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Why Bangladeshi Move to North-East India?

Permanent human migration flow is a significant socio-economic indicator of societal processes, including demographic, environmental and economic. Because so many factors invariably are at work, it is frequently difficult to precisely determine how much population size, growth, or density may contribute to either environmental degradation or international migration. Nevertheless the presence of such factors certainly indicates that North-East India, in particular the states Assam, Tripura, and West Bengal are at high risk of uncontrolled, large-scale and economic and environmental induced migrations flows.

Author of the paper conducted main part of his field research in Bangladesh and India during the March 2008. The research was divided on two fundamental parts, in-depth interviews with experts and field survey at selected rural areas. The interviews were dealing with causes of migration from Bangladesh to North-East India, in particular to Assam. The field survey in climate (environmental) change affected localities in South-West Bangladesh and in migrants' targeted areas in Assam province of North-East India.

Author identified four prime causes of migration from Bangladesh to North-East India, and he confirmed significant role of environmental factors, including climate change in migration processes in Bangladesh. Finally author analysed the selected consequences of immigration flows to North-East India, in particular to Assam, such as recent estimations of the Bangladeshi population in Assam, certain fear about the ethnic future and demographic evolution of the Assam, some environmental impacts such as deforestation, over-grazing and land inaccessibility without any direction to general solution.

The first part of the paper has analytical and synthesized character and predominantly comparative and synthetic techniques were used. The second part of the work uses the complex methodology of field survey and research, including in-depth interviews with a semi-structured and conversational format and open-ended questions.