

Completion Report

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It is a common opinion that the most of illegal migrants from Bangladesh arrived in Japan after April 1989, but most of them had to return home in the early 2000s by tightened policy of Japanese government. Nevertheless, the immigration flow from Bangladesh to Japan is continuing still now. The majority of Bangladeshi immigrants are changed to legally as pre-college students or professionals recently. The plan at the time of application was to conduct a brief questionnaire and semi-structured interview research of Bangladeshis living in Japan and former immigrants who had already returned home. On the basis of localities and stakeholders, random as well as stratified sample was identified. The questions of the researches were designed as follow; general demographic information (i.e., name, age, sex of the family members, occupation, education, religion of respondents), and more specific questions (i.e., socio-cultural adjustments, civic rights, ownership of property, immigration process, contractual obligations for occupation, income/expenditure, sponsorship/protection).

However, the COVID-19 pandemic made all plans unfeasible. Entry into Japan became impossible since the Spring of 2020, and the research targeting Bangladeshis staying in Japan had to be abandoned. In Bangladesh, on the other hand, the pandemic was accompanied by a deterioration in security and a sharp rise in prices. Although transportation disruptions and higher fees forced to scale down of the original research plan, two research assistants were sent to various locations in Bangladesh. However, despite prior approval, most respondents refused to meet with the research assistants for fear of infection.

As described above, it was not able to obtain sufficient findings by unforeseeable obstacles. The fragmentary facts gathered by the two research assistants revealed only the following uncertainties.

80% of respondents as per their response belong to 32 to 35 years age group. 85% respondents replied that they have no savings as they already sent all their savings and incomes to the families in the country through illegal remitters. They said that they also had their Bangladeshi friends giving loan with the promise that to give the money back after they get the employment and salary or give back the amount while they will be back to the country and somehow manage money from families/relatives/money lenders/microcredit organization. To a question about the living in Japan, 65% respondents lived in Tokyo, 10% in Osaka, 5% in Kobe, 10% in Saitama, 5% in Ibaraki and 5% in Nagoya. In terms of the nature of jobs, 70% were working in the restaurant, bar and shops, 20% were in the car/instrument yards and 10% were working in agriculture. About 85% replied they used to live in a house consisting of two to three rooms ten or above persons together. 15% said they shared the room among two to three peoples while they lived in Japan.

Publication of the Results of Research Project:

Verbal Presentation (Date, Venue, Name of Conference, Title of Presentation, Presenter, etc.)

No publications of findings are planned, since the research study has been suspended.

Thesis (Name of Journal and its Date, Title and Author of Thesis, etc.)

No publications of findings are planned, since the research study has been suspended.

Book (Publisher and Date of the Book, Title and Author of the Book, etc.)

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