

# Migrants want to settle in UK

BBC Online

A growing number of migrants coming to Britain from Eastern Europe may be intending to stay, a survey suggests.

More than a third of women and a quarter of men said they wanted to stay, many of whom had changed their minds since arriving in the UK.

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation's report also found that one in four migrants spends no time with British people.

The study, based on interviews in 2002 and after EU enlargement in May 2004, draws on experiences of 600 migrants.

Construction workers, farm labourers and all pairs were among those interviewed about their lifestyles.

## 'Treated as equals'

Researchers spoke to working migrants from Poland, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Lithuania, Ukraine and Bulgaria.

They found 6 percent of those surveyed in October 2002 said they would stay in the UK when they first arrived.

Eighteen months later, of those who remained in the UK, just under a quarter said they would stay permanently.

By the end of 2004, 29 percent of Eastern European migrants said they would stay "for good".

Factors in making a decision included their legal status, income, gender, where their dependents lived, having friends in the UK, and how they were treated, the report said.

Questioned about their experiences in Britain, two-thirds of the sample did not know how to register with a doctor.

Almost half of the migrants had received no information about conditions attached to their immigration status.

Four out of 10 said Britons treated them as equals, but three out of 10 said they did not.

Just one-third had taken English classes and many felt they had only limited contact with British people.

A waitress from the Ukraine said they "do not let you into their circles".

## Facing challenges

BBC home editor Mark Easton said that, while the study provided a glimpse into the world of migrant workers in the UK, it did not show the

true picture as there were no figures showing how many go home.

However, it did highlight the need for the government to look at service provision, integration and learning English, he said.

The foundation's director, Julia Unwin, said the research showed that the government should value migrants as "more than simply an economic resource".

She said ministers "must continue to place importance on ensuring their integration into wider British society, even when their stay is expected to be temporary".

A spokesman for the communities department said he recognised that "both new migrants and more settled communities can face challenges when migration patterns change".

He said a report by the Commission on Integration and Cohesion next month would put forward "practical proposals to encourage better integration".

The commission would encourage measures including employers providing English lessons for their staff, he said.

But the director of research group Civitas, David Green, said some people in the UK were finding it hard to compete with these newcomers.

## CityCell Mother's Day Contest

CityCell hosted the prize giving ceremony of weeklong 'CityCell Mother's Day Contest' at Pacific Centre on May 27, says a press release.

CityCell organised the SMS-based quiz contest to celebrate International Mother's Day.

First prize winner Omar Bin Naser was awarded a pleasure trip of five days and four nights for two to Bangkok. The prize also included air tickets and hotel accommodation with supplementary breakfast. In addition, all his SMS charges for the contest were waived.

Kamruzzaman Belal, the second prize winner, was awarded three days and two nights' stay at a five star hotel in Cox's Bazar for four along with waiver of 50% of his SMS charges.

The third prize winner, Khondokar Shahjalal (Babu), won household shopping coupon worth Tk 20,000 from Agora Super Store. Also, 25% of his SMS charges for the contest were waived.

Ng Hwee Boon, chief marketing officer, and Nithianandan Rajasingham, head of marketing, CityCell, handed over the prizes to the lucky winners.

Hotel Sea Palace, Persona, Agora, Maitra Fashion Café, Rupali Sari and Priyo Super Store were the co-partners of the contest.



Winners of 'CityCell Mother's Day Contest' pose for photograph with the guests at the prize giving ceremony at Pacific Centre in the city recently.

PHOTO: STAR

Upazila Project Implementation Committee (UPIC) of Palash takes out a procession marking the Safe Motherhood Day at Narsingdi on Monday.

## Safe Motherhood Day observed in Narsingdi

DU CORRESPONDENT

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Japan International Cooperation Agency (Jica) jointly observed the Safe Motherhood Day with various programmes in Narsingdi on Monday.

Discussions, sports and cultural programmes were held at six upazilas of the district under the project 'Safe Motherhood Promotion Project' with a view to raising awareness about how the maternity mortality rate and child mortality rate can be reduced.

Deputy commissioner, civil surgeon, family planning officer, Upazila Nirbahi Officers and local government officials took part in a procession at Sadar upazila. Later, a discussion was also held, with the deputy commissioner in the chair.

A discussion and pregnant women's health check-up programme were held at Daulatpur in Manohardi upazila.

The organisers also distributed clay pots, in which coins or money is saved, among pregnant women. Union Parishad Chairman Ehsanul Haque Sharif said they donated the pots so that they can save money to use it during delivery.

Addressing the discussion, Chief Adviser Yukie Yoshimura advised pregnant women to take all necessary preparations for safe delivery.

The four-year 'Safe Motherhood Promotion Project' is being implemented with the technical and financial assistance of Jica. The project started in June

## Master manipulator of state power

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political parties, contributing to the rise of recent confrontational political environment in the country, said competent sources in various law enforcement agencies. Till August 31, 2006 the police arrested as many as 1,23,566 political activists most of whom were implicated in various false cases, the sources said.

The role played by Babar changed the direction of the investigation of the fatal August 21, 2004 bomb attack on an Awami League rally in the capital, intelligence sources said.

Although the 2004 attack had been marked as one of the biggest terror attacks on a political party leaving 23 persons including senior AL leaders killed and 300 others injured, the police made no progress in the investigation. Then on August 2006, the police came up with a so-called confession of one Judge Mia stating that a group of ordinary criminals had orchestrated the attack. Since then, the investigation has died down. It was subsequently reported in the media that behind the scene the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of police was subsidising the regular expenses of Judge Mia's family, the sources said.

Babar also played a questionable role in the investigation of the biggest ever incident of arms smuggling in the country, the sources added. In April 2004 10 truck loads of arms and ammunition were intercepted by law enforcers while being smuggled. The investigators never made any progress as Babar

reportedly made the police file a 'simpler case'. Investigators were never asked to find out who had been involved in the smuggling and where the cache was being taken to -- rather Babar directly discouraged the law enforcers from proceeding with the investigation, according to police officials involved in the case.

Babar also allegedly silenced the Bogra arms haul case. Although a huge cache of bullets and explosives was recovered from a truck in Bogra, investigation regarding the haul stalled within a few months with some significant arrests.

He also played a significant role in the rise of executed Jamaat-e-Islami Bangladesh (JIB) leader Bangla Bhai in North Bengal in 2004, intelligence sources said. While the media was reporting about the atrocities of Bangla Bhai, Babar denied the existence of Islamist militants to the media. The then police super of Rajshahi, Masud Mia, was openly cooperating with Bangla Bhai in his killing missions. The other police officer who sheltered Bangla Bhai -- the then deputy inspector of Rajshahi police Nur Mohammad -- was promoted to the position of an additional inspector general superceding officers senior to him.

During his five years in the home ministry, Babar spearheaded purchase of motor vehicles worth a few thousand crores of taka for Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) and the ministry sources said.

Police sources said Babar made sure that only he took the deci-

sions regarding transfers and

postings in the police department for the levels from constables to high officials. And that control helped him to institutionalise partisanship at all levels of the police department.

In June 2006, 700 constables were made assistant sub-inspectors and each of them paid bribes of Tk 1.5 lakh to Tk 2 lakh, the sources said. Bribes were also taken from police officers interested in joining the UN peace keeping missions, added the sources.

Babar also unduly modified the training courses for police officers, claimed the sources. A one-year training course for assistant superintendents of police (ASP) was slashed down to nine months and another one-year training course for sub-inspectors was reduced to six months, the sources said.

The sources also alleged that Babar influenced the Public Service Commission (PSC) to recruit 200 ASPs whose only qualification was that they were involved in the politics of the ruling party of the time. Again, those ASPs also allegedly had to pay bribes to get the jobs.

While revamping the police department by changing their uniforms, Babar dropped a boat from the police monogram which the department had inherited from the colonial British Raj, the police sources said. The move was viewed by many as a manifestation of deep anti-Awami League sentiment of Babar.

trying to escape during the "shoot-out". He died on the spot.

Police recovered a locally made revolver and two bullets from the spot. Moyeen's cohorts managed to escape.

According to police, Moyeen was accused in 12 criminal cases including two murder cases filed with Kushhtia Sadar and Kumarkhal police stations.

On Monday, locals foiled Hamidul-Rashidul Bahini's attempt to kill the convenor of "Santrash Protirodh Committee", an anti-crime body, Zahidul Islam at Cheria in Kumarkhal upazila and captured two other cadres of the gang-- Mizbar, 20, and Sumon, 23. Locals also ransacked at least 20 houses belonging to the gang members.

Police recovered a double-barrel gun and five bombs from the criminals.

According to police, 18 cadres of the gang have been killed in different incidents including "crossfire" and infighting between gangs. Four police personnel were killed in gun battles with the gangs in 2003.

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