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### **Changing immigration policies and migration flow: Bangladeshi migrants in Hong Kong**

Bangladeshi citizens were allowed ingress into Hong Kong with visa on arrival until December 2006 after which Hong Kong government brought policy changes to restrict Bangladeshis to enter into Hong Kong for whatever purpose. This paper argues that changing immigration policies only redirect potential migrants to new and alternative travel routes to reach their destinations. A total of 27 migrants (10 in police custody and 17 at Tsim Sha Tsui area - who entered after new policy was introduced) were interviewed from June to July 2007. Data show that the flow of illegal migrants from Bangladesh has remained rather intact after the policy changes took place. Therefore, HK immigration has been facing new challenges in combating illegal migrants who sneak into Hong Kong through different routes

(Kunming-Guangzhou-Hong Kong) in PR China. Gradually they approach to HK-China border areas to reach Hong Kong through motorized boats. They obtained Chinese visa producing fake business papers to enter into China with the help of agents who dumped them in HK and disappeared. Majority of them came to stay and work in Hong Kong while a few others wanted to sneak into other countries by using Hong Kong as transit points. All of them knew about the recent policy changes before they moved. The policy changes that were meant to restrict migrants often fail to stop the flow of illegal migrants and have made the migrants more dependent for their migration on recruiting agents than ever before.