

# **The trend of political participation of internal migrated people: A case study in Northern Part of Bangladesh.**

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## **Abstract:**

*The paper examines the internal migration patterns of people and their political participation that move to Rangpur city, Bangladesh, from different district either on their own or with their families. There are many forms of political participation. Such as giving vote, participate in campaigning, participate in political committee, participate in different decision making etc. This study was concern about thus political participation of migrants. Te main objectives of present study were to find out the political condition of internally migrated people compared to the local people. The findings of this work show that the factors and impact of migration on their livelihood and political condition. It was also finding out their previous status and political participation which they were done before migration. The political participation has many determinants such as demographic factors like age, education, occupation etc, and socio-political factors such as voting , take part in political committee, take part in campaign, take part as a candidate etc which had strong effect on decision of political participation specially explored through this study the relationship of political participation with the socio-politico determinants. As survey area I have selected Rangpur sader upazila .To know about the political participation of internal migrated people a sample of 150 respondents were selected randomly from this area. Mainly this research is qualitative but to make the research more explicit the quantitative method also used. And the interview was taken through open-ended and close-ended question. Some assumptions have been taken on the basis of research objectives. In this paper firstly represents the title of the research, objectives of this research, research problem, rationality of this study, review of literature. Secondly represents literature review. Thirdly represents methodology, fourthly represents some important concept and their discussion related with research title and fifth chapter represents main findings and discussion on the basis of field survey. And finally I concluded the whole discussion with some important recommendations. After analyzing data it is proved that migrated people are not conscious or interested about their political participation without just voting. Because most of the migrants busy with their livelihood crisis and they have no enough time or interest about political participation..*

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## **I. Introduction:**

While international migration has obtained more attention in recent discussion on migration, internal migration is also more significant in terms of the numbers of people involved and likely even the amount of remittances and poverty reduction potential of these.

Migration is an important livelihood strategy for many poor groups across the world. While it is no cureall for the poor it can bring many benefits and this is being received in some policy and research circles. Bangladesh is a small and densely populated country in south Asia. The population growth rate is 1.37 percent per year. Population density is 1,090 per sq km (Bangladesh Population Census, 2018). People live below the poverty line is 12.9% at the national level, 14.9% and 7.6% at rural and urban level respectively according to the income and expenditure survey-2016 CBN method of poverty measurement (Bangladesh Economic Review, 2018). Islam (2015) mentioned that the estimated number of internal migrants is 740 million, around a billion people and roughly one in seventh of the world's population is migrant (World Migration Report 2011). In Bangladesh, surplus migration flows to major cities have alarmed observers. Internal migration particularly rural to urban migration is rising in Bangladesh, although seasonal migration in bow period is also dominant from more disadvantaged rural areas to more developed rural areas in the country.

The aim of this paper is to provide a qualitative overview, as well as to present some research

perspectives to be explored in the future. Even though we need to know about the migrants' political activities, some gaps remain in the literature to which new re-search perspectives might correspond. Finally, the concluding policy-oriented part addresses the issue of how to evaluate and assess the political participation of immigrants.

## **II. Objectives:**

**General Objective:** The general objective of the study is to examine the political participation of internal migrated people and causes and consequences of internal migrated people of Rangpur sadar.

**Specific Objectives:** In the light of this general objective the following specific objectives are drawn to lead the study problem:

- ❖ To evaluate the political participation of internal migrated people
- ❖ To examine the merits and demerits of internal migration
- ❖ To show the difference between trends of political participation between internal migrated people and local people.

## **III. Literature Review**

Literature review is very important in any research work to find out the exists knowledge or to explore the new knowledge comparing with the exists one. It is also helpful to formulate the theories, hypothesis, testing, generalization and data analysis. Previous research document like different types of books, journals, essays, helps the researcher to establish the importance of the study. As a result we also reviewed some books, articles, journals, thesis papers and essays related with my thesis title which will help me to understand about my research.

**Farhana, K., Rahman, S. A., & Rahman, M. (2012). Factors of Migration in Urban Bangladesh: An Empirical Study of Poor Migrants in Rahshahi City. Available at SSRN 2517201.**

They discussed about the rural-urban migration in Bangladesh. It is found that the cause of migration is mainly driven by economic as well as social factors, Unemployment, poverty, political and ethnic conflicts, religious etc. In the process of migration the push factors are more active then pull factors, poverty and unemployment problem forced the poor villagers to change their shelter to the cities. After migration a large number of people capable to improved their livelihoods in the city. Though we know that the poor migrants have a huge number of contribution on the economic growth.

**Srivastava, R., & Pandey, A. K. (2017). Internal and international migration in South Asia: Drivers, interlinkage and policy issues. United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), 1-62.**

Many migrants move within countries and beyond international borders. In this paper they try to show that this migration affects not only the lives of migrants, but also the prospects for development and growth of maritime and reception areas. The drivers of internal and international migration are similar: lack of opportunities appropriate to the origin or availability of better opportunities at destination. However, the differences between international and internal migrants should not be exaggerated and there are convincing arguments as to why developing countries should pay enough attention to internal and international migrants. This article analyzes the features and drivers of international and internal migration in the south approach and policy framework for migration.

**Deshingkar, P. (2006). Internal migration, poverty and development in Asia: Including the excluded.**

She tries to explain that internal migration has a greater possibility for poverty reduction, though it meets the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and contributes to economic growth in developing countries likened to international migration. The central discussion of this article is that the possible benefits of internal migration are not fully acquired due to inadequate understanding of migration patterns (especially temporary and circular migration), continuous political barriers to population movement, middle-class urban attitudes, social exclusion on the basis of ethnicity, caste, tribe and gender and poor application of legislation to protect the rights of the poor. The document begins with a discussion of the reasons for recent increases in internal migration.

**Alam, M. S., & Islam, M. S. (2014). Determinants of Male Internal Migration in Bangladesh: Is Due to Services Matter? *education*, 5(7).**

They discuss that migration is a common process in which people move from rural to urban areas to obtain better livelihoods. The objective of this study is to explore the factors of migration from rural to urban areas in Bangladesh. A cross-sectional study was conducted at Sylhet City Corporation and 120 migrants were

selected through a two-stage cluster sampling technique. The results show that the level of education is positively associated with male migration due to services. The results also show that income, employment prior to migration, family types also influence the cause of migration due to services.

**Mallick, B. (2014). Cyclone-induced migration in southwest coastal Bangladesh. *ASIEN*, 130, 60-81.**

This research investigates the relationship between disasters, migration and the consequent social change on the coast of Bangladesh. Migration is understood here in the context after Cyclone Sidr 2007 and Cyclone Aila as a temporary or even permanent migration of at least one member of the family in search of better economic opportunities. The results of this work are based on field surveys guided in 2009 and 2010 with 1,555 respondents from 48 villages on the southwestern coast of Bangladesh and further qualitative interviews. The results show that after the gradual elimination of emergency aid, male members of a significant number of families started moving to neighboring cities.

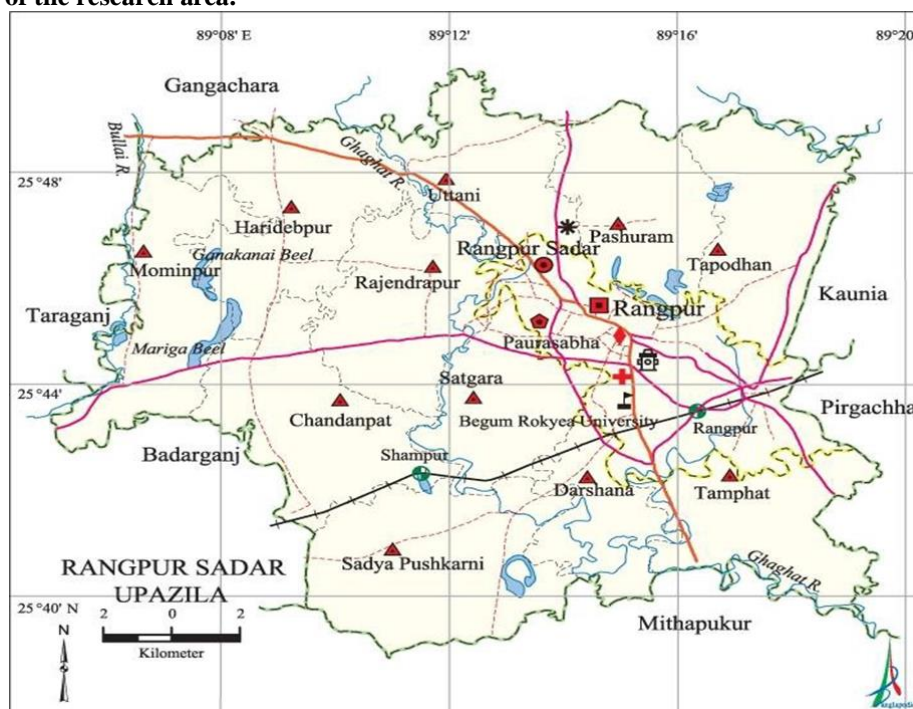
**Islam, M. (2015). *Causes and consequences of rural-urban migration: A study of migrant street vendors in Dhaka city*(Doctoral dissertation, University of Dhaka).**

He show that in developing countries like Bangladesh, rural-urban migration influences development in both urban and rural areas. Therefore, this study focuses on defining the main causes and consequences of the movement of people from rural to urban areas. The study focused more on the analysis of the main migration factors in Dhaka; the characteristics of migrants; the challenges facing destiny and the positive and negative aspects of their migration. This study revealed that, as one of the most important informal sectors, street sales activities in Dhaka are increasing as the rate of migration from rural to urban increases. The study also revealed that immigrants arrived in Dhaka in search of work and to use urban services and education. This study has also shown that street sales are becoming a good opportunity for rural poor to earn a living in urban areas, which is better than their rural life.

#### IV. Research Methodology

Methodology is an important part of any research. To make a research highly efficient a good methodology is badly needed. So I have also followed a methodology to make this research more competent. The design and method used for this study are.....

##### Description of the research area:



Source: Banglapedia

The present study has selected a Union which is called Rangpur Sader. Rangpur sader is a thana in Rangpur district. It is assumed that Rangpur sader represents most of the upazila of Bangladesh and what is true

about rangpur sader is likely to be true about other upazila of the country. In this context, this chapter has attempted to describe the demographical and geo-political structure of the upazila under study as presented below:

**Geographical location:**

Rangpur Sader is 25.7583 ° N 89.2333 ° E. It has 89651 houses and a total area of 330.33 km<sup>2</sup>. The paddles of Rangpur Sader are Dhaap, Kamal Kasna, Robertsonganj, Mondolpara, Kuthirpara, Bahar Kasna, Munshipara, Mulatole Pada, Keranipara, Gomostapara, New Engineer Pada, Kotkipara, Deudoba Dangirpara, Palapara (Pakpara), Lalbagh, etc.

Source: Banglapedia

**Population:**

The total Population of Rangpur sader is 600240. The number of male is 313102, and the number of female is 287120. Among them Muslim 541607, Hindu 57867, Buddhist 264, Christian 83 and others 419. Indigenous communities like SANTAL and ORAON belong to this upazila. It has been noticed that the upper class people of rangpur sader are more educated and politically more conscious than the lower class people. Because the lower class people are always busy with their survival issues.

Source: Banglapedia

**Sources of data:**

In this research data and information are mainly collected from the primary source namely, through field survey in the Rangpur sader upazila, Rangpur. Where primary data could not be obtained, secondary data such as books, journals, newspaper reports, articles (published and unpublished) had been studied with care of develop possible explanation. Primary data are collected on the basis of field survey from different union of Rangpur sader upazila through a set of standard questionnaire. Because migrated people live in different place in Rangpur sader upazila; as like Arsad nagar (28 No word). And the questionnaire was both open ended and close ended and was pretested in the field before the finalization. From the respondents observation method was also used in this research.

**Data collection process:**

The present study is empirical in nature. Qualitative and quantitative both approaches were applied to collect the data based study in accordance with aims and objectives. Quantitative data were being collected in the mode of face to face interviews. Each interview lasted for about 30-40 minutes.

**Sampling: Study Design and sample Design:**

The data collected by using multi stage survey design. The number of sample will vary depending on targeted groups. This study will focus on providing what, where, how and when through different sources of information. This research was conducted over six months and the primary research instrument was structured questionnaire administered to 150 numbers of respondents. Respondent were selected randomly from Rangpur sader upazila, Rangpur.

**Table 1: The Percentage Distribution of the respondents by Age:**

Age of the respondent	Number of the respondents	Percentage
20-30	24	16.0%
31-40	71	47.3%
41-50	35	23.3%
Above 50	20	13.3%
Total	150	100.0%

Source: Field survey

Table 1 explain that out of total 150 respondents, 48% belongs to 31-40 age groups, while a lower percentage 13% belongs to the age group above 50 respectively. The other percentages of the respondents are 16% and 23% who are the 20-30 and 41-50 year olds.

**Table 2: The Percentage Distribution of the respondents by Gender:**

Gender of the respondent	Number of the respondents	Percentage
Male	115	76.7%
Female	35	23.3%
Total	150	100.0%

Source: Field survey

Table 2 shows that out of the total 150 respondents, 77% (115) respondents belongs to the male and 23%(35) respondents belongs to the female.

**Table 3: The Percentage Distribution of the respondents by Education:**

Educational qualification	Number of respondents	Percentage
Illiterate	49	32.7%
Primary	38	25.3%
SSC	17	11.3%
HSC	8	5.3%
Graduate	26	17.3%
Post graduate	12	8.0%
Total	150	100.0%

Source: Field survey

Table 3 explain that out of total respondents, 32.70 % (49) respondents belongs to the illiterate level, 25.30% (38) respondents belongs to primary level, 11.3%(17) respondents belongs to SSC level,5.30%(8) respondents belongs to the HSC level, 17.30%(26) respondents belongs to the graduate level, and 8%(12) respondents belongs to the post graduate level.

**Variable Specification:**

**Dependent Variable:**

In this paper political participation of migrated people is considered as the dependent variable. Specially the political participation is very much dependent on demographic determinants of internal migrated people such as age, income, occupation and socio-political determinants such as give vote, take part in political committee, take part in decision making etc.

**Independent Variable:**

The demographic determinants and socio-political determinants of internal migrated people are the independent variable as the political participation of internal migrated people depends on these.

**Assumptions:**

We need to take some assumptions to make this research an organized, scientific and systematic one and the process of collecting and analyzing primary data and information, discussion and interviews with people and some referential published research works have been helpful in this regard. Thus assumptions have been examined and tried on verification throughout this entire research work.

- a) There are some causes and consequence behind internal migration.
- b) The internal migrated people in Rangpur sader are not conscious and interested enough like the local people in participating local political activities.

**Theoretical Framework**

In this research I have to investigate the trend of political participation of internal migrated people in Rangpur sader. To complete a thesis, theoretical discussion has very significant. For that reason, in this chapter I have defined and explain some important concepts which are closely related with research title.

**Meaning of Political Participation:**

Political participation simply means that a person participates in the political process by making his or her opinions and beliefs known. In the social sciences, the term "political participation" is often used to describe an action taken by a citizen to influence the outcome of a political problem.

**Types of political participation:**

There are many different forms of political participation and, whether you know it or not, you've

probably participated in some of them at different times in your life. There are some common forms of political participation: such as

- Voting,
- Protest,
- Public advice,
- Duty of the jury etc.

#### **Factors of internal Migration in Bangladesh:**

Migration factors are characterized by two main categories: one is Pull and the other is Push. According to Braun (2004), people tend to be dragged into areas of prosperity and expelled from areas in decline. In reality, migration is the combined effect of push factors and attraction. Within the Push-Pull model, the push factors are operative in the rural extreme, while the traction factors are operative in the urban destination. Push factors push people towards cities and attraction factors attract them. Urban distortion is responsible for rural-urban migration (Haan, 1999). Rural-urban migration is a multi causal phenomenon.

**In this paper we find various factors of migration in urban areas. These are:**

#### **Natural Factors:**

##### **Monga (lean economic condition / seasonal food insecurity):**

Monga is the classic "push" that affects millions of people, especially in the northern part of Bangladesh. It is a type of food and labor shortage in one season, especially in Nelphamary, Kurigram and Dinajpur region. The manifestation of the phenomenon called monga is food and nutritional insecurity. Achieving sufficient nutritional status depends on the three factors of availability, accessibility and use of food. Availability is the physical existence of food. Agriculture in the Monga region is mainly based on rice cultivation. Therefore, job opportunities for farm laborers depend mainly on seasonal labor requirements for this crop. Access is sometimes even more limited because the prices of basic foodstuffs often increase during the monga (Zug, 2006). So, to survive, they migrated to the city of Rangpur in search of life.

#### **Other factors:**

It has also been discovered that 3% of poor migrants come from natural storms and other natural factors.

### **V. Findings and Analysis:**

This chapter presents the result of field survey. The collected data from field survey about the trend of political participation of internal migrated people in Rangpur sader is presented and analyzed in this chapter through MS-Excel and MS-word. To present the data which is collected from field survey I also used table and charts.

#### **The birth place of the respondents:**

The information about the birth place or where they were from among the total 150 respondents are shown in the following table on the basis of field survey.

**Table 4 : Percentage distribution of birth place of the respondents**

Birth place of respondents	Number of the respondents	Percentage
Gaibandha	17	11.3%
kurigram	15	10.0%
Lalmonirhat	11	7.3%
Thakurgaon	9	6.0%
Bogura	34	22.7%
Jamalpur	16	10.7%
Maimansingha	8	5.3%
Noakhali	12	8.0%
comilla	10	6.7%
Dhaka	18	12.0%
Total	150	100.0%

[Source: Field survey]

Table 4 show that among the total 150 respondents, 12% respondents belongs to Gaibandha district, 10% respondents come from Kurigram district, 8% respondents come from Lalmoirhat district, 6% respondents come from Thakurgaon district, 23% respondents come from Bogura district, 10% respondents come from

Jamalpur district, 6% respondents come from Maimansigha district, 8% respondents come from Noakhali district, 6% respondents come from Comilla district, 12% respondents come from Dhaka district. From this table it is proved that there are many people live in Rangpur sadar whom were migrated from different district of Bangladesh. And they lived scattered in different place in Rangpur sadar.

**Opinion about living today in Rangpur**

The migrant people or respondents told their opinion about living in Rangpur today. And what they said about living today in Rangpur which opinion the following table presents that in percentage:

**Table 5 : Percentage distribution of Opinion about living today in Rangpur :**

Opinion of respondents	Number of the respondents	Percentage
Positive(migrant life is easy in Rangpur)	64	42.7%
Negative(migrant life is not easy in Rangpur)	53	35.3%
Ordinary(Both positive and negative)	20	13.3%
No comment	13	8.7%
Total	150	100.0%

[Source: Field survey]

**Chart 1 : Percentage distribution of Opinion about living today in Rangpur :**

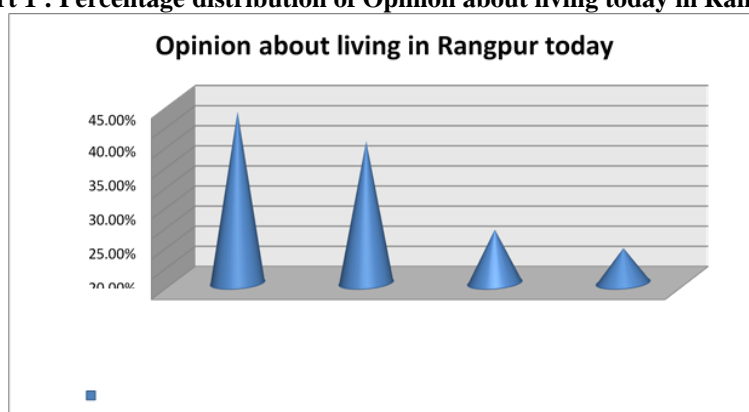


Chart 1 shows that among the total 150 respondents, 42.70 % (64) respondents said that today migrants life is easy in Rangpur ,35.30%(53) respondents said that today migrants life is not easy in Rangpur ,13.30%(20) respondents belongs to the ordinary(both positive and negative) group and 8.70%9 (13) respondents belongs to the no comment group. That means 42.70% people said that the living condition is easy in Rangpur today but 35.30% respondents said opposite and the told that migrants life is not easy in Rangpur today.

**When migrants came to Rangpur**

The migrant people came to Rangpur to live permanently for different reason. When they came to Rangpur to live permanently which percentage present following table:

**Table 6 : Percentage distribution of when migrant came to Rangpur:**

when did respondents came to Rangpur	Number of the respondents	Percentage
6 month ago	9	6.0%
1 year ago	14	9.3%
2-3 years ago	3	2.0%
3-4 years ago	17	11.3%
5-10 years ago	50	33.3%
more than 10	57	38.0%
Total	150	100.0%

[Source: Field survey]

Table 6 demonstrate that among the total 150 respondents,6%(9) respondents came to Rangpur 6 month ago,9.30%(14) respondents came to Rangpur 1 year ago, 2%(3) respondents came to Rangpur 2-3 years ago, 11.30%(17) respondents came to Rangpur 3-4 years ago, 33.30%(50) respondents came to Rangpur 5-10 years ago and 38%(57) respondents came to Rangpur more than years ago.

**Difficulties of migrants after immediately arrived in Rangpur**

Migrant people facing some difficulties after immediately arrived in Rangpur. They told about their difficulties which percentages are presented in following table:

**Table 7: Percentage distribution of difficulties of migrants after immediately arrived in Rangpur**

Main difficulties of respondents	Number of the respondents	Percentage
Financial problems	97	64.7%
Food and related consumer items	13	8.7%
Inability to obtain job	30	20.0%
Cultural difference	10	6.7%
Total	150	100.0%

[Source: Field survey]

**Chart 2: Percentage distribution of difficulties of migrants after immediately arrived in Rangpur**

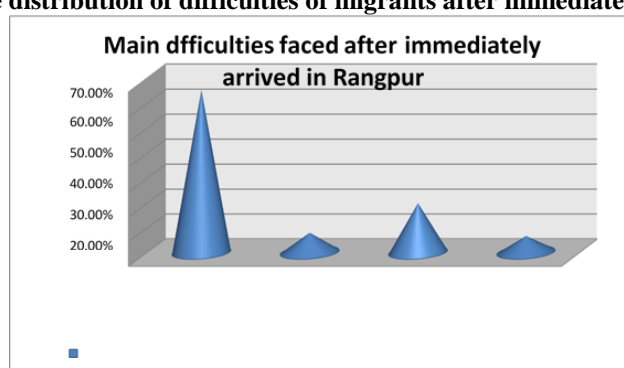


Chart 2 shows that among the total 150 respondents, 65.30% (97) respondents facing financial problems after immediately arrived at Rangpur, 8%(13) respondents told about food and related consumer items problems,20%(30) respondents told that they could not obtain job and 6.70%(10) respondents told that they facing cultural problems after immediately arrived in Rangpur.

**Main reason to come Rangpur**

The migrant people came to Rangpur for many reasons. The opinions of respondents about main reasons why they move to Rangpur are presented in following percentage in a table:

**Table 8: Percentage distribution of why they came to Rangpur**

Reason to come Rangpur	Number of the respondents	Percentage
Seek employment	99	66.0%
To join immediate relatives and friends or following them	18	12.0%
To get better life	14	9.3%
To open up or extended personal business	10	6.7%
To seek good climate	9	6.0%
Total	150	100.0%

[Source: Field survey]



**Chart 3: Percentage distribution of why they came to Rangpur**

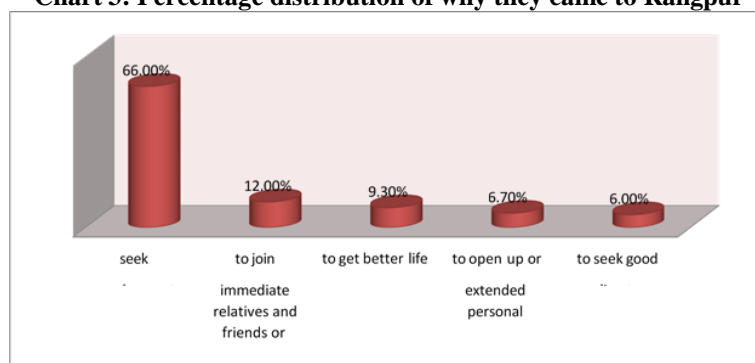


Chart 3 shows that among the total 150 respondents, 66% (99) respondents told that they came to Rangpur to obtain job or seek employment, 12% (18) respondents told that they came to Rangpur to join their relatives and friends, 9.30% (14) respondents told that they came to Rangpur to seek or get better life, 6.70% (10) respondents told that they came to Rangpur to open up or extended personal business and 6% (9) respondents said that they came to Rangpur to seek good climate .

#### Number of voter and Non-voter

The number of voters and non-voters among the total 150 respondents are shown in the following table on the basis of field survey.

**Table 9: Percentage distributions of the number of voters and non-voters**

Answer of respondents	Number of the respondents	Percentage
yes	141	94.0%
no	9	6.0%
Total	150	100.0%

[Source: Field survey]

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