

## **A Case Study on the Existing Condition of Utility Facilities and Management System of Poor Migrants of Rajshahi City**

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### **Abstract**

In Rajshahi city, significantly the number of urban poor migrants are increasing day by day. This study aims to put a glimpse on the existing migration status specially focusing on the existing utility facilities and management system for the increasing number of poor migrants. The study is based on a questionnaire survey method of 60 randomly selected sample migrants from two areas of Rajshahi City Corporation. This study reveals that in Rajshahi city predominantly migrants came from the northern part of the country and carried with them dreams of prosperity. Majority (60%) of the respondents migrated in Rajshahi for getting financial support. The study illustrates the existing drainage, dumping system and sanitation condition. The poor people migrated with the hope for a better life but for wanting of proper planning and management they are living in shabby house where the absence of basic services and facilities is significant. As a final argument this study strongly recommend that, Proper planning process focusing the needs and demands of ever growing urban population can be proved efficient to manage this overarching urban problem to an adaptable notch.

*Keywords: Urban migration, Urban Poor, Basic amenities, Planning and Management system.*

### **1 Introduction**

Migration is the movement of people from one place to another for the purpose of taking up permanent or semi-permanent residence. Majority of the poor migrants take shelter in disadvantages places like slums, squatters, footpaths, rail stations and other scattered places (Farhana et al., 2012). Every year thousands of natural victims' people are migrated from rural areas to urban areas. Moreover, poor people are pressured to migrate to urban area to secure their livelihood. Several factors push poor people to migrate to urban area like economic crisis, food crisis, high unemployment rate, low income, high population growth, unequal distribution of land, and demand for higher schooling, search in new job, previous migration history, and for better economics outcomes. Bangladesh is considerate one of the highest rates of growth of urban population and millions of people migrate to cities (Uddin & Firoj, 2013). In Bangladesh, about two-thirds of migration occurs from rural to urban areas (Uddin & Firoj, 2013). Most of the poor undergo very through helpless condition. They are being deprived from utility facilities and others after migration. The aim of the study is

- ✓ To analyze the migration status of poor migrants;
- ✓ To analyze the present living condition of poor migrants.

This paper includes poor migrant's social status, economic status, and utility facility condition as well as management system of poor people in Rajshahi city. The study aims to investigate the overall status of poor migrants. In some cases, the respondent was not giving us the proper reply. So, he/she has given some fake answers. And for not getting proper answers from the respondents, the analytical study may fail to earn proper standers (question like about income etc.)

## 2 Literature Review

Migration is a common phenomenon of human being. Rural urban migration is a common part of the internal migration in any country. People move one place to another for better economic and social environment (Ishtiaque and Ullah, 2013). Rural-Urban migration plays an important role in poverty reduction and economic development. More than 15 million people live in the slums of seven divisional cities of Bangladesh (Ishtiaque and Mahmud, 2011). In rural Bangladesh, landlessness and pauperization are ongoing processes. 70% of rural people are either completely landless or functionally landless (BBS, 1998–1999). Every year, more than one million people lose their homesteads or arable land due to river erosion. In these circumstances, migration is a major coping strategy for poor people to earn a livelihood (Hossain, Khan and Seeley, 2003). Several factors push rural people to urban area like economic crisis, food crisis, high unemployment rate, low income, high population growth, unequal distribution of land, demand for higher schooling, search in new job, previous migration history, and for better economics outcomes (Ishtiaque & Mahmud, 2011; Ishtiaque & Ullah, 2013). Ishtiaque and Mahmud (2011) explored that all though 68.10% of the migrants were satisfied with these socio-economic attainment of their migration objectives and wanted to come back to their place of origin after saving enough money, so that they could live the rest of their life out of poverty, they could not do so. The rural lack of earning opportunities did not permit them to reverse the rural-urban migration trend.

## 3 Methodology of the Study

The study was conducted in two areas of Rajshahi municipality: i) Slum adjacent to the Padma residential and ii) Slum adjacent to the Padma river bank at Motihar thana. The questionnaire method was used to collect the information and the respondents were randomly sampled. A total of 60 respondents was selected for face to face interviews. . In some cases focus group approach was also conducted. Among various topic the study team focused on this topic. The study would access the livelihood status of poor migrants. To understand the existing condition of poor migrants, migration rate, the study team go through many literature review on this topic. The objectives were selected on the basis of study topic. The study team visited possible slums for an overview. Of many slums of Rajshahi city the study team select two slums. The required data is collected both from primary and secondary sources. Most of the data on this study are primary data. The study team followed some steps for collecting primary data: Reconnaissance survey, Preparation of coordination schema, Preparation of questionnaire, Sample design, Field survey consecutively. After that the study team prepared draft on the basis of gathered qualitative and quantitative information. Then all data are being analyzed and major findings have been collected using different statistical tools. The preparation of final report is being formulated after analyzing the data.

## 4 Findings & Analysis

### 4.1 Demographic Condition

In the study nearly 67% were aged between 18 to 40, 30% were aged above 40 and other 3% were below 18. So the study estimated that people who are aged between 18 to 40 mainly migrated to Rajshahi. According to the field survey, 57% male and 43% female migrated to Rajshahi. It comprehended that the percentage of male migrant is greater than female. Mainly male migrants come to Rajshahi for earning a better amount and female migrants migrate here because of marital affair. After selecting 60 sample randomly, it is found that highest 92% of poor migrants came from the Northern part of Bangladesh like Rangpur, Thakurgaon, Pabna, Nilphamari and lowest 8% of poor migrants came from B. Baria, Sylhet, Noakhali. Decision of migration is also influenced by marital status. The study shows that 98% respondents were married and only 2% were single. In the study area 87% migrants migrated as a nuclear family and 13% migrants migrated as a joint family. Among 87% respondents of nuclear family, about 30% came from joint family. Education plays an important role in migration. In our study area, poor migrants are not that educated. Majority of the people (88%) were illiterate. Only 12% were primary level educated.

### 4.2. Migration Status

#### 4.2.1. Factors of Migration

According to the available empirical studies and evidences, migration is always a selective process in which, the community, family or individuals fall into a certain category and it varies extensively from culture to culture. The study shows that poverty and unemployment are the factors to push them to the city. According to the survey report, 60% poor migrants migrated here for want of financial support, 30% for social purpose and 10% for other reason.

Table 1. Factors of migration

Causes of migration	Frequency	Percentage
Natural calamity	1	2
Economic	36	60
Social	18	30
Religious	0	0
Others	5	8

#### 4.2.2 Permanently Migrated or Not

Table 2. Permanently migrated or not

Migration status	Frequency	Percentage
Permanent migration	28	47
Temporary migration	32	53

The table shows the migration status of the respondents. 53% poor migrants were temporary migrants and 47% were permanent migrants.

#### 4.2.3 Changing Rate of Occupation

Accessibility of job opportunity and better quality of job condition play an important role in the decision of migration process (Hossain, 2001). Pre-migration occupation also enable to understand the causes of migration i.e. push factor of the migration (Hossain, 2001). The pre migration occupation of poor migrants were mainly day laborer, rickshaw puller, auto driver, house wife, fruit seller, tokai. The table shows the occupation changing rate of poor migrants. About 60% people changed their occupation.

Table 3. Change in occupation

Occupation status	Frequency	Percentage
Changed their occupation	24	40
Did not change their occupation	36	60

#### 4.2.4 Changing Rate of Income:

According to the survey, before migration 36% people's income level was below 200, 20% people's income level was between 200 and 300, 7% people's income level was above 300, 37% people had no family income. So it is seen that the economic condition of migrants was not good. After migration 8% people's income level was below 200, 32% people's income level was between 200 and 300, 30% people's income level was above 300, 30% people had no family income. So, the study estimates that the income level of poor migrants has changed.

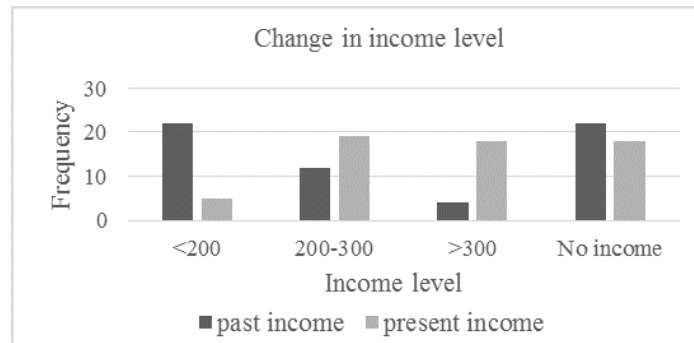


Figure 1. Change in income level after migration

#### 4.3 Living Condition of Migrated People

In the study area, 70% people live in govt. land and other 30% have land ownership. Maximum people live in shabby

houses where the absence of basic services and facilities is significant.

#### 4.3.1 Housing Materials

According to the field survey, 60% respondent's house is made by polythene, bamboo & mud, 25% respondent's housing materials are straw, bamboo & mud and 15% respondent build their house with tin, cement & brick.

Table 4. Housing material

Housing material	Frequency	Percentage
Straw, bamboo& mud	15	25
Tin, cement & brick	9	15
Polythene, bamboo, mud, straw	36	60

#### 4.3.2 Housing Condition

The table describes that, 30% people think that their previous housing condition was better and other 70% respondents prefer their present housing condition.

Table 5. Housing condition

Better housing condition	Criteria	Number	Percentage
	Present	21	70
	Previous	9	30

#### 4.4 Utility Facilities & Management

##### 4.4.1 Electricity, Water and Gas Supply

In the study area lack of electricity supply and water supply is significant. There is in no gas supply. Among the respondents 50% poor migrants get electricity supply 4 to 5 hours in a day provided by Rural Power Development. Among the respondents 50% get water supply 4 to 5 hours in a day through pipe line. Other 50% poor migrants collect from pond, river, and tube well.

##### 4.4.2 Sanitation and Drainage System

Table 6. Sanitation condition

Sanitation condition	Criteria	Number	Percentage
	Kutchra toilet	14	23
	Pucca toilet	8	13
	Others	38	64

The table shows that only 13% people use kutchra toilet, 23% people use pucca toilet and other 64% people use common place like open field, river bank.

Table 7. Condition of drainage system

Condition of drainage system	Criteria	Number	Percentage
	Healthy	5	8
	Unhealthy	55	92

Of the samples 92% respondent's perception is drainage system is unhealthy but other 8% believe that drainage system is healthy. In the study area, there is no dumping facilities.

#### 4.4.3 Security System

Table 8. Security system

Security system	Quantity	Percentage
Secured	13	20
Unsecured	47	80

One of important findings of the study is that, 80% of the respondents feeling unsecured living in this slum but who have wall tin-shed building they feel secured staying in this slum but this percentage is only 20.

#### 4.5 Comparing the Utility Facilities between Migrated and Non-Migrated People

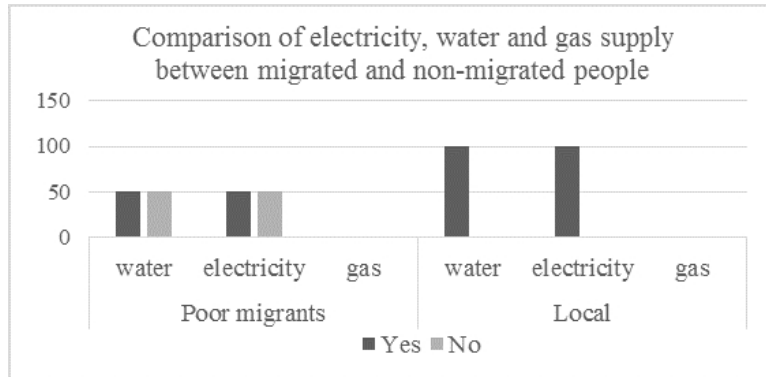


Figure 2. Comparison of electricity, water and gas supply between migrated and non-migrated people

The study illustrates that Poor migrants are deprived from utility facilities. The comparison of getting utility facilities between poor migrants and local people can show that local people are easily getting electricity and water supply. On the other hand, poor migrants 50% have these facilities and other 50% don't. Moreover, maximum local people have healthy dumping, sanitation and drainage system but maximum poor migrants live in unhealthy environment.

Table 9. Comparison of sanitation, drainage and dumping facilities poor migrants and local people

Criteria	Poor migrants			Local		
	Sanitation	Drainage	Dumping	Sanitation	Drainage	Dumping
Healthy	22	5	0	60	48	40
Unhealthy	38	55	60	0	12	20

#### 4.6 Satisfaction Level

The satisfaction level table means how much satisfied the poor migrants are with their low utility facilities and management. Though the poor migrants are being deprived from proper utility facilities, maximum of them are satisfied with this because of their increasing income after migration. The table shows that 70% respondents are satisfied with "Good" level, 27% are with "Upper Moderate" and 3% are with others

Table 10. Satisfaction level

Satisfaction level	Frequency	Percentage
Bad	1	0
Moderate	6	3
Upper moderate	21	27
Good	32	70
Very good	0	0

## 5 Essential Planning Process and Management System to Ensure the Utility Facilities of Poor Migrants

Although the poor migrants are satisfied with their utility facilities but the chart shows the real fact that they are being deprived from proper utility facilities for the lacking of proper planning process and management system. So, a proper plan and management system can solve this kind of problem and it's the responsibility of local govt. But local govt. alone can't cope with such kind of big issue, so not only local govt but also many private sectors or INGO'S will have to come forward to deal with this problem. Thus they can solve this problem by a proper planning process and management system.

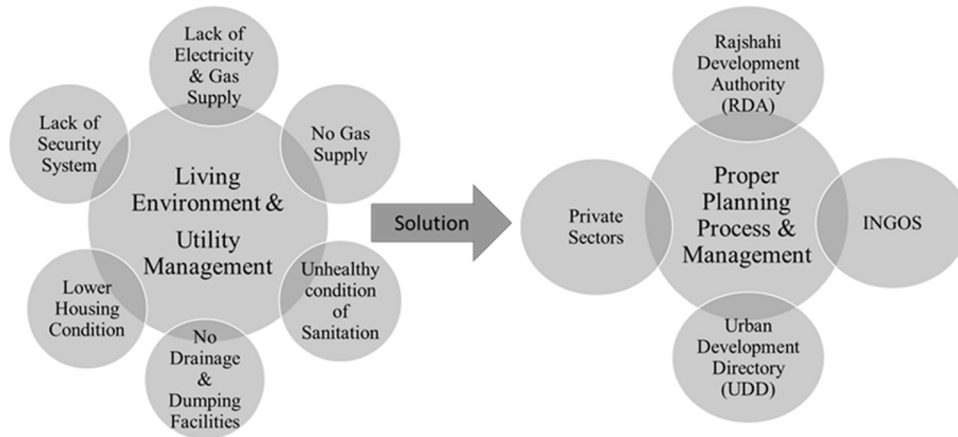


Figure 3. Essential planning process and management system

## 6. Recommendation & Conclusion

### 6.1. Recommendation

Government, migrant workers, civil society organizations and the private sector collectively need to shape a comprehensive migration policy reflecting all kinds of migration, i.e. short-term, long-term and irregular migration. The policy is that kind of which can ensure the utility facilities and management of poor migrants. To protect the rights of poor migrant people preventive measures should be given equal priority as legal remedy, irregular migration should be discouraged. As maximum urban or rural poor are migrated themselves to earn a better amount so different measures including credit facility for the poor have to be undertaken to overcome the constraints in the way of migration of poor people by authority. This kind of motional action plan has to be framed to identify roles and functions of Government, non-government and private sector in implementing the policy. But the fact is that no policy can be implemented for want of a proper planning process. So, to ensure the utility facilities for the poor migrants authority should take a proper planning or proper management process.

### 6.2. Conclusion

This report has attempted to capture different aspects of voluntary migration from and within Rajshahi, Bangladesh. On the basis of available secondary information, the issue that has not received attention in the policy making of economic migration is the issue of inclosing inaccessibility of the rural poor to choose to migrate. This report suggests various recommendations for efficient management of the Government & Non-Government sector and to ensure the utility rights of the poor to benefit from migration.

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