Bangladesh: The validity of personal documents belonging to citizens of Bangladesh and the impartiality of the legal system in Bangladesh

Research Directorate, Immigration and Refugee Board, Ottawa

No comprehensive study on the validity of personal documents belonging to citizens of Bangladesh could be found among the sources consulted by the Research Directorate within the time constraints for this Response.

Nevertheless, according to a confidential report of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) obtained in 2001 by the Toronto *The Globe and Mail* newspaper, "the smuggling of migrants is so lucrative that rival criminal gangs are setting aside their differences to share safe houses, illegal travel documents and means of spiriting people into [Canada]" (*The Globe and Mail* 8 Jan. 2001). Criminal gangs in Bangladesh are apparently involved in this kind of trafficking, which police estimate generates CDN$10 billion a year in profits (ibid.).

No information on how often innocent persons are convicted because of corruption within the legal system in Bangladesh could be found among the sources consulted by the Research Directorate within the time constraints for this Response.

The attached documents, however, give an overview of how the legal system in Bangladesh functions.

This Response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Research Directorate within time constraints. This Response is not, and does not purport to be, conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum. Please find below the list of additional sources consulted in researching this Information Request.

**Reference**


**Additional Sources Consulted**

**Internet sites, including:**
Amnesty International
European Country of Origin Information Network (ECOI.net)
Human Rights Watch (HRW)
International Organized Crime
Nathanson Centre for the Study of Organized Crime
Transparency International
World News Connection (WNC)

Attachments


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