migrated because of droughts, floods, social disturbances etc.

The present research work is entirely based on the secondary sources of data collected from Census of India 2001, Migration Table, D0603. The data on place of last residence provides information about the reasons of migration categorized on the basis of age, sex and duration of residence. The categories of data on duration of residence of migrants at their destinations are for less than one year, one to four years, five to nine years, more than nine years and all durations. However, in the present work, the data regarding only those



migrants have been taken into account whose duration of residence at the place of enumeration was 1 to 4 years.

The census of India does not collect and publish the data regarding the causes of out-migration. Therefore, the volume of rural out-migrants with specific reasons of their migration has been calculated by the addition of all the rural out-migrants of a particular dispatching state or UT with specific reasons of their in-migration in their receiving states and UTs of the country, by considering, that in most of the cases, the causes of out- and in-migration remain the same, for example, if a person out-migrates from a village due to lack of job and in-migrates to a town or village to get employment, thus, the employment becomes a cause of both out- and in-migration of the person. The data have been converted into percentage and processed in tabular form. On the basis of tables and processed data, the multiple bar diagram and maps have been prepared with the application of GIS-Arc view programme (version 3.2) to show the patterns of inter-state variations in the socio-economic causes of rural out-migration in India. The boundary of a state/UT has been considered as the smallest unit of study. Moreover, the rural out-migration from the union territories of India has not been shown in the maps, but the causes of rural out-migration from all the union territories has been studied and their per cent values have been given in the Table 2.

**Table 1: Percentage Distribution of Causes of Rural Out-Migration in India, 2001**

**(Duration of Residence: 1 to 4 years)**

<b>Causes of Rural Out-Migration</b>	<b>Total</b>
Work/Employment	35.88
Business	01.63
Education	02.39
Marriage	23.14
Moved after Birth	03.11
Moved with Household	26.23
Others	07.62
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**Source:** *Census of India, 2001.*



## DETERMINANTS OF RURAL OUT-MIGRATION IN INDIA

The percentage distribution of socio-economic causes of rural out-migration in India is given in Table 1. It would be seen from the data reveals that majority of the rural migrants (62.49 percent) migrated from the rural areas to other states and UTs of the country due to social factors viz., moved with household, marriage, education, moved after birth and other specific factors. The main social factors, which amount to 51.76 per cent of the rural migrant population, are migration with household, marriage and education. The remaining social factors namely migration after birth and various miscellaneous factors are of less importance in volume.

It can also be seen from the Table 1 that work/employment accounted for 35.88 percent and migration for business 1.9 percent of the total rural out-migration in the country.

Migration with household alone covers 26.23 percent, followed by migration for marriage 23.14 percent and education 2.39 percent of the total rural out-migration in India. Though, education is a very significant social factor, nevertheless, it is not equally significant quantitatively in respect of rural out-migration in the country, because, this segment of migrants mainly comprises young boys and girls belonging to relatively affluent families (Khan, J. H., Hassan, T., and Shamshad, 2011). Moreover, migration after birth and other specific factors combinely accounts for 10.73 percent of the total rural out-migration in India.

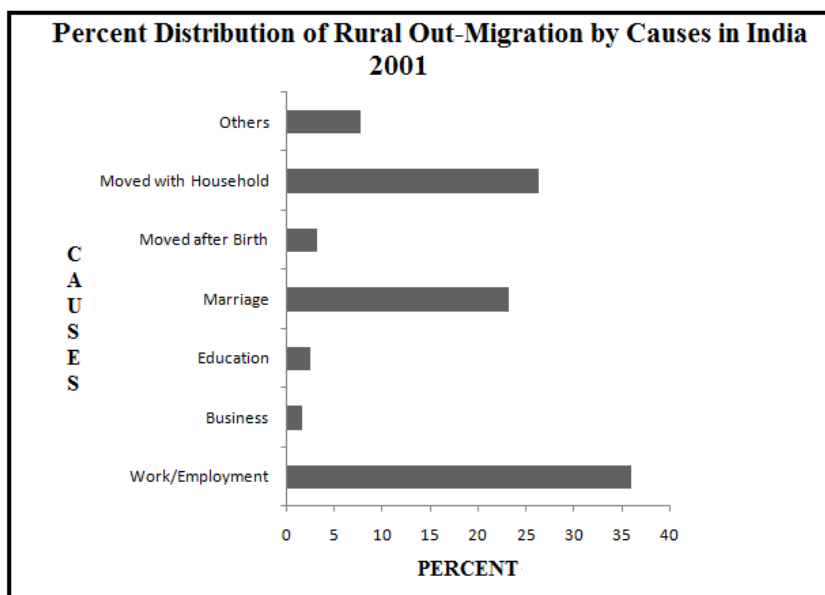


FIG. 1



**Table 2: Percent Distribution of Socio-Economic Causes of Rural Out-Migration among  
the States and Union Territories of India, 2001  
(Duration of Residence: 1 to 4 years)**

States/Union Territory	Determinants of Rural Out-Migration						
	Work/ Employment	Business	Education	Marriage	Moved after Birth	Moved With Household	Others
JAMMU & KASHMIR	24.75	01.11	05.83	28.63	00.72	30.95	08.02
HIMACHAL PRADESH	27.46	00.69	04.73	24.21	03.08	32.68	07.15
PUNJAB	19.22	00.71	01.96	35.42	03.94	31.34	07.41
UTTARAKHAND	29.02	00.33	02.80	25.26	01.13	34.70	06.75
HARYANA	14.99	00.68	02.39	44.58	02.09	28.70	06.57
RAJASTHAN	27.65	04.77	01.48	29.45	04.19	25.50	06.96
UTTAR PRADESH	40.94	01.35	01.70	17.77	02.42	28.73	07.08
BIHAR	47.18	01.77	02.80	13.79	01.61	25.52	07.34
SIKKIM	24.02	01.06	10.68	25.02	01.46	28.27	09.49
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	15.94	01.09	19.62	16.51	00.91	26.00	19.93
NAGALAND	10.56	00.45	04.76	58.17	00.89	16.75	08.42
MANIPUR	18.99	01.87	23.26	07.41	00.56	34.12	13.80
MIZORAM	01.55	00.20	01.79	00.63	00.05	23.22	72.55
TRIPURA	19.32	04.66	08.32	22.06	00.71	33.69	11.23
MEGHALAYA	15.87	02.15	07.92	33.02	00.81	30.79	09.44
ASSAM	25.20	02.27	02.67	30.12	00.77	28.72	10.25
WEST BENGAL	44.33	02.07	02.01	25.53	01.19	19.46	05.41
JHARKHAND	38.98	01.10	02.95	29.61	01.04	19.01	07.32
ORISSA	51.24	01.39	01.47	19.32	01.88	18.97	05.74
CHHATTISGARH	38.26	00.45	02.01	20.48	02.38	29.96	06.46
MADHYA PRADESH	27.28	01.34	01.69	33.00	02.71	27.05	06.94
GUJARAT	21.06	01.62	02.63	32.91	07.39	25.17	09.21
MAHARASHTRA	20.70	02.60	01.47	32.11	09.95	25.52	07.66
ANDHRA PRADESH	31.10	01.46	02.62	26.82	04.34	25.29	08.36
KARNATAKA	29.94	00.55	01.35	26.18	09.07	24.98	07.93
GOA	24.80	00.69	06.03	24.60	10.85	22.63	10.40
KERALA	39.58	01.65	09.57	14.86	06.36	20.08	07.90
TAMIL NADU	38.61	02.42	01.97	21.36	04.16	23.72	07.76
<b>Union Territories</b>							
DELHI	16.10	00.96	03.85	43.93	01.20	26.12	07.85
CHANDIGARH	33.45	00.93	02.86	20.22	02.59	32.57	07.37
DAMAN & DIU	40.79	06.07	02.65	20.92	05.79	19.25	04.53
DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI	15.49	01.55	03.65	50.66	05.53	16.59	06.53
LAKSHADWEEP	20.17	00.85	42.89	04.67	00.42	22.08	08.92
PONDICHERRY	16.23	00.97	03.45	43.29	12.22	15.79	08.05
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS	20.75	00.69	07.20	11.56	02.22	48.32	09.26

Source: CENSUS OF INDIA (2001) Migration Table, D0603



The Table 2 gives the percentage distribution of socio-economic causes of rural out-migration among the states and union territories (UTs) of India. An analysis of the data given in Table 2 envisages that migration for work/employment constitutes nearly two-fifth of the total rural out-migration in four states and one UT. Among them, it is highest in the state of Orissa (51.24 percent), followed by Bihar (47.18 percent), West Bengal (44.33 per cent) and Uttar Pradesh (40.94 per cent), while, the only one UT of India, namely, Daman & Diu recorded 40.79 per cent of the rural exodus to other states and UTs of the country.

The second important economic factor which also provides impetus to rural out-migration in India is Business. Among all the states of the country, the highest proportion of the migration for business has been found in the state of Tripura (4.66), while the lowest in Mizoram (0.20 per cent). As far as the UTs are concerned, the highest proportion of rural out-migration for business purposes was recorded in the UT of Daman & Diu (6.07 percent) and lowest in Andaman & Nicobar Island (0.69 per cent).

Migration of household is one of the most important social factors of rural out-migration in India. The states and UTs where more than thirty percent of the rural migrants moved with their household to other states and UTs are Uttarakhand (34.70 per cent), Manipur (34.12 per cent), Tripura (33.69 per cent), Himachal Pradesh (32.68 per cent), Punjab (31.34 per cent), Jammu & Kashmir (30.95 per cent), Meghalaya (30.79 per cent), Chandigarh (32.57 per cent) and Andaman & Nicobar Islands (48.32 per cent). However, among all the states and UTs of the country, the lowest proportion of rural out-migrants who moved with their household to other states and UTs has been recorded in the union territory of Pondicherry (15.79 percent).

The further examination of data given in Table 2 about migration for marriage depicts that it alone covers more than one-fourth of the total rural out-migration in the states of Nagaland (58.17 per cent), Haryana (44.58 per cent), Punjab (35.42 per cent), Meghalaya (33.02 per cent), Madhya Pradesh (33.00 per cent), Gujarat (32.91 per cent), Maharashtra (32.11 per cent), Assam (30.12 per cent), Jharkhand (29.61 per cent), Rajasthan (29.45 per cent), Jammu & Kashmir (28.63 per cent), Andhra Pradesh (26.82 per cent), Karnataka (26.18 per cent), West Bengal (25.53 per cent), Uttarakhand (25.26 per cent) and Sikkim (25.02 per cent), and in the UTs of Dadar & Nagar Haveli (50.66 per cent), Delhi (43.93 per cent), and Pondicherry (43.29 per cent). However, the highest proportion of rural out-migration for





marriage to other states and UTs of the country has been witnessed by the state of Nagaland (58.17 per cent) and the lowest by the state of Mizoram (0.63 per cent).

An examination of data about migration for education given in Table 2 depicts that it accounted for more than 5.00 per cent of the total rural out-migration in the states and UTs of Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Kerala, Tripura, Meghalaya, Goa Jammu & Kashmir, Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. However, the highest proportion of rural out-migration for education has been witnessed by the UT of Lakshadweep (42.89 per cent) and lowest by the state of Karnataka (1.35 per cent) in the country.

It may also be seen in the Table 2 that migration after birth and other miscellaneous factors did not contribute a considerable proportion of rural out-migrant in India. As far as the factor of migration after birth is concerned, it accounted for more than 5.00 per cent of the total rural out-migration in the states and UTs of Goa (10.85 per cent),

**Table 3: Causes of Rural Out-Migration in India, 2001**

Category	Percent	Number of States	Name of States
<b>Work/Employment</b>			
High	Above 35.0	08	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Orissa, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu, Kerala
Medium	35.0 to 18.0	15	Karnataka, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Assam, Sikkim, Madhya Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Tripura, Manipur
Low	Below 18.0	05	Haryana, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Mizoram.
<b>Moved with Household</b>			
High	Above 30.0	07	Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Meghalaya, Tripura, Manipur
Medium	30.0 to 20.0	17	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Kerala, Gujarat, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Sikkim, Mizoram
Low	Below 20.0	04	West Bengal, Orissa, Jharkhand, Nagaland.
<b>Marriage</b>			
High	Above 32.0	07	Haryana, Punjab, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland, Meghalaya
Medium	32.0 to 20.0	14	Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Sikkim, Assam, Tripura, Goa



Low	Below 20.0	07	Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa.
<b>Education</b>			
High	Above 10.0	03	Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Manipur
Medium	10.0 to 5.0	05	Jammu & Kashmir, Meghalaya, Tripura, Goa, Kerala
Low	Below 5.0	20	Karnataka, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Gujarat, West Bengal, Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Uttarakhand.

**Source:** Based on Table 2.

Maharashtra (9.07 per cent), Gujarat (7.39 per cent), Kerala (6.36 per cent), Pondicherry (12.22 per cent), Daman & Diu (5.79 per cent) and Dadra & Nagar Haveli (5.53 per cent). On the contrary, more than 10.00 per cent of total rural out-migration in India due to miscellaneous factors has been recorded in the states of Mizoram (72.55 per cent), Arunachal Pradesh (19.93 per cent), Manipur (13.80 per cent), Tripura (11.23 per cent) Goa (10.40 per cent) and Assam (10.25 per cent).

### **SPATIAL ANALYSIS OF MAJOR CAUSES OF RURAL OUT-MIGRATION IN INDIA**

Table 2 shows that there is a wide range of variations in the pattern of rural out-migration due to various factors in the states and UTs of India. The ranges of variations in rural out-migration, caused by employment, migration with household, marriage and education, which have contributed a significant proportion of rural exodus in the country are grouped into three categories as high, medium and low (see Tables 3 and Figures 2, 3 & 4).

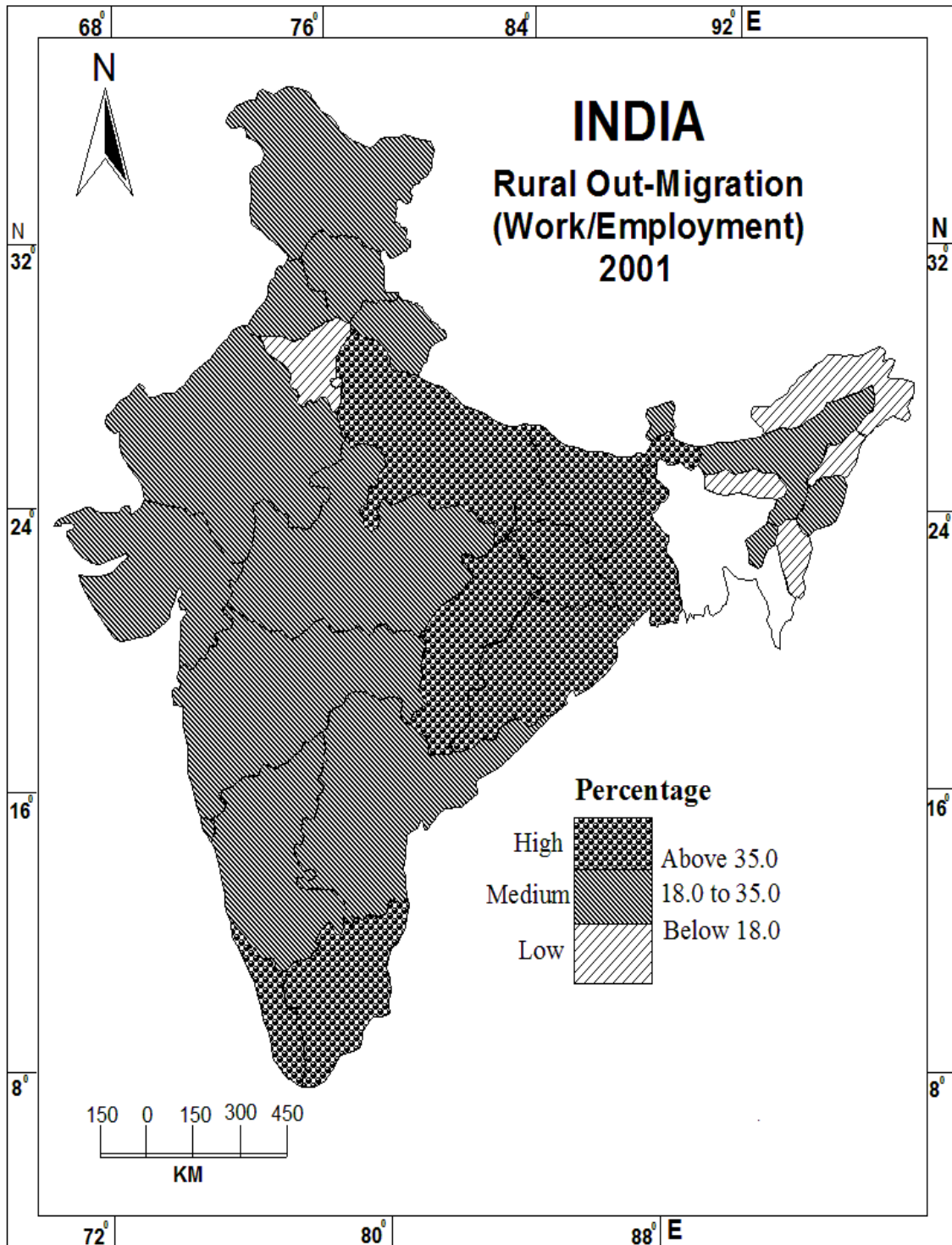
The state-wise percentage of rural out-migrants caused by work/employment varies from 51.24 per cent (Orissa) to 1.55 per cent (Mizoram). All the states may conveniently be arranged into three grades of work/ employment.

The percentage of rural out-migrants due to work/employment is marked with notable variation in its distribution among the states of India. The eight states have high percentage (above 35.0), in which five states (Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Orissa, Jharkhand) form one notable region in central-eastern part, while the states of Tamil Nadu and Kerala are located in the southern most part of the country (see Fig. 2).

There are fifteen states of India fall under the medium level (35.0 to 18.0 per cent) of rural out-migration caused by work/employment and form two separate regions. The first region



comprising the states of Sikkim, Assam, Tripura and Manipur that form a remarkable region in the north-eastern part of the country, while, the second extensive



Source: Based on Table 3.

Fig.2

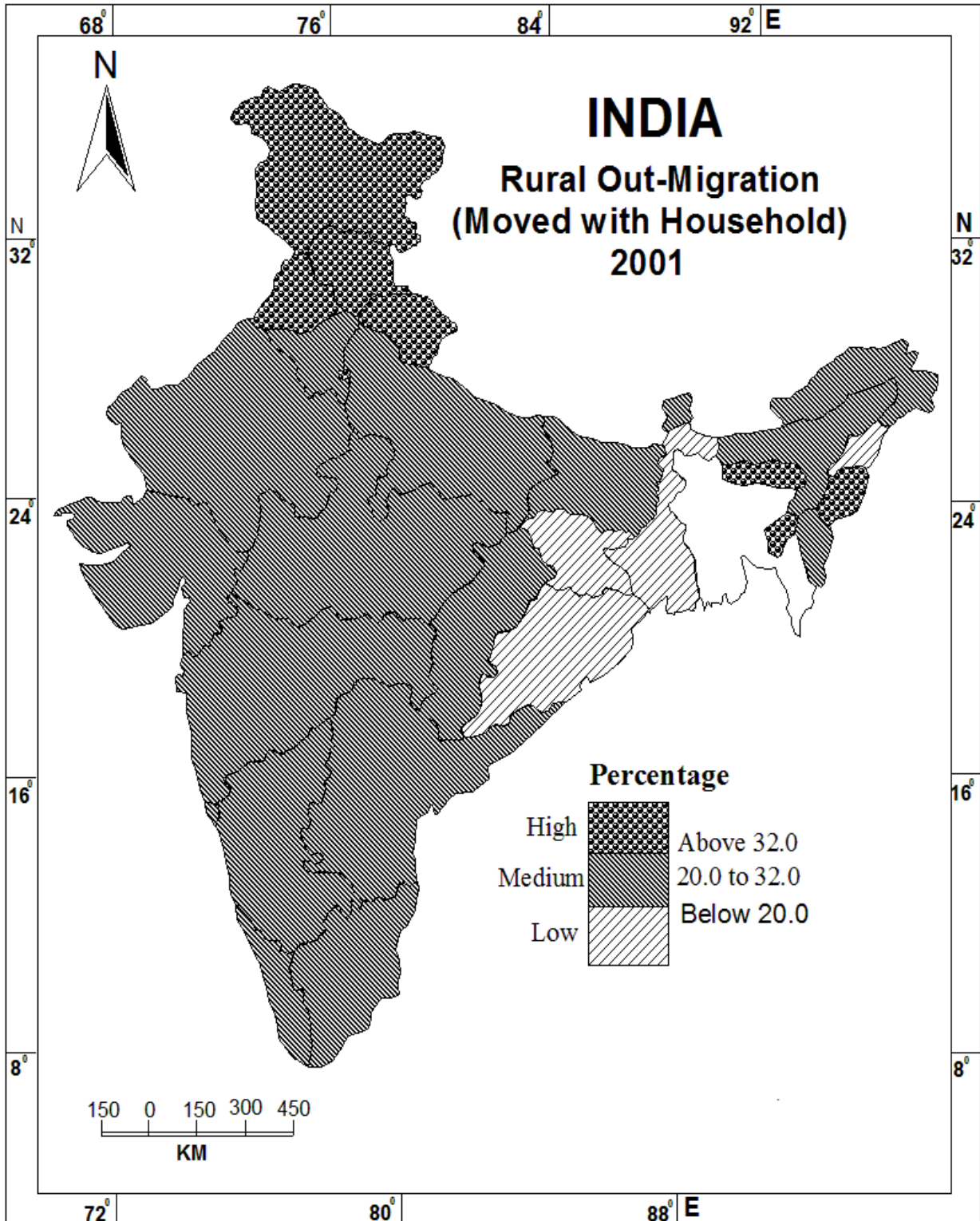
contiguous region is spreading over the northern (Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Punjab), western (Rajasthan and Gujarat), central (Madhya Pradesh) and



southern peninsular (Karnataka, Maharashtra, Goa, Andhra Pradesh) parts of the country. Remaining five states namely Haryana, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Mizoram come under the low level (below 18.0 per cent) of rural out-migration for employment. Among them, the states of Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland make out an identifiable region in the north-eastern part, while, rest of the states are widely scattered and fail to form any contiguous region in the country (see Fig. 2).

The data of rural out-migration of total population migrated with household given in Table 2 illustrates that states of India have wide range of variations that varies from the highest (34.70 per cent) in the state of Uttarakhand to the lowest (16.75 per cent) in the state of Nagaland, which may be arranged into three categories as given in Table 3.

Table 3 exhibits that seven states viz., Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Meghalaya, Tripura, Manipur experienced the high level (above 30.00 per cent) of rural out-migration with household in India. Among them, the states of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Punjab make an identifiable region in northern part of India. While the states of Meghalaya, Tripura and Manipur are situated in the north-eastern part and fail to form any contiguous region in the country. The states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Kerala, Gujarat, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Sikkim, Mizoram come under the medium level (32.0 to 20.0 per cent) of rural out-migration with household. They constitute one extensive flanking region and one notable region in the country. The first extensive flanking region extends over the



Source: Based on Table 3.

Fig. 3

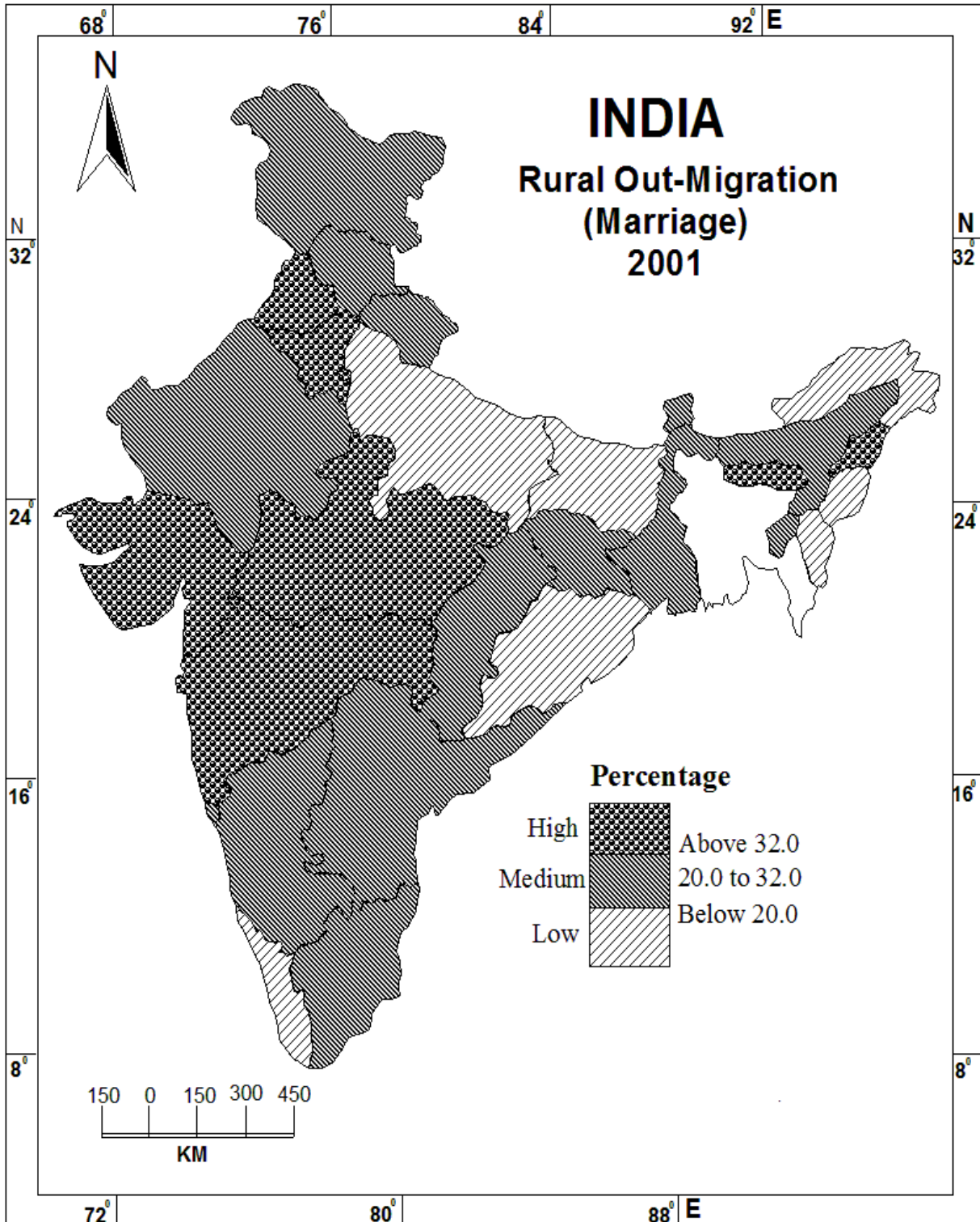
western and north-western (Gujarat, Rajasthan and Haryana), central (Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh) and southern (Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Tamil Nadu and Kerala) parts of India. The states of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam,



Mizoram and Sikkim form second region in the north-eastern part of the country (Fig. 3). However, the four states of the country have the low level (below 20.0 per cent) of rural out-migration with households, they are West Bengal, Orissa, Jharkhand and Nagaland in which three states (West Bengal, Orissa and Jharkhand) form a notable region in the eastern part of the country (Fig. 3).

The range of variations of rural out-migration for marriage varies from the highest (58.17 per cent) in Nagaland to the lowest (0.63 per cent) in Mizoram. This entire array of variations may be arranged into three categories such as high (above 32.0 per cent), medium (32.0 to 20.0 per cent) and low (below 20.0 per cent).

The seven states have high level (above 32.0 per cent) of rural out-migration for marriage. Among them, three states (Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh) form a remarkable region in the central-western part of the country, while the states of Punjab and Haryana compose a small region in the north-western part of India. Moreover, Meghalaya and Nagaland states fall under the same grade, situated in the north-eastern part failed to form any contiguous region in the country (Fig. 4). About 50 per cent states have the medium level (32.0 to 20.0 per cent) of rural exodus due to marriage. Out of them, the states of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Goa, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Sikkim, Assam, Tripura form a long contiguous linear region in a south-east direction, extending from the state of Tamil Nadu in the southern part to the state of Assam in the north-eastern part of the country, and the states of Jammu &



Source: Based on Table 3.

**Fig.4**

Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Rajasthan, excluding the state of Rajasthan, make out a notable region in the northern part of India. The remaining seven states viz. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Orissa, Kerala experience the low level (below 20.0 per cent) of rural out migration for marriage. In all these states, two

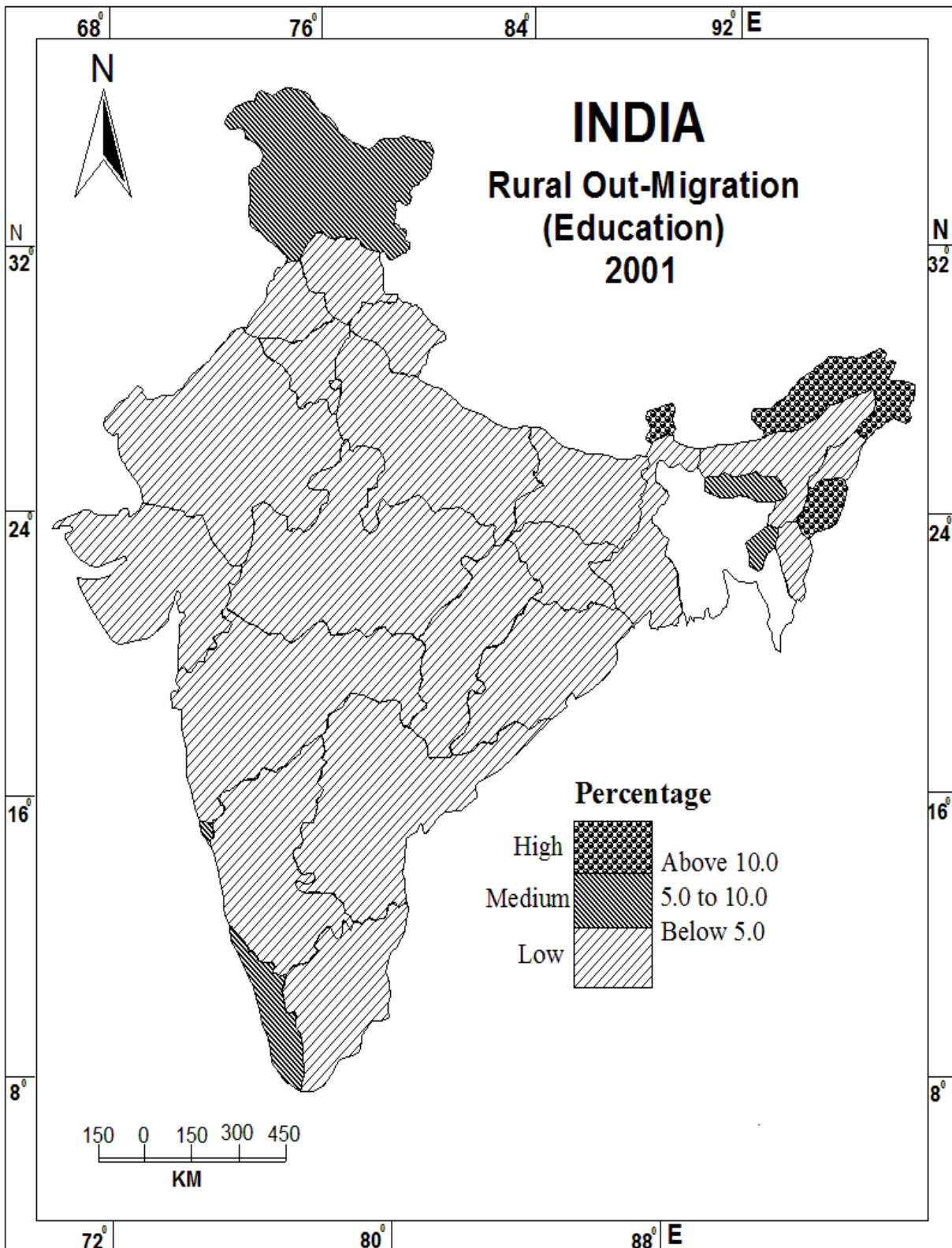


regions can be observed, the first one is extensive contiguous in size and in a longitudinal direction in the north-central part of the country comprising the states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, while, the second identifiable region is formed by the states of Manipur and Mizoram in the north-eastern part of the study area.

Rural out-migration for education is marked with notable regional variations in its distribution among the states of the country (Table 1). The highest percentage (19.62 per cent) is observed in the state of Arunachal Pradesh and the lowest (0.33 per cent) in Uttarakhand state. The state-wise percentage values of rural out migration for education may be arranged into three grades (Table 3).

The Table 3 unfolds out the fact that high rate of rural out-migration for education is witnessed in the states of Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur which are lying in the north-eastern part of the country. However, the states of Jammu & Kashmir, Meghalaya, Tripura, Goa and Kerala ranging over the northern, north-eastern and southern parts have the medium level of rural out-migration in India. Nearly, three-fourth states of the country fall under the low level of rural out-migration and make an out- standing region spreading over the northern, north-western, central, eastern, north-eastern and the whole of peninsular region of the country, excluding the states of Goa and Kerala in the south, Jammu & Kashmir in the north, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura in the north-eastern parts of the country (see fig. 5).





Source: Based on Table 3.

Fig.5



## CONCLUSION

It may be summarized from the above analysis that majority of the rural migrants (62.49 percent) migrated from the rural areas to other states and UTs of the country due to social factors viz., moved with household, marriage, education, moved after birth and other specific factors. The main social factors, which amount to 51.76 per cent of the rural migrant population, are migration with household, marriage and education. The remaining social factors namely migration after birth and various miscellaneous factors are of less importance in volume. However, work/employment accounted for 35.88 percent and the dominant cause of rural out-migration, while, migration for business shares only 1.9 percent of the total rural out-migration in the country.

The study also depicts that there is a wide range of variation in the spatial patterns of rural out-migration for different reasons. The high rate of rural out-migration for employment is witnessed from the central-eastern states and low from the north-eastern states, while, the high rate of rural out-migrants who moved with their households have recorded from the northern states and low from the eastern states of the country. However, western and north-western parts of India reported the high rate of rural out-migration for marriage, whereas, north-eastern states have witnessed the highest percentage of rural out-migration for education purpose.

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