The Indispensable Work and the Invisible Workers: undocumented Bangladeshi women immigrants in the Indian informal economy

Department of International Development

Can undocumented migrant women be empowered by working in the informal economy? While academia and politics in global north have brought the nature and trends of undocumented migration to the fore. The world's ffth biggest migration corridor, Bangladesh-India continues to be marred with invisibility.

The limited studies on the undocumented women in this channel has created an overwhelming imagery of vulnerability and exploitation, void of any academic representation of their lived realities. Leaving behind the simplistic framework of vulnerability, this study brings forth the complex realities faced by undocumented Bangladeshi migrant women in the Indian informal economy as domestic help and rag-pickers.

To bring forth the bargaining strategies used by this group, this research comprised of ethnographic feldwork b