

Appendix- III
RESPONDENTS-GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

Table 1 - The historical background and significant of border *hats* in Khasi-Jaintia and Garo Hills:

Respondents	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
No response	1	14.3	14.3	14.3
Yes	4	57.1	57.1	57.1
No	2	28.6	28.6	28.6
Total	7	100	100	100

The above table indicates the information about border *hats* from historical perspective. It shows that 57.1% of the respondents have heard about the historical background and the significance of border *hats* where as 28.6% did not know about its historical significance and 14.3% of the respondents did not responded to the question. Therefore one can be observed from the table above that almost 60% of the respondents are aware of the historical background and the importance of border *hats* for the people living in Khasi-Jaintia and Garo Hills.

Table 2 -The numbers of Vendors/Sellers in the border *hats* is fixed or not:

Respondents	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
No respond	2	28.6	28.6	28.6
Yes	5	71.4	71.4	71.4
No	0	.0	0	.0
Total	7	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table: 2 above shows that 71.4% of the respondents responded that the number of sellers/vendors that are allowed to trade in the border *hat* is fixed where as 28.6 of the respondents are not responded to the question asked for. This shows that the numbers of vendors/sellers allowed to trade in the border *hats* is not yet increased since the time of inauguration of border *hat* in 2010.

Table 3 - Future Plan to increase the number of vendors/sellers:

Response	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
No answer	2	28.6	28.6	28.6
Yes	4	57.1	57.1	57.1
No	1	14.3	14.3	14.3
Total	7	100.0	100.0	100.0

The above table shows that 57.1% of the respondents are of the view that in the years to come there is the need to increase the numbers of sellers/vendors in the border *hats* where as 28.6% of the respondents are not responded to the question asked for and 14.3% responded that there is no need to increase the numbers of vendors/sellers in the border *hat*. However it can be observed from the above that the majority of the respondents felt the necessity to increase the numbers of vendors/sellers. At present only 25 vendors/sellers from each country (i.e. 50 vendors form both India and Bangladesh) are allowed to in trade in the border *hat*.

Table 4 – The Border *Hat* and the improvement in the economy of the people living in border areas of both India and Bangladesh:

Respondents	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
No response	1	14.3	14.3	14.3
Yes	5	71.4	71.4	71.4
Not much	1	14.3	14.3	14.3
Total	7	100.0	100.0	100.0

The above table shows about the importance of border *hat* in improving the economy of border areas of both the two countries – India and Bangladesh as a result of opening of border *hats* and trade. The table above shows that 71.4% of the respondents are of the view that the economy of border areas of both India and Bangladesh has improved due to opening of border for trade and commerce through border *hat* whereas 14.3% is of the view that the contribution of trade through border *hat* to the economy is very less. While 14.3% or one respondent did answered to the question asked for. However one can made an observation from the study that trade transactions in the

border *hat* has helped to improve and up lift the economic conditions of the people living in border areas of both the two countries-India and Bangladesh.

Table 5 – The closer bilateral relations between India and Bangladesh:

Respondents	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage
Yes	6	85.7	85.0
No	1	14.7	14.00
Total	7	100.0	100.0

The above table indicates that the closer bilateral relations between India and Bangladesh have enhanced the economic cooperation. Out of 100% of respondents, 85.7% answered that there are closer bilateral relations between India and Bangladesh whereas 14.7% respondent answered negative way. From the table above it reveals that the respondents are optimistic about the cordial relations between the two countries which enable to open their borders for trade and commerce.

Table 6 - The contact of the officials of border *hats* management between India and Bangladesh:

Respondents	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
No response	3	42.9	42.9
Yes	4	57.1	57.1
Total	7	100.0	100.0

The above table indicates about the contact and cooperation between the officials of border *hat* managements of India with the counter parts of Bangladesh. The

figure above also indicates that 57.1 % of the respondents answered about the frequent contact between the officials of border *hats* managements of both the two countries-India and Bangladesh.

Table 7- The constraints to open more border *hats* along the international border between India and Bangladesh:

Respondents	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Yes	7	100.0	100.0	100.0

The above table highlights that all the respondents feel that there are many constraints to open more border *hats* and revive all the traditional border *hats* along Indo-Bangladesh border particularly in Meghalaya sector. Though opening of border *hats* enable the people of frontiers regions to earn their livelihood and also economic conditions has improved and their traditional horticultural produce such pan; betel nut, orange etc can be traded within their nearby markets. Some of the constraints which act as hurdles include immigration problems, trade imbalance between the two countries, border disputes, sharing of waters etc.

Table 8 - Look East Policy (Act East Policy) and its influence on border *hats*:

Respondents	Frequency	Percentage	Valid Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Yes	5	71.4	71.4	71.4
No	2	28.6	28.6	28.6
Total	7	100.0	100.0	100.0

The above table shows that Look East Policy (now Act East Policy) has influenced the issue and prospect of revival of traditional border *hats* along the Indo-Bangladesh border. Look East Policy of the Government of India initiated in 1991 aims to forge closer relations with South East Asian countries, ASEAN including Bangladesh. One observation can be made from the table above that 71.4% of the respondents felt that Look East Policy has helped for the opening of border *hats* where as 28.6% of the respondents answered that Look East policy has nothing to do with border *hat*.