



DEMOLITION OF IRREGULAR URBAN SETTLEMENTS IN DHAKA CITY AND ITS FUTURE MANAGEMENT

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Abstract

The largest metropolis in Bangladesh, Dhaka is home to a large number of facilities and a large number of people that travel here daily for employment. These people reside in impromptu colonies or slums and are primarily from rural areas. Rural poverty and natural catastrophes are driving the present situation of urban migration, moveable people on the streets start living on the roadside, on the Rail track and bus stop, and in any other purchasable locations including empty buildings. Numerous unauthorized constructions have been established as a result of the large underprivileged population. Rural poverty and natural catastrophes are driving the present situation of urban migration, forcing people to shift to Dhaka in pursuit of employment. These moveable people on the streets start living on the roadside, on the Rail track and bus stop, and in any other purchasable locations including empty buildings. Numerous unauthorized constructions have been established as a result of the large underprivileged population. Aside from that, multiple political stakeholders have established several different illegal constructions throughout the city. These illegal settlements are demolished by authorities' force evictions, which is a regular phenomenon in Bangladesh. This study aims to assess the future management of demolishing irregular settlements in Dhaka and the effects of dismantling unauthorized colonies. By far, this study adds the criteria that are crucial in determining the impact of tearing down multiple illegal structures on government land in Dhaka. This study will be a contribution to the field of research, enabling academics to educate about the challenges posed by unauthorized immigrants in slums in developing countries and prospective management strategies for the expulsion of illegal settlements.

Keywords: Irregular settlements, forced eviction, future management, co-production, housing

Introduction

This study focuses on examining the range of risks conducted by eviction that affects slum dwellers to address the management policies for future building resilience of the urban poor who dwell in the prevalent slums of the city due to the high migration of people from rural areas, which is a major cause of irregular settlements in Dhaka city. Dhaka, a 400-year-old city, has a colorful history. The growth of Bangladesh is centered in this

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city. Due to overpopulation, it has lost its elegance over time. High urban land prices in emerging countries like Bangladesh have made housing out of range for those with middle-income and poor due to the fast-increasing population followed by greater migration to urban areas (Brennan & Richardson, 1989b, pp. 117–129). According to the 1991 population census, the urban population grew at a 6.2% annual rate between 1981 and 1990. At the current rate of urbanization, roughly one-third of the population will be living in cities by 2010. Dhaka has a population of about 22.5 million people now (Dhaka Population, 2022). Dhaka is experiencing a severe housing shortage as a result of limited resources, high construction standards, and high land value. The government built 35,000 rental units in the city center in 1980. 28% of the middle class occupy 65% of the residential areas, while the remaining 70%, which constitutes the poor, have access to 20% of the residential land. In the Dhaka Metropolitan Area, there are more than 3,000 slum and squatter settlements, according to a 1996 survey by the Centre for Urban Studies. About 1.3 million people were residing in these communities at the time of the survey. Around 25% of slum and squatter communities are located on public land, and the remaining 75% are on private property according to a survey by the Centre for Urban Studies (CUS). The majority of urban slums consist of between 10 and 50 dwellings, making them typically small settlements. However, approximately 60% of squatter settlements have between 1050 and 1500 households (Islam, 1996). Slums house up to 37% of the capital's population. In 2019, Bangladesh Railways demolished 250 illegal structures in Dhaka's Shahjahanpur Railway Colony. The majority of the buildings were tin-shed houses, with a few masonry constructions constructed around 2011. According to railway references, a significant proportion has occupied a large part of railway property in the colony for many years. They even constructed residences and stores and started renting them out to others (The Daily Star, 2019). The highest number of illegal structures on government land in Dhaka city (5999) was dismantled in Mirpur, while the lowest number (82) was torn down in Dhanmondi. The highest demolishing areas were found to be 607 acres from demolished makeshift slum-dwelling houses, and the smallest, at 1.33 acres, from demolished billboards in Dhaka. However, in Dhaka, the majority of respondents believed that economic damage is the major delinquent caused by evicting illegal constructions from government property, and about 22% of respondents discoursed that social problems and crime rates increased as a result of the removal of several illegal structures from government land.

The DNCC team, in collaboration with the Dhaka district administration, tore down approximately 50 illegal constructions, including a four-story building, a three-story market, and the Upazila truck workers' union office (The Daily Star, 2022). At the end of 2020, the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) demolished 171 illegal structures, including two on the Buriganga River near Swarighat, five five-story, eight four-story, and ten two-story structures (New Age, 2020b). In Dhaka, Mirpur district, and on a canal near Ibrahimpur, the Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) destroyed several unauthorized buildings. The DNCC began its operation from the canal's Ibrahimpur Bazar sector, employing a bulldozer to destroy structures built extending a section of the canal, including a three-story structure. While this was going on, a few nearby homes reported to The Business Standard that the DNCC had carried out the eviction operation without giving them any advance notice (The Business Standard, 2021). For years, a group of businessmen illegally occupied government lands and continued to build illegal structures on them. Their unscrupulous and dishonest activities caused significant inconvenience to city dwellers, who had to endure untold suffering as a result of the unbearable traffic jam. The RAJUK hasn't been following through with its grand intention to compile a thorough registry of all illegal constructions in the city (The New Nation, 2007). Unauthorized structures, such as small shops and stores near major city roads, have been demolished. The government has decided to assess the eviction drive's effects and to take steps to rehabilitate slum dwellers and road hawkers. during holidays, which may be beneficial, if necessary, arrangements are made in areas where evicted shopkeepers can be rehabilitated (The New Nation, 2007). Nearly 30 percent of nearly 18 million residents reside in 4,000 slums, which are run by gang leaders who demand excessive prices for basic services and are notorious for their unstable housing conditions and frequent evictions (Ahmed, 2014). Hossain (2008) found that although impoverished migrants and irregular residents are frequently included in the political design

process in the Global South, they are ostensibly removed from the urban policy. Management of the informal economic activities by integrating them with the official sector or with the city's overall structure is vital given the importance and commitment of the shadow economy to the urban economy and urban structure (M. S. Rahman et al., 2021).

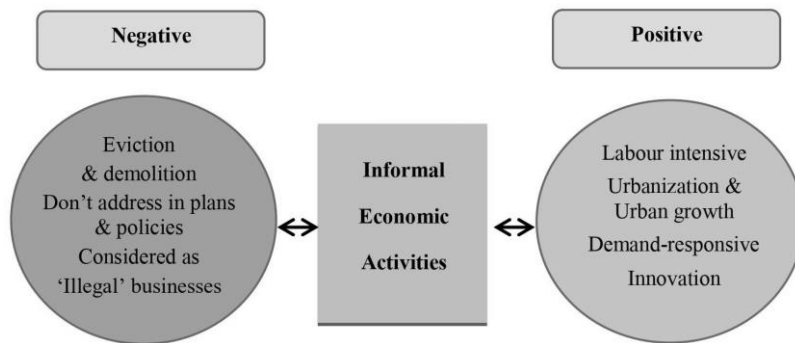


Figure 1. Conceptual framework of the informal sector – neighborhood retailing Source: Developed by authors (source: M. S. Rahman et al., 2021, pp. 1–19).

There are no precise numbers available for the overall number of squatters and slum dwellers in Dhaka, making it difficult for the government to develop long-term plans to raise their standard of living. To solve the issues of slum inhabitants, better coordination across several ministries, agencies, and the DCC is necessary. The shantytowns ought to be seen as a component of the city. The primary issues faced by slum inhabitants can be identified by in-depth research, and solutions to these issues can be found through government-NGO cooperation. NGOs should then concentrate on issues that are more essential to slum residents than the requirement to secure foreign funding (Habib, 2009). NGOs should be increasingly active in supplying accommodation for the urban poor, and the governments should act as an enabler by establishing guidelines and promoting NGO engagement in project planning and execution (Rahman, 2005). The possibility of advocating for resilience in urban slums, which will reduce the eviction rate of unlawful constructions, is facilitated by especially recent government initiatives on urban development and a rising enthusiasm within agencies regarding urban concerns in Dhaka. The minimal living standards of this underprivileged working-class migrant population cannot be met by the infrastructure amenities now in place in the megapolis of Dhaka. In particular, for the poor category residents of Dhaka city who reside completely in slums or on a detached basis (Shams et al., 2014c). The policies and strategies that GoB (Government of Bangladesh) is pursuing People's apprehension of eviction undermine people's convictions and deter them from upgrading their living arrangements. However, evictions should never proceed without any lawful notice and consultation because, frequently, effective remedies can be established between both parties.

The following precise goals are pursued in this study:

- Ascertain the number of forced evictions that had occurred in the preceding years;
- Investigate the underlying impacts of forced evictions;
- Endorsement to evaluate the impact on the urban environment of removing irregular settlements and the management strategies for the future.

Materials and Methods

This study is qualitative and was conducted through question and inquiry through extensive, open-ended, and unstructured interviews. For data collection, a single interview was scheduled. From January 23 to March 4, 2007, when the Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (RAJUK) and the Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) were carrying out drives to demolish illegal and unauthorized structures in Dhaka, the researcher collected data from a sample of 32 randomly selected respondents who had moved to the cities and were interviewed at both destination and source locations using closed and open-ended questionnaires. The researcher used appropriate methods and analyzed the information purposefully. Twenty demolishing sites, eighteen distinct methods of demolishing, and diverse types of deterioration were selected to evaluate the conditions and collect qualitative data in addition to images and surveys. The researcher used in-person interviews to acquire data from specific respondents. The majority of the respondents received a thorough explanation of the study's goals during the visit. This enabled the researcher to maintain a friendly demeanor with the respondents. Questions were asked systematically, and explanations were given whenever it was deemed necessary. The information provided by the respondents was directly recorded on the interview schedule. To minimize errors, the information was carefully checked before leaving the study area. All collected data were double-checked before being entered into the master sheets. Following data collection, it was compiled, tabulated, and analyzed by the study's objectives.

Impact of demolishing unauthorized constructions

More than 150 million individuals reside in Bangladesh, the seventh-most crowded nation in the world, in a territory that is 147,570 square kilometers (BBS, 2011; UNFPA, 2011), where is a population growth of above 1,000 people per square kilometer on average (UNDP, 2011; UNFPA, 2011). Bangladesh, which is currently primarily rural and has a population of 28% urban residents, is quickly urbanizing and is projected to have a citizen of more than 50% urban residents by 2050 (UN, 2012). Dhaka is labeled as a residence of one-third of the state's urban citizens and is the world's fast-rising metropolis with inhabitants of almost 14 million. By 2020, Assuming Dhaka will grow to be the 6th biggest sprawling metropolis in Asia with residents of close to 20 million (World Bank, 2012; UN-Habitat, 2010). However, the majority of urban expansion is due to the naturally occurring rise in the currently huge appropriate sample and the transformation of marshland and farming land in rural regions on the outskirts (Shafi & Payne, 2007; UN-Habitat, 2009). In Dhaka, over four million individuals reside in squatter settlements and slums without a stable place to call home and are frequently in danger of being evicted. In these communities, around 80% of the families charge bills (Islam et al 2006). These communities are run by neighborhood "mafia" criminals due to the state's paltry attempts to supply even the least basic systems and facilities, or even to enforce laws that safeguard people's fundamental rights (mastaans). These mastaans behave as impromptu landlords, charging outrageous prices for even the most basic services. Even though the ground is owned by the government or by individuals, neither receives much, if there is any, of this significant "informal revenue," as the mastaans depend on political connections and their friendship with the police to defend their "business" of charging "rents" and "fees" for vital services and the cash. This informal system of exploitation and criminality is pervasive and keeps things as they are in the squatter settlements of Dhaka. Additionally, the mastaans keep strong ties to political and party figures and assist them in coercing ballots from the urban underclass (Ahmed, 2014b).

The socioeconomic and political objectives of the nation, local authorities, urban rich, and middle and upper classes are strongly entwined with the residents of squatter camps. Inhabitants of Dhaka's squatter camps consequently discover themselves in a complicated relationship with a metropolis that considers them both wanted and unwanted. (Fattah & Walters, 2020). In many squatter camps in Dhaka, powerful but inner populations are concentrated because rural migrants tend to migrate to rural family groupings that have entrenched them in the urban (Lata et al., 2019). The overall gross domestic product (GDP) is largely shaped by individuals who reside in urban slums since they are a substantial source of inexpensive labor (Rahman, 2012). According to literature, the informal settlements of Dhaka City make it "a genuinely dismal sight"

(Vancheshwar, 2012a). The forced eviction incidence is not exclusive to Dhaka. In many towns in the Developing World, nation frameworks use forceful ability to shape how residents of informal settlements encounter daily life. This monopoly force consists of ongoing risks of eviction, denial of connectivity to resources and services, refusal to acknowledge them as legitimate urban residents, regular criminalization, and structural violence (Bhan, 2014; Sanyal, 2013; Moser, 2004; Bork-Hüffer et al., 2016).

According to human rights organizations, approximately 28,000 families were evicted from over 49 slums in Dhaka through drives between 2003 and February 12, 2007. These evictions caused approximately Tk 34 crore in damages, displacing thousands of families, including a large number of children (The Daily Star, 2007a). In 2007, there were 116,592 people directly affected by forced evictions in Dhaka. Before the eviction, no alternative housing is provided for slum dwellers. Several thousand slum dwellers of all ages who have lost their homes due to the ongoing eviction drive of Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) and Bangladesh Railway are passing their days in agony because they have received no assistance from any source (The Daily Star, 2007a, pp. 1–8). Other human and social costs of forced evictions include insecurity, community, and family breakdown, worsened living conditions, removal of children from school, higher transportation costs, sanitation problem, and health issues. Children must squat on the roadside to relieve themselves. All of this contributes to illnesses and ill-health, depletes their scarce resources by requiring them to pay for medical care, disables older people from working, causes wage loss, and thus increases their poverty (Fernandes, 1998). The forced evictions made life difficult for the city's poorest 100,000 residents, further impoverishing the slum dwellers (The New Nation, 2007). hawkers and vendors who had been operating small shops on streets and near supermarkets for years have been forced to relocate. the owners of wayside shops and shanties have lost the opportunity to earn a living (Figure 02-04). The socioeconomic effects of the move to evict unlicensed shops must be assessed while considering the rehabilitation of affected hawkers (The New Nation, 2007).



Figure 2. A hawker evicted from the footpath sells clothes on a rickshaw van on Gulshan-Badda Link Road in Dhaka.



Figure 3. Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (RAJUK) knocked down an illegal shop at Uttara in Dhaka.



Figure 4. Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkha (RAJUK) knocked down an illegal slum area at Mohakhali in Dhaka.

Results and Discussion

Effect of demolishing several illegal settlements on the urban environment

According to the answers of the respondent, it was found that the environment of Dhaka city was degraded day by day through the eviction of illegal settlements which is presented in Table 1. Among the respondents, total respondents (A hundred percent) opined that poverty is the major problem created by the eviction of illegal structures. Eighty-Eight Percent of respondents opined that drives to demolish illegal and unauthorized structures, which were effective on the loss of employment and business in the city. Eighty-Four to Sixty percent of respondents' opinion was that impact on land degradation and erosion; contamination of soil environment and rising air pollution increased respectively by demolishing several illegal structures in the city. Fifty-Nine to Fifty percent of respondents opined those changes in the city settlement and substandard

housing; silting of low areas, ponds, lakes, and rivers; gathering and traffic problems; sanitation problems; the number of floating populations, an inadequate supply of clean water increased respectively through drives of eviction. Forty-Seven to Twenty Five percent of respondents opined that an unclean city; impact on drainage and sewerage system; loss of city beauty; changes in the city lifestyle; high incidence of diseases; goods prices and accidents also increased respectively through drives of eviction. Finally, Twenty-Two percent of respondents opined that social problems and crime rates were created by drives to demolish illegal and unauthorized structures in Dhaka city. As a result, the government could acknowledge the slums without granting land titles for their location on public property. Because so many slums have been constructed, slum renovation and acknowledgment can greatly enhance slum residents' quality of life. Eliminating squatters is not a helpful solution to the issue because those who are evicted rapidly find new homes elsewhere in the city. The issue of eviction affects squatters who live close to railways and other routes, yet relocation efforts frequently fail because these extremely impoverished people seek easy accessibility to their income sources. The slum dwellers might frequently manage their problems with the assistance of the community-based association if the government would acknowledge those squatter settlements as legitimate areas where people are truly residing (Habib, 2009).

Table 1. Effect of demolishing several illegal structures on government lands on the urban environment

Nature of Degradation	Respondent (n=32)	Percent	Ranking
Increase poverty	32	100	1
Loss of employment and business	28	88	2
Impact on land degradation and erosion	27	84	3
Contamination in the soil environment	24	75	4
Rising air pollution	20	61	5
Changes in the city settlement and substandard housing	19	59	6
Silting of low areas, ponds, lakes, and rivers	18	56	7
Increased gathering and traffic problems	18	56	9
Increased sanitation problem	17	53	10
Increased the number of floating populations	16	50	11
Increased inadequate supply of clean water	16	50	12
Increased unclean city	15	47	13
Impact on drainage and sewerage system	14	44	14
Loss of city beauty	13	41	15
Changes in the city lifestyle	11	34	16
High incidence of diseases	11	34	17
Increased goods price	9	28	18
Increased accidents	8	25	19
Increased social problems and crime rates	7	22	20

According to data presented in Table 2, of the illegal settlements on government lands were demolished in Dhaka city (5999), while 1798 illegal structures on government lands were demolished in Tejgaon, 1258 illegal structures were demolished in Mohakhali, and 1094 illegal structures were demolished in

old Dhaka. In another direction, the city demolished 552, 421, 377, 343, 314, 234, 217, and 82 illegal structures on government lands in Uttara, Gulshan, Farmgate, Baridhara, Karwanbazar, Mohammaddpur, Kakrail, and Dhanmondi, respectively. According to sources, the largest demolishing area in the city was 607 acres due to demolished makeshift slum-dwelling houses, while 500.00, 64.00, 47.00, 42.00, 28.00, 22.00, 14.00, and 13.00 acres of lands were discovered due to demolished kutchha and pucca houses. various types of business establishments; warehouses; buildings and shops; railway side structures; footpath shops, tea stalls, and car parking; the basement and ground floor; and hotel & restaurant, respectively, and only 5 acres of land were discovered in the city through a demolished supermarket (Figure 05-10).



Figure 5. Bangladesh Railways demolished 250 illegal structures from Dhaka's Shahjahanpur Railway Colony on September 17, 2019.

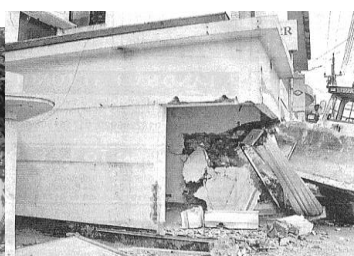


Figure 6. RAJUK bulldozed a portion of a house as part of a drive against illegal structures at Road No-4 at Dhanmondi in Dhaka.

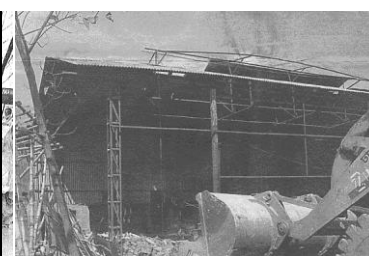


Figure 7. Dhaka Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) bulldozed a metal workshop built illegally on WASA land at Puran Dhaka.

In another direction, demolished political structures and land possession yielded 12.33, 6.66, 5.00, 4.66, 4.00, 3.33, 2.33, and 1.33 acres of land; government parkland; furniture showrooms; housing; social welfare and community centers; shopping complexes; motor, cycle, and rickshaw workshops and parts shops; and billboards in the city, respectively (Figure 04-09).



Figure 8. An illegal portion of Genetic Plaza at Dhanmondi, Road No-27, bulldozed by RAJUK



Figure 9. RAJUK knocked down illegal structures at Purana Paltan in Dhaka



Figure 10. Workers of RAJUK tore down an Awami Jubo League office at Gulshan-2 in Dhaka

Results and Discussion

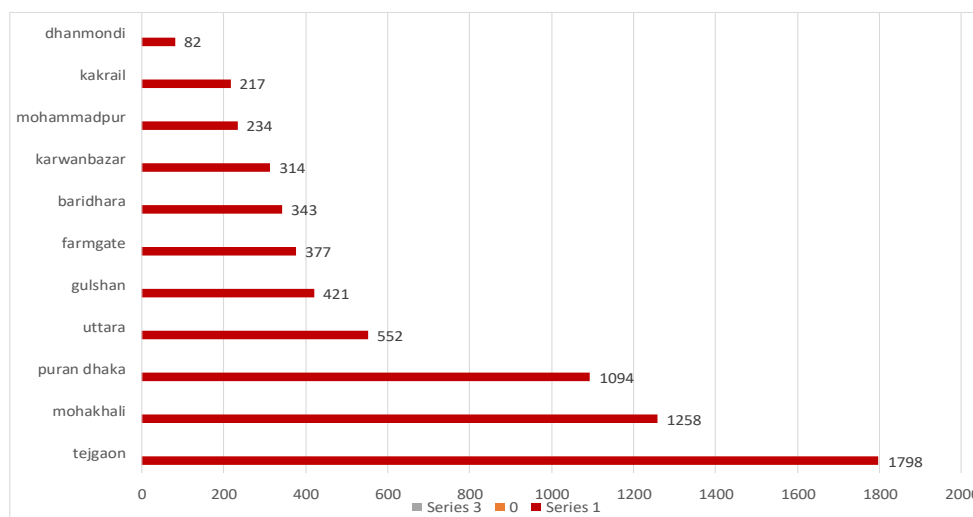
Future management of demolishing irregular urban settlements in Dhaka city

The development of, the agricultural sector must be a major issue in rural development. In Bangladesh, as a third-world country agricultural sector is ignored by government policies. Modern agricultural technology is not considered in Bangladesh, so farmers are not benefited according to their effort which is a major problem for rural areas. Most of these vulnerable rural populations migrate to Dhaka for their livelihood. These

Table 2. Showing types of demolishing, demolishing location and area on illegal and unauthorized structures in Dhaka city (Sources: Prothom Alo and the Daily Star, Dated from January 01, 2007, to March 03, 2007)

Types of evictions	Demolish the location of illegal and unauthorized structures in the Dhaka city												
	Gulshan	Mohakhali	Uttara	Puran Dhaka	Teigon	Mohammadpur	Dhanmondi	Baridhara	Farmgate	Kakrail	Karwanbazar	Mirpur	Area in acres
Makeshift slum-dwelling houses	-	700	328	100	1500	-	-	35	58	-	100	21	607.00
Buildings and shops	80	9	2	800	50	125	9	2	50	3	12	700	42.00
Supermarket	20	2	8	1	4	17	2	4	3	1	1	2	5.00
Footpath shops, tea stalls, and car parking	28	69	45	4	14	2	1	27	2	15	13	2	22.00
Railway sides structures	200	41	17	-	28	-	-	-	69	-	5	78	28.00
Shopping complexes	15	2	6	2	3	8	1	4	1	1	1	3	3.33
Political structures and land possession	11	1	4	1	2	2	-	2	2	-	1	1	12.33
The basement and ground floor	17	24	8	13	28	8	40	3	24	13	3	2	14.00
Social welfare and community centers	2	3	1	1	1	2	-	4	2	2	1	3	4.00
Billboards	19	35	7	6	25	7	21	47	27	37	3	58	1.33
Housing	-	2	-	-	5	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	4.66
Different types of business establishments	8	65	57	36	54	25	4	55	45	49	45	8	64.00
Warehouses	-	200	45	100	-	-	-	-	59	51	45	54	47.00
Hotel & restaurant	15	2	8	5	21	14	2	34	7	24	24	33	13.00
Motor, cycle, rickshaw workshops & parts shops	4	1	7	1	3	1	1	11	3	-	10	8	2.33
Furniture showrooms	1	-	9	2	-	1	-	4	-	-	50	5	5.00
Kutchha and pucca houses	-	100	-	21	60	21	-	109	25	21	-	5020	500
Government parkland	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	6.66
Total	421	1258	552	1094	1798	234	82	343	377	217	314	5999	1381.64

Chart 1. Showing the eviction areas where maximum eviction was conducted on Tejgaon, Mohakhali, and old Dhaka, which is above 1000 illegal structures. (Sources: Prothom Alo and the Daily Star, Dated from January 01, 2007, to March 03, 2007)



immigrants who are wandering throughout the city end up sleeping in open areas like roadsides, railways, and bus stops, as well as other accessible locations like vacant buildings. Current infrastructures are not capable of meeting the bare necessities of these destitute migrant underclass inhabitants (Shams et al., 2014a). The government might relax rules and regulations to allow the informal sector to provide housing for the urban poor more effectively. To provide more residents of slums with better and more cheap housing, the government should simultaneously increase the number of low-income high-rise apartments in specific city neighborhoods (as in the ADB secondary town plan) (Habib, 2009). According to researcher Mumtaz (2001), The government might fund and promote NGOs that empower neighborhoods by offering education, publicity, and assistance. The community's knowledge of the slum issue and some cost-sharing by slum inhabitants for the supply of utilities are key components of a long-term resolution. The power of incentives should be used by the government rather than the threat of punishment to aid and direct development. In addressing the challenges of slums, A community's ability to handle its issues should aid participatory slum rehabilitation, which is the best technique in Habitat's study on the issue of slums (Gryc, 2005). Section 15 of the Bangladeshi Constitution outlines the fundamental duties that the government has to its inhabitants including the five fundamental needs listed in the article which are food, clothes, home, education, and healthcare. The state is required by the laws to guarantee justice for all of its residents, as well as adequate food and health policy. The paradox is that squatters must struggle for their most fundamental democratic rights in every aspect of their lives (Taufiq, 2017b). The government should make improvements in the area of housing provision, including strengthening customer protection laws, rulemaking, land registry, a range of standards tailored to the residential finance industry, and the accessibility of residential and mortgage knowledge (Shams et al., 2014c).

The involvement of NGOs

Cooperative agricultural land utilization, policies for those without access to agricultural land, and support for homeless people in rural areas who need microcredit (BRAC Bank). The cooperative movement's founder, Robert Owen (1771–1858), proposed building "villages of cooperation" where people might live in a healthy environment, receive an education, grow their food, and make their clothes until eventually becoming a self-

governing community for urban poor. Since 1986, the well-known NGO WaterAid has been addressing WASH-related challenges in Bangladesh. WaterAid expanded its urban initiative and unveiled the "Urban WASH project" in 2011. the program includes installing tube wells, installing sewer systems in communal or community lavatories, and walkway buildings; residential water-seal, sanitation facilities; drain upgrades; waste management; and hygiene practices. the development of sanitary complexes incorporating water sources, bath booths, and sanitary latrines (Taufiq, 2017b, pp. 1–41). For at least 20 years, microfinance has been remarkably active in Grameen Bangladesh and has won acclaim as an efficient, fair, and pro-poor institution on a global scale. Some of them, like Grameen Bank and BRAC, have invested a considerable amount of money in residential initiatives. More than 600,000 house grants have been made by Grameen in Bangladesh's rural districts. BRAC established the "Grihayan Tahabeel" Dwelling Trust to construct dormitories for 2,500 female textile laborers in Uttara, Dhaka, with 1% interest that is refundable over 20 years (Shams et al., 2014c, pp. 175–184). Needed rural poverty eradication programs, such as the Rural Works Programs, Food for Works Program, Integrated Rural Development Program, Rural Credit Program, and a variety of programs promoted through NGOs (Non-Government Organizations).

The measures listed below should be taken to remedy the eviction issue.

- Provide landowner families or employees of government and autonomous organizations with loans to help the urban poor build homes in permanent locations.
- Housing provision with the supply of employment prospects and the dwelling should not be distant from their place of employment. It ought to be accessible on foot.

Develop more government projects for homeless people, such as Ashrayan

There are many humanitarian organizations in Bangladesh, however, the majority avoid working in urban areas. The Urban Partnerships for Poverty Reduction (UPPR) program, which targets 3 million people living in slums across 30 cities, particularly Dhaka and WaterAid, is exceptional and extensive. Union for the resilient community, a group of further than Forty NGOs, fights for the dignity of slum dwellers and promotes neighborhood organizations in slum settlements. Bangladesh tackles sanitation and hygiene (WaSH) in slums. The advocacy plan for the establishment of resiliency in urban slums is made possible by especially current policies on city administration and global warming, in addition to a rising desire within organizations to conduct urban concerns (Ahmed, 2014b). There is a possibility for campaigning for adaptation and mitigation by utilizing strategy tools because the slum dwellers have not been sufficiently taken into account in Bangladesh's Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP) strategies. The realization of this potential would necessitate prolonged outlook and persistent engagement to involve a variety of stakeholders. The policy of the nation's urban sector in 2010, which focuses on the government's Disaster Management Bureau (DMB) and the majority of NGOs trying to solve resilience, provides a further institutional structure for promoting the urban poor. Extension services of urban dangers can now be managed. The development of the Bangladesh Urban Forum (BUF), co-production through different stakeholders for communication and steps to correct urban issues, reflects the involvement of the government and Non - governmental NGOs in slums in cities (Carr, 2012). The fact that so many organizations belong to BUF suggests a growing interest in solving urban problems and, consequently, a possible opportunity to improve urban dwellers' adaptability in the long term. The legislative tools that might be used to support the endurance of the slums, irrespective government's minimal interference. The platform is readied for the following act (Ahmed, 2014b). The Bangladeshi government has decided to implement several strategies and programs, including the Plan for five years, the Framework Perspective Plan, and the draft National Urban Sector Policy, to improve the dwellings and resources of cities. The UN's Development Aid Program on enhancing the conditions of slum people. Numerous development programs, including the Urban Collaboration for Poverty Reduction Project, the Urban Governance and Infrastructure Improvement Plan, and the Urban Primary Medical Care Proposal, are also underway in Dhaka and other major cities (Taufiq, 2017). For any lasting changes for the

urban poor, improving state institutions and putting the National Housing Policy into practice must come first. Slum removal strategies should be implemented along with the required rehabilitation or building infrastructure that destroys occupant colonies. It would be more efficient if the National Housing Authority concentrated on a regulatory and policy-making function rather than carrying out housing developments. It is advisable to promote long-term financing and launch a housing policy savings plan (Shams et al., 2014c). The Metropolitan Slum Problem Abolition Committee of Dhaka compiles a list of Dhaka City's slums and takes a rehabilitation strategy phase by phase. Loan services run by NGOs have shown that the poor can manage small amounts of loans. Easy-to-repay loans can help with funding for housing improvements. Bangladesh Krishi Bank began the Ghore Phera (return to home) project which provided loans to people for income generation, encouraging them to return to their community (Nazrul, 2003).

Slum development through the concept of Co-production

The case study of Agargaon, Mirpur is an example of slum dwellers performing for their housing. They were organized for savings and credit assistance programs by the NGO. They started social development with small savings. Co-production through different organizations can play a vital role to improve illegal settlements (Begum et al., 2018). In Jhenaidah where the slum neighborhood worked to improve the community by utilizing the funds, they were given by the provincial government to construct better housing. This productive co-production project, which was initiated by a limited group of architects and a local NGO, established and demonstrated the capacity of workers between official administration and political government, eradicating the dominance of unequal power relations (ALAM & BAIDYA, 2019).

Eviction policies

As noted by the fact-finding team, in most cases the residents were given less than 24 hours' notice, at most 48 hours. They were informed orally through a microphone, which was unacceptable to the High Court of Bangladesh in their landmark ruling on forced evictions. No evictions would take place without rehabilitation. It requires a 30-day notice to be given by the District Commissioner to legally evict unauthorized occupants. Strengthening of the Coordination Committee for eviction. A strengthened coordination committee headed by the mayor with the power to consider approves, and coordinate development plans of all organizations before the eviction of illegal structures in the metropolitan area. Despite this attention, however, the Government continued to evict people ostensibly in the name of law and order. The GoB (Government of Bangladesh) should compensate them for the damages that they have incurred and make provisions to rehabilitate and resettle them. It should desist from forcibly evicting people or threatening people with forced evictions and should find alternative ways to deal with crime and other social issues. Strengthening of the Coordination Committee for eviction. Effective action is taken for evictions and mobile courts through coordinating and overseeing the use of funds for development plans and improvement before eviction, which ensures progress to higher authorities.

Implementation and coordination of government policies

When working on urban developments, DCC and RAJUK—the planning authority—should coordinate with the relevant ministries and utility companies, and organizational processes should be dispersed to guarantee the Bangladesh House Building Finance Corporation's (BHBFC) renovation, expanding the social housing available to the homeless and low-income residents and improving public institutions to carry out the National Housing Policy, Government Decentralization Enhancing RAJUK's efficacy by launching trial initiatives in underdeveloped areas in collaboration with NGOs and other stakeholders (Figure 11). It is beneficial to encourage the piloting of new initiatives with rigorous assessment and to improve land and living arrangements for the poor so they may be expanded up in the future. NGOs should conduct a significant action in promoting city farming on rooftops, which can feed and generate cash for many families in need (Shams et al., 2014c). A Master Plan for the rehabilitation of squatter settlements should be developed by the GoB with the maximum participation of all stakeholders, including the slum dwellers themselves with the

assistance of their friends from the NGO community and the academy. A national housing strategy for the poor should be improved through a metropolitan government with administrative control over all organizations operating inside the metropolis.

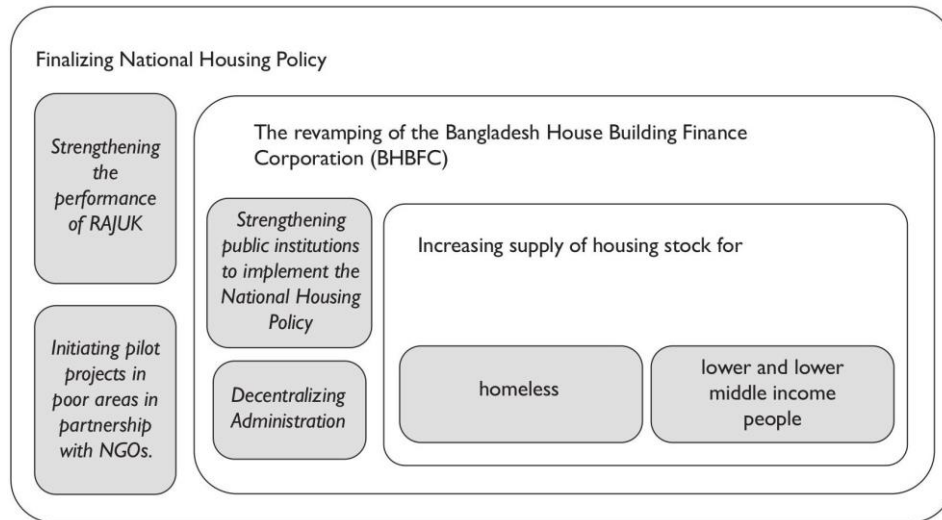


Figure 11. Policy Interventions for Finalizing National Housing (reference: Shams et al., 2014c).

Government-owned land should be set aside for the urban poor by the GoB. This ought to lessen disparities in urban land ownership. The issue is not addressed in RAJUK's current development plan, which continues to allot insignificant percentages to the urban poor in its housing designs. Given that more than 70% of land in Dhaka is currently personally held, a larger amount of land must be allotted for low-income families in their housing programs. This must also be monitored. It is necessary to investigate several options to safeguard tenants and stop land speculation. The appropriate combination of taxes, such as assets tax, extra land revenue tax, and land handover tax, may be one of these measures.

The GoB should respect the August 1997 High Court ruling that called for a stop to forced evictions unless there is a proper resettlement and rehabilitation plan. The GoB should focus on basic human rights by providing housing seriously for all citizens through lawmaking that secures the tenure of slum dwellers, gives provisions to build or renovate their houses, and basic amenities that should be developed. The GoB, by assisting people to live in a secure and decent place with amenities such as potable water, sanitation, electricity, etc., can contribute to less violence in communities, and give poor people the much-needed support they need to ensure they can enjoy life fully. The Bhashantek Project plans to generate 16,000 housing units for slum dwellers and low-income families (who were evicted in 1997) should be pursued and even replicated. In the scheme, the Government provides the land, and the NGO and community would shoulder all the other costs including a complete package of education, health care, employment, and income generation opportunities. The slum dwellers would be more than willing to move out of Dhaka if employment opportunities are created elsewhere through creating additional employment outside of Dhaka including decentralization of management, funds, and social benefits. For further reinforcement of rural growth, service opportunities, and poverty mitigation plans need to support the poor people. In Asia, many countries have allocated slum peoples, and their involvement to the country through upgrading and improving urban poor living situations by ensuring secure tenure for poor dwellers in several locations. The squatter population has suggested land cooperation as a solution, and it is a practical one that has been successful in various places.

Work transparency, land management, and coordination of DNCC, DSCC & RAJUK

- Increased Transparency in DCC and RAJUK legal activities through the involvement of citizens in both work plan formulation and execution before eviction.
- Strengthening DCC and RAJUK management capacity through the introduction of proper Geographic Information System (GIS) and Management Information System (MIS) techniques.
- Assessing property in DCC and RAJUK at regular intervals while simultaneously assessing a small area through an external agency and using that assessment as a benchmark for other areas in the city;
- Contracting out some of DCC and RAJUK service sectors like conservancy, sanitation, and waste disposal to private parties. Develop DCC and RAJUK land to augment revenue income.
- RAJUK Structure Plan/Master Plan should be provided comprehensive plans for the development of the megacity area, Link roads, bypass roads, satellite towns, and improvement of infrastructure were proposed. Most importantly, the plan should propose the adoption of a local area action planning process with the participation of community members.
- Discouraging new investments in DCC and RAJUK area improving transportation between the central city and other towns in the vicinity.

Coping mechanisms of the poor: Informal land markets

Slum-dwellers could be either renters of the shelter, or the land or they could be owners of the land and dwelling. Illegal subdivisions are organized and planned squatter settlements. Housing conditions can remain substandard for years if the squatters perceive that there is a threat of eviction. Due to the illegal nature of their land tenure, they frequently downplay the capital investments made in their homes. Squatter settlements are impulsive and disorganized, but illegal subdivisions are deliberate and structured. These typically take place in urban areas when the government owns substantial swaths of undeveloped, low-cost land outside of the metropolis. BRAC, ASHA, Proshika, and Grameen were the first organizations to offer micro-credit mortgages. The Urban Poor Development Program and the Microfinance Institutions Project are two reviews that offer micro-credit financing to the urban poor, especially women. These loans are provided to start a variety of revenue-generating ventures. In the slum regions, numerous NGOs are running programs for education and health care. 18 Health care and special needs services are offered to slum residents through two BRAC programs named Manoshi and CSN (Taufiq, 2017).

Increasing supply of land for the poor

- Sites-and-services schemes provide the target group with a plot and basic infrastructures, such as water, roads, and sanitation facilities.
- Squatter settlement regularization/ upgrading is a better option as it provides land to the poor near their workplace, does not disrupt the integrity of the community, and takes into account the investments the poor have already made in their settlements.
- Through the incremental development scheme, the government seeks to establish a planned and legal squatter settlement. Infrastructure and services are provided incrementally when the residents can pay for them.

Increasing effective demand for land for the poor

Poor communities that are well-organized and articulated can not only find inexpensive homes but also bargain with authorities as well as other parties successfully. In addition to granting the ability to finance, neighborhood savings and credit programs retain established neighborhoods and elevate women's position in the neighborhoods.

Conclusion

Provisions should make to ensure that people, especially the poor and weak, those who are forced to migrate to cities because of environmental catastrophes or through the absence of financial prospects in their village, can have their dwellings and have secure tenure. Forced evictions that occurred in Dhaka over the period have had a significant social and economic impact. Slum people's homes and income-generating activities have been destroyed, and as result insecurity, community, and family breakdown have occurred for forced evictions. Eviction causes three major consequences for those who are evicted: physical, economic, and psychological. From the case of the Global South, through community-driven local housing co-production, CODI (Community Organizations Development Institute) in Thailand prioritizes the needs of the poor over anything else, including lending money. They also arrange general agreements with other interested parties on real estate, housing design, and implementation (Boonyabantha & Kerr, 2018b). To address the issue of the forced eviction of unauthorized settlements in Dhaka, collaborative housing might be used to provide accommodation for the urban poor to manage the eradication of irregular urban settlements, including co-housing, community-led housing, resident-led housing, participatory housing, and other related phrases are all used to describe collectively self-organized housing for slum inhabitants.

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