

AIUB Journal of Business and Economics

Volume 15, Number 1

ISSN: 1683-8742

November 2018 pp.159-178

The Socio-Economic Condition of the Construction Workers of Dhaka City: An Empirical Study

Buddha Dev Biswas

Department of Social Science,

American International University-Bangladesh

Md. Jahirul Islam

Department of Sociology

Jagannath University

The Socio-Economic Condition of the Construction Workers of Dhaka City: An Empirical Study

Abstract

This paper explores the socio-economic condition of the construction workers from Azimpur area in Dhaka city. This study is quantitative in nature. A theoretical framework has been made in this study. Push & Pull Factors and Neoclassical Economic Theory have great relations with the existing research. The study shows that all construction workers are migrants who have migrated from the rural areas to Dhaka city to get jobs. They migrated to Dhaka city because of Push & Pull factors. Though Bangladesh is a densely populated country, the capital is not sufficient for incorporating the rural people in job avenues. Even though some people earn in rural areas, it is insufficient for them. All of these situations have forced the rural people to migrate to Dhaka. Their uneducated status forces them to choose the occupation of daily laborers —regardless of being male and female. The female laborers usually get fewer wages than the male laborers. Besides, both the male and the female laborers are cheated by the employers or the middlemen. The laborers have no fixed wage. They fix it by bargaining with the employers. This study explores the socio-economic situation of this community who work as construction workers through an in-depth investigation.

Key Words: Construction workers, Migration, Push Factors & Pull Factors, BSS, ILO, Human Rights, NGO.

1. Introduction

Unarguably, any infrastructural development of a country heavily depends on day laborers (WHO, 2010). The urban Bangladesh—especially the capital city of Dhaka—encompasses day laborers who are mainly the migrated people from the rural areas. In the majority cases, they are landless or semi landless in the villages. Some of them lost their lands due to river erosion; some sold all the lands they had in order to repay the loan taken from the local money lenders, NGOs or banks etc. After losing all, they migrate to Dhaka city in search of employment. As they are illiterate and unskilled, they do not get any decent job. Refused from all sectors, they become day laborers to manage the necessities. They have to maintain their families with the small income what they get daily. Mainly they live in the slum areas or the temporary sheds with low payment (Journal of Urban Management, 2018). In Bangladesh, the numbers of low-skilled and semi-skilled workers are increasing. Those laborers who are skilled in works can earn more. The unskilled laborers can earn comparatively less than the skilled laborers (ILO, 2014). Besides, their sufferings increase if they have large families some laborers have to maintain two families--one is in Dhaka with wife and children and the other in their villages where their parents live. In some cases, the laborers live in Dhaka city alone and their parents, wives and children live in the villages. In such a context, there was this need of a sociological investigation of their lives which is full of struggles and challenges contrary to what they dream of before their migration to the urban city.

2. Review of Literature

Afsar (1995) in her article *“Rural-urban Dichotomy and Convergence: Emerging Realities in Bangladesh”* tried to differentiate between the socio-economic conditions of rural and urban areas of Bangladesh before and after migration. The economic condition of rural areas is becoming poorer gradually. Because of enormous facilities, rural people migrate there in search of better income sources. Among the migrated people, some stay permanently and some temporarily in the urban areas. Nearly 10 per cent of households are found to be mainly temporary migrants. The rests are permanent. The major active laborer class works in the urban areas. They migrate to the urban areas to change their fate. Mohit (1990) argues in *“Rural-Urban Migration in Bangladesh: An Urban Perspective”* that rural-urban migration changes the trends of economic activities in many regions and affects poverty, income

distribution and employment. *Push and Pull Factors* play a significant role for migration of the poor people to the urban areas. The poor people migrate for economic reasons and tend to migrate to the small urban areas and engage in low-paid urban jobs as day laborers. On the other hand, the rich people migrate being often attracted by the cultures of the urban areas and tend to migrate to the large urban areas to get the highest income. Migration rate of men is higher than women in Bangladesh. Men usually migrate to the urban areas in search of work leaving their wives in the villages. Some men migrate with their wives and children also.

Uddin & Firoj (2013) argued in *International Journal of Ethics in Social Sciences* that millions of rural people are migrating to the cities of Bangladesh. Most of them are rural poor people. They take shelter in slums, squatters, footpaths, rail stations and other scattered places after migrating to the urban areas. It seems that Bangladesh possesses one of the highest rates of growth of urban population. The people having a large family cannot maintain all the costs of the family. That's why they migrate to the urban areas to escape themselves from poverty. The migrants engage themselves in informal sectors like manual labor on the basis of daily payment, hawking, working in hostels or canteen, petty business on footpath, working in garments factories etc. Ahmed (2004) discussed in *Bangladesh E-journal of Sociology* about the characteristics of third world urbanization. The urbanization process in the third world is multi-faceted and is characterized by various features. These are primacy and over urbanization, long time poverty, rural-urban migration, informal labor market, misallocation of labor, inadequate urban housing and services, low life chances such as high infant mortality rate, low life expectancy, limited access to healthcare system and insufficient diet.

Taylor & Martin (2001) argued in *Human Capital: Migration and Rural Population Change* that labor migration geographically is one of the most spreading features of agricultural transformations and economic growth. Internal migration is a process of redistribution of people and workforces from the rural areas to the urban areas. This kind of migration is seen both in developing and developed countries. After migration, there is a lack of agricultural laborers in the rural areas. As a result, agricultural production may decrease. Stark (1991) argues in his *The Migration of Labor* that rural urban migration is due to urban tendency in the allocation of national resources. Here, he indicates the pull factor of migration where the people being attracted by the facilities of a place migrate there. People migrate to

change their economic position in their own groups or communities. Rural-urban migration occurs for the economic betterment and development in every country. The laborers migrating to the urban areas send remittances to the rural areas. When the male members of the families migrate to the urban areas keeping their wives in the rural areas the fertility decreases automatically.

Thet (2014) in *Pull and Push Factors of Migration: A Case Study in the Urban Area of Monywa Township, Myanmar* stated that migration is a global phenomenon caused not only by economic factors but also by social, political, cultural, environmental, health, education and transportation factors. It commonly takes place because of the push factor of less opportunity in the socio-economic situation and also because of pull factor that exists in more developed areas. There are three components of population change. They are mortality, fertility and migration. There are two types of migration: one is internal migration and the other is international migration. Internal migration is the movement of people from one place to another within a country. International migration is the movement of people from one country to another in order to get jobs to establish residence or to increase living standard. Hickey, Narendra & Rainwater (2013) in *A Review of Internal and Regional Migration Policy in Southeast Asia* argued that the region of Southeast Asia is extremely diverse in terms of culture, language, ethnicity, economic development, forms of government and degrees of political freedom. Migration of all types has played and continues to play an important role in the political economy of this region. At present, migration is a central issue to the contemporary economies of all states within it. In terms of both migration policy processes and migration policy analyses, Southeast Asia is often folded into the larger regions of Asia. Because of the diversity of migration dynamics in Southeast Asia, they focus primarily on policies of labor migration because of the growing economic importance and political impact of labor migration in and out of the region.

Siddiqui (2003) in her *Migration as a Livelihood Strategy of the Poor: the Bangladesh Case* has said that migration has long been an important livelihood strategy for the people of Bangladesh. Whenever the population increased to such an extent that people could not secure a livelihood anymore, they migrated elsewhere. Even at present, both poor and middle class of people follow migration as a livelihood strategy in Bangladesh. Although Siddiqui has argued about international migration, her argument can be similar to internal migration also. In the rural areas of Bangladesh, the people

face many problems to maintain their livelihoods. Having insufficient income sources, they choose migration as a livelihood strategy. So, they migrate to the urban areas in search of income sources. More and more unskilled laborers migrate to the urban areas from the rural areas in Bangladesh.

3. Objectives of the Study

The broad objective of this study was to identify the overall condition of the people who migrate to Dhaka city from the rural areas in Bangladesh in search of employment, specially, construction day laborers.

The general objectives were:

- To understand the family structure, socio-economic condition, social status, working hours and health condition of the construction workers of Azimpur area;
- To explore the causes or purposes of migration of the construction workers from the rural areas to Dhaka city and;
- To investigate out the condition of the construction workers before and after migration.

4. Theoretical Framework

There have been analyzed two theories to conduct this research which are related with this study.

4.1 Push & Pull Factors

Migration can be defined as a form of relocation involving both the temporary and the permanent move to a new location. The reasons for what people migrate from one place to another would be due to “Push & Pull Factors.” Push and Pull factors are forces that can either inspire people to move to a new location or force them to leave the old locations. This migration can be based on economic, political, cultural and environmental issues. Push factor is a condition that can force people to leave their houses. A few example of push factors are insufficient income sources, low wages, few opportunities,

desertification, famine or drought, getting indebted, political fear, poor medical care, loss of wealth, natural disasters and so on. Pull factor is exactly the opposite to push factor. This factor attracts people to a certain location demonstrating the facilities of that new location. Examples of these pull factor are availability of jobs, more income, better jobs, high wages, better living conditions, political and religious freedom, enjoyment, education, better medical care, security and so on (Thet, 2014). This view of push and pull factors partially matches with the existing study. The study mainly deals with labor migration where the rural people migrate to Dhaka city in order to get jobs. In this case, the study completely matches with the concept of “Push & Pull Factors.”

Push factor says that people migrate due to insufficient jobs, low wages, few opportunities, desertification, famine or drought and getting indebted in their own areas. In this study, the researcher has found that the day laborers of Azimpur area in Dhaka city are mostly migrated people. They have migrated from the rural areas in Bangladesh. The rural people have migrated to Dhaka city because of various problems such as lack of enough income sources, low wages, quitting education due to poverty, becoming indebted day by day etc. in their rural areas. Here, it is seen that the causes of labor migration in this study completely matches with push factor. On the other hand, the pull factor says that people migrate to a new location being attracted by its availability of jobs, more income, better jobs and high wages. In the current research, the researcher has also found that some of the laborers have migrated to Dhaka city to earn more than they can earn in the rural areas. Before migration, they have known that jobs are available in Dhaka city and one can earn more money here. So, they have migrated to Dhaka city from the rural areas. In this case, the causes of their migration match with pull factor because they have migrated being attracted by the facilities of Dhaka city.

4.2 Neoclassical Economic Theory

This theory of migration states that the main reason of labor migration is the wage differences between two geographic locations. These wage differences are usually linked to demand and supply of geographic labor. It can be said that the areas with a shortage of labor but an excess of capital have a high relative wage while the areas with a high labor supply but a shortage of capital have a low relative wage. Laborers tend to migrate from the low-wage areas

to the high-wage areas (Hennings & Samuels, 1990). *Neoclassical Economic Theory* completely matches with the current study. The study expresses that the migrated people of Dhaka city have come here to earn more. Indirectly it refers that they can earn here more than they can in the rural areas. It means that income sources are more available in Dhaka city than the rural areas in Bangladesh. According to the primary data, most of the day laborers at Azimpur Labor Market have migrated to Dhaka city in order to earn more than the rural areas so that they can maintain their livelihoods normally. Here, the prime reason of their migration is that one can earn more money in Dhaka city than in the rural areas as the demand of labor in Dhaka city is higher than the rural areas. It is known to all that there is an excess of capital in Dhaka city in proportion to labor supply. So, the demand of labor is acute here. As a result, the wage is relatively high in Dhaka city. On the contrary, there is a shortage of capital in the rural areas but the supply of labor is high. So, the wage is relatively low in the rural areas. That's why; the day laborers have migrated from the rural areas to Dhaka city. It is clear that this research can be seen through the lens of *Neoclassical Economic Theory*.

5. Research Methodology and Sources of Data

This study is quantitative in nature, incorporated both primary and secondary data to analyze the overall conditions of the construction workers at Azimpur labor market in Dhaka city. A large number of daily laborers are now-a-days involved in construction work at Azimpur area. It is very difficult to enumerate the exact number of construction workers available at present. For the purpose of quantitative analysis, a survey was conducted on a sample size of 105 laborers who were interviewed from twelve (12) construction sites. Purposive sampling technique was used for the study. After the selection of construction sites purposively, the individual samples were selected from the locations by following spontaneous sampling procedure.

The primary data was collected from the construction workers of the study area through structured questionnaire and observations. The respondents were both male and female. They include several types of persons based of age level, marital status, educational qualification, income level, gender, religion etc. Their family structure, socio-economic condition, causes and purposes of migration, daily working hours and health condition have also been highlighted here.

The secondary data was collected from different books, articles, newspapers, periodicals, research works, journals, internet websites and several other reports of development agencies.

5.1 Description of the Study Area

The name of the study area was Azimpur under Lalbag police station in Dhaka. It is situated on the west side of Dhaka University and Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology campuses and on the east side of Iraqi Play Ground. And it is on the south of New Market, Dhaka and on the north of Dhakeshwari Bus Stop. It is an old region in the old part of Dhaka. The region was named after Shahzada Azam, son of Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb. Others attribute that the name came from Azim-us-Shaan, the Nayeb-e-Nazim of Dhaka during the early 18th century (Wikipedia)

The area of Azimpur is about 1.17 square kilometers. According to the census report (2011), Azimpur has a population of 96,641 (male 51,598 and female 45,043). The density of this area is about 83,000 per square kilometers. The graveyard was established in 1850 on about 32 acres of land. It has more than 3900 permanent graves and many temporary graves which are reused after several years.

6. Findings of the Study

6.1 Socio-Economic Condition of Construction Workers in Dhaka City

Age limit (year)	Numbers of respondents	Percentage (%)
15-29	21	20
30-44	59	56.2
Above 44	25	23.8
Total	100	100.0

Table 1: Distribution of Respondents by Aged Group (N=105) Source: Field survey, 2018

The above table highlights the respondents from different age levels. Some of them are very young, some are young, some are middle-aged and the rest are old, including both male and female. However, they were categorized them

in three levels in terms of age. The first level was for the people whose age-ranges were from 15 years to 29 years. Here, the number of respondents was 20 which covered 20% of the total respondents. The second level was from 30 years to 44 years. Here, the number of respondents was 56 which covered 56% of the total respondents. The last level was for the people whose age was above 44. Here, the number of respondents was 24 which covered 24% of the total respondents. The study shows that most of the workers are from middle aged group.

Gender	Number of the respondents	Percentage (%)
Male	84	80
Female	21	20
Total	105	100.0

Table 2: Distribution of Respondents by Gender (N=105) *Source: Field survey, 2018*

The above table shows that the number of male respondents was 80 which covered 80% of the total respondents. On the other hand, the number of female respondents was 20 and it covered the rest 20% of total number of the respondents. It is clear from the study that a significant number of women are involved in construction work. It also signifies that the scarcity of low level jobs suitable for the poor women with lower level educational attainment.

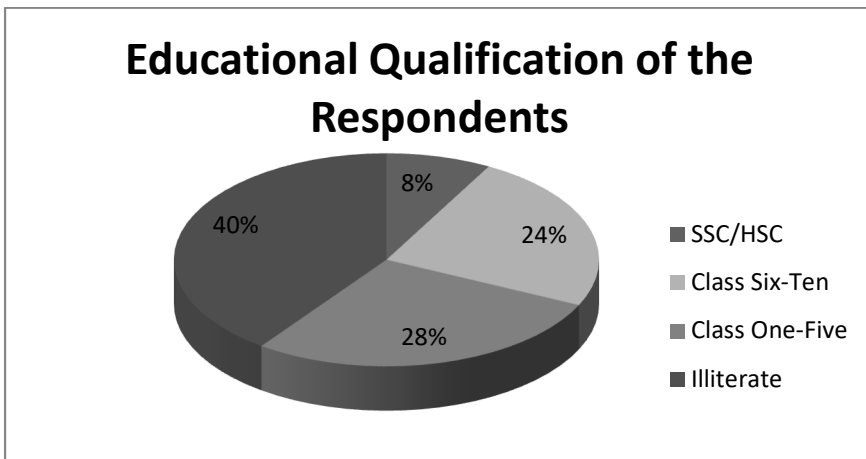


Figure 1: Distribution of Respondents by Educational Qualification (N=105) *Source: Field survey, 2018*

The above figure categorized respondents based on four levels: Level one, comprising SSC/HSC passed laborers, Level two, comprising laborers who studied from class six to ten, Level three, comprising laborers who studied from class one to five and Level four, comprising illiterate laborers. Only 9 respondents were in level one and it covered 8.6% of total number of the respondents. In level two, only 25 respondents were found; they covered 23.8% of the total respondents. Level three comprised 29 respondents who covered 27.9% of 105 respondents. In the last level, the number of the respondents was 42 and it covered 40% of total number of the respondents. It is found that a large number of construction workers are illiterate which constitute 40% of the total respondents. It is notable that a significant number of youths are working as daily laborers for their desperate need who passed SSC or HSC.

Family Structure	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Extended Family	86	81.9
Nuclear Family	19	19.1
Total	105	100.0

Table 3: Distribution of Respondents Based on Family Structure (N=105)

Source: Field survey, 2018

According to above table, 86 respondents came from extended families that covered 81.9% of the total respondents. Besides, 19 respondents came from nuclear families that covered 18.1% of the total respondents. So, rest of the respondents had come from extended families.

6.2 Income Level

Monthly income (tk.)	Numbers of respondents	Percentage (%)
4,000-6,000	21	20
7,000-9,000	67	63.8
10,000-12,000	17	16.2
Total	105	100.0

Table 4: Distribution of Respondents by Income Level (N=105)

Source: Fieldwork, 2016

This table categorized respondents in three levels. The laborers who earned an average Tk. 4,000-6,000 per month belonged to Level one. Those who earned Tk. 7,000-9,000 per month belonged to Level two. The laborers who earned Tk. 10,000-12,000 per month belonged to Level three. So, only 21 respondents were found in Level one out of 105 respondents who covered 20% of total number of the respondents. In Level two, the number of respondents was 67 and it covered 63.8% of the total respondents. Level three covered only 62.2% of total number of the respondents in the study area as it included only 17 respondents. This study indicates that almost two-third (63.8%) of the construction workers have a low level income, which is below Tk. 10,00 per month.

6.3 Causes and Purposes of Migration

Causes	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Poverty	26	24.8
Illiteracy	24	22.9
Temptation of high income source	22	21
Betterment of lifestyle	19	18
Unemployment	14	13.3
Total	105	100.0

Table 5: Distribution of Respondents Based on Causes & Purposes of Migration (N=105)
Source: Fieldwork, 2016

From the above table, it was found that 26 respondents migrated to Dhaka owing to poverty which covered 24.8% of the total respondents. Besides, 24 and 22 respondents migrated for the reasons of illiteracy and temptation of high income source respectively which covered 22.9% and 21% of the total respondents. Apart from these, 19 (18%) respondents migrated because of betterment of lifestyle and 14 (13.3%) respondents migrated for unemployment. It is evident from the current study that poverty and illiteracy still remains in the rural area which is aggravated due to non-availability of jobs in the lean season.

6.4 Marital Status and Religious Status

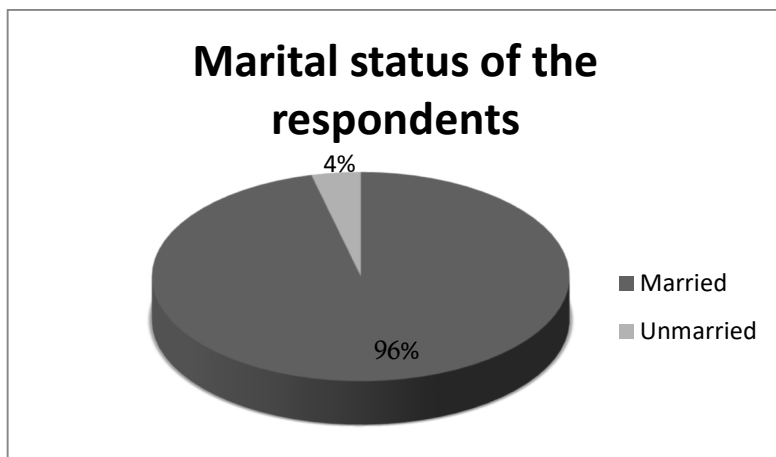


Figure 2: Distribution of Respondents by Marital Status (N=105)

Source: Field survey, 2018

From the above figure, it is clear that about 101 respondents were married which covered 96% of the total respondents. Besides, 4 respondents were unmarried that covered 4% of the total respondents.

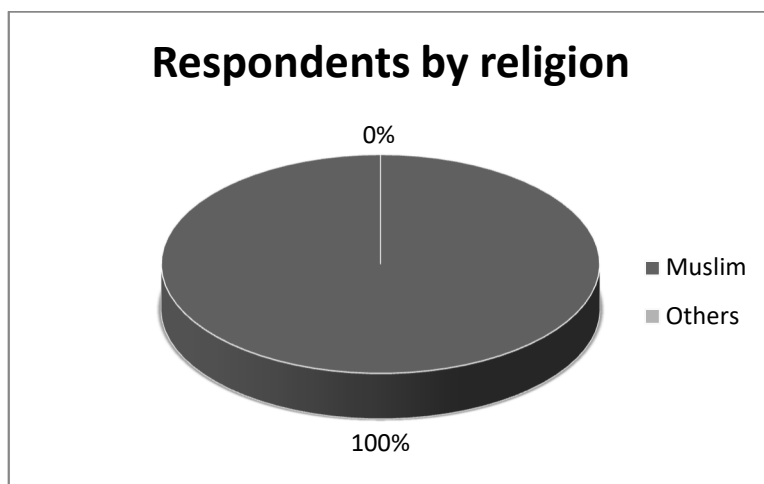


Figure 3: Distribution of Respondents by Religious Status (N=105)

Source: Field survey, 2018

The above table shows the total respondents as Muslims. The absence of laborers belonging to other religion is indeed surprising; the exact reason behind this can be a subject of another study.

6.5 To Explore the Health Condition & Sources of Treatment

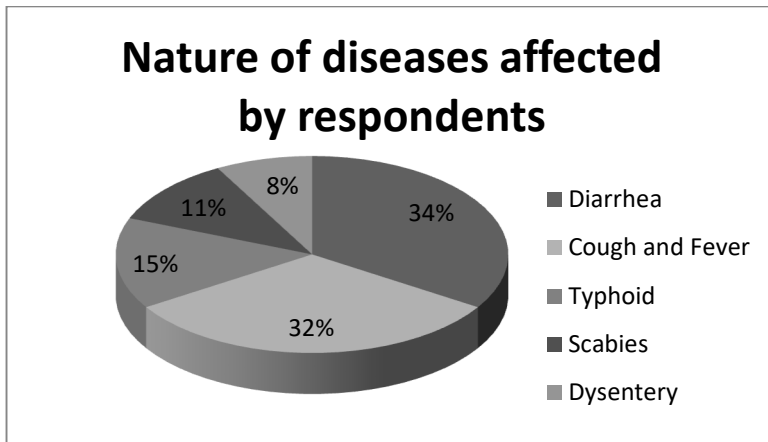


Figure 4: Distribution of Respondents Based on Diseases They Affected (N=105)
Source: Field survey, 2018

From figure 5, it is observed that about 34 (34%) respondents were affected by diarrhea while 32 (32%) respondents got affected by cough and fever. Besides, 15 (15%) respondents were affected by typhoid. Apart from these, about 11 (11%) and 8 (8%) respondents were affected by scabies and dysentery respectively. The respondents were affected by these diseases since the previous three months of conducting this survey. They had not been conscious about their health. Maximum respondents answered that they bought medicines from local pharmacy without the prescription of any doctors.

7. Discussions and Analyses

This part attempted to analyze the major findings with regard to the family structures, socio-economic conditions, social statuses, working hours and

health conditions of the laborers. The causes or purposes of migration of the laborers from the rural areas to Dhaka city were found through the data collected from the respondents of different ages.

- The day laborers in Azimpur Area

The study was conducted in Azimpur Labor Market. During the observation period, we found both male and female laborers available at Azimpur Labor Market. Instead of being confined to houses, women laborers work side by side with men. They provide a great contribution to the economy of their families. According to the primary data, the women laborers have been actually compelled to do this job. Several women laborers narrated about their poor economic condition where their husbands alone could not afford all expenses of their families consisting of 4/5 members. So, they had to do work as day laborers.

- Who are the laborers?

The day laborers in Azimpur area are those people who do not get other jobs except manual works on the basis of daily payment. They actually belong to the lower class of social strata. People tend to treat them as servants and use them as tools; they are neglected in all terms. A senior respondent said how he felt that laborers have no honor and respect in society. They have no right to talk on social or political issues with others. If they do so, they are harassed from various quarters. They just work for their subsistence. They are always in struggle against their miseries. They usually work all day long and return to houses in the evening with their wages. Then, they cook food for themselves and their children. After passing their nights, they again appear at the labor market next morning. Thus, they are confined into an ongoing life cycle.

- Origin of construction workers

This study has found all construction workers are migrants who had migrated from the rural areas. In fact, it proves the intensity of migration of poor people to Dhaka city. About 1700 people are migrating to Dhaka city every day (UNFPA & BBS, 2016). Some of them are temporary migrants and some are permanent migrants. Some people live in Dhaka city with family members and some live alone in Dhaka city keeping the family members in the villages.

The rural illiterate people migrating to Dhaka city do not get any job and so, get engaged in this sector. By working here as construction workers, they maintain their livelihoods.

- The reason behind their choice of this occupation

According to the primary data, most of the day laborers in Azimpur area chose this occupation due to lack of other jobs. When they migrated to Dhaka city, they were unknown to all. Consequently, none wanted to give them any job. Besides, most of the migrated people were illiterate. So, they did not get jobs in any sectors, like factories or companies, where a basic educational level is required. Those who are educated can, somehow, manage jobs in any sectors. The neglected people have no way of earning. Finally, they become involved in manual works on the basis of daily payment and gather at labor markets daily in order to get jobs.

A different case was also found during data collection. Not all the laborers had chosen this occupation having no other way. Some people chose it willingly. A female informant, Rubi, mentioned that she worked in a garment factory previously. At the time of her illness, she did not get any vacation. So, she had to work despite being ill. If she missed one day's attendance in the factory, the authority would cancel her wages for three days. So, she quit that job and got involved in manual labor. In her present occupation, she can work freely. If she wanted to take rest at home, she could do it. No one could force her to do work every day. Another informant, Usman Sikder (pseudonym), said that he used to work in Pran RFL Group as a sales officer. He would not get any vacation. Even, when his father died in the village, he could not manage any vacation to go to his village. So, he went to the village resigning from his job. From then, he never tried to get any job in that office. Then, he has chosen the occupation of day laborers because he could get vacation here when he wanted. He could work freely in this occupation.

- Causes of Migration

As mentioned already, all of the construction workers at Azimpur Labor Market are migrants who had migrated from the rural areas in Bangladesh. There were various reasons of their migration to Dhaka city. According to the primary data, some people migrated to Dhaka city due to lack of income

sources in the rural areas. A few people migrated to meet the extra demand of their large families.

Some of the construction workers said that they had no agricultural lands in the villages. They worked in others' agricultural lands at the time. The wage of working in the agricultural lands used to be very low. They could not lead their lives normally with that low income. Besides, the works in the agricultural lands were not available all year round. They had to pass 5-6 months sitting idle. At that time, they had to pass days through hardship. Thus, they had to migrate to Dhaka city to earn all year round and lead normal lives.

Some of the construction workers said that they did manual works in the rural areas. But, because of the increasing number of population, the supply of laborers increased as well as the demand of works also increased. As a result, the works were not available in the rural areas which decreased their income. Day by day, they were sinking in debt. They could not repay the loans borrowed from the local money lenders. So, they migrated to Dhaka city in order to survive. Some of them migrated with bag and baggage. A few people migrated to Dhaka city keeping their family members to their villages.

A few respondents said that they had to maintain large families in the rural areas. Although most of the family members earned money, the income was not enough to meet all of their demands. Because of the lack of enough income sources, they could not earn much money. So, they migrated to Dhaka city as they knew about the availability of jobs here. After coming to Dhaka city, they could not manage good jobs. The researchers found some interesting causes of labor migration also. A female respondent said that her family had been in a good socio-economic condition in their village. But, they were becoming poor gradually. The children were growing up and their educational expenses were also increasing. The earning member of their family was only her husband. When he faced a great loss in his business, the family became poor. Neither the woman nor her husband could do work as day laborers in the village because of losing dignity. So, all of them migrated to Dhaka city. Since nobody knew them here, they were comfortable with this occupation.

Rubi (Pseudonym), another female construction worker, said that she migrated to Dhaka city after quarrelling with her husband. Her husband got married with another woman without her permission. Knowing about it, Rubi

quarreled with him. Then, she migrated to Dhaka city. She has been living in Dhaka city for 10 years. She had never met her husband within these 10 years. Now, she was working as a construction worker and living with her nephew's family.

Mizanur Rahman(Pseudonym), one of the key informants of the current research, said that he migrated to Dhaka city 3 years ago quarrelling with his parents. He did not like to study at all. So, he would not go to school regularly. For this, his parents rebuked and even beat him. So, he decided to flee from home. He had an aim to earn by himself to lead his life. He did not like to depend on his parents although the economic condition of his family was very good. However, after hitting upon a plan, he fled away from his house and migrated to Dhaka city. He is happy working as a construction worker in Azimpur area.

8. Conclusion

This study was about the socio-economic condition of the construction workers who categorically migrated from the rural areas to Dhaka city. In this research, the causes of migration—along with the positive and negative impacts associated with it—have also been described. The research found that most of the day laborers migrate to Dhaka city being driven by Push factors. Only a few migrate because of Pull factors. Most of the laborers had faced different types of economic problems in the rural areas before migration. The problems include lack of enough sources of income, low wages and getting indebted day by day and so on. In order to get rid of these problems, they migrated to the urban city. Regardless of male and female, poor people migrated to Dhaka city in search of jobs and better lives. On an average, the laborers work for 3-4 days per week. Though the wages considerably increased than before, the laborers still could not afford all of their expenses as the price of necessary commodities had also increased.

However, the female construction workers got at least Tk. 100 less than their male counterparts. The prime cause as it seems is that the male construction workers can do risky and harder work compared to females. Sometimes, they are cheated by the employers or the middlemen. Generally, the middlemen make contract with the laborers to recruit laborers for works. They usually do not give the laborers the right amount of wages that is sanctioned for the laborers. They try to give less than the sanctioned money

to the laborers after bargaining with them. Sometimes, the employers also cheat the laborers by paying less than the fixed wages and also by delaying payment of wages, and in such cases they often threaten the laborers.

However, all of the construction workers were found to live in rented houses. They had to pay rents at the beginning of a month which had made it a compulsion for them to earn money for the rent. Apart from this, they have to send money to their family members staying in the village.

References

- Afsar, R. (1995). *Causes, consequences and challenges of rural-urban migration in Bangladesh* (Doctoral dissertation, University of Adelaide, Department of Geography).
- Afsar, R., 2000. *Rural-urban migration in Bangladesh: causes, consequences, and challenges*. University Press.
- Ahmed, A.I. and Uddin, M., 2004. Weber's perspective on the city and culture, contemporary urbanization and Bangladesh. *Bangladesh e-journal of Sociology*, 1(1), p.1.
- Statistics, E., 2012. Population and housing census 2011.BBS.
- Bernard, H. R. (1995). *Research Methods in Anthropology: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*. USA: Altamira Press.
- Giddens, A., 2002. Where Now for New Labour?, Cambridge. *Polity*.
- Samuels, W.J. and Hennings, K. eds., 1990. *Neoclassical Economic Theory, 1870 to 1930*. Kluwer Academic Publishers.
- Hickey, M., Narendra, P. and Rainwater, K., 2013. A review of internal and regional migration policy in southeast asia. *Migrating Out of Poverty Working Paper*, 8.
- Kazi, S.H., 2010. *Making Ends Meet-Entrepreneurship in a Bangladeshi Village*. Tampere University Press.
- Mohit, M.A., 1990. Rural-urban migration in Bangladesh: an urban perspective. *J. Bangladesh Inst. Planners*, 1(1&2), pp.47-59.

- Porumbescu, A., 2015. Defining the new economics of labor migration theory boundaries: a sociological-level analysis of international migration. *Revista de Stiinte Politice*, (45), p.55.
- Punch, F., 1998. Introduction to social research, quantitative and qualitative approaches. Sage Publications.
- Reich, M., Gordon, D.M. and Edwards, R.C., 1973. A theory of labor market segmentation. *The American Economic Review*, 63(2), pp.359-365.
- Siddiqui, T., 2003. *Migration as a livelihood strategy of the poor: the Bangladesh case*. Bangladesh: Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit, Dhaka University.
- Stark, O., 1991. *The Migration of Labor*, Basil Blackwell, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02142, USA.
- Taylor, J.E. and Martin, P.L., 2001. Human capital: Migration and rural population change. *Handbook of agricultural economics*, 1, pp.457-511.
- Thet, K.K., 2014. Pull and push factors of migration: A case study in the urban Area of Monywa Township, Myanmar. *News from the World of Statistics*.
- Uddin, M.N. and Firoj, M., 2013. Causes and Consequences of Rural-Urban Migration in Bangladesh: An Empirical Study in Chittagong City. *International Journal of Ethics in Social Sciences*. 1 (1): 89-104.
- Roy, M., 2009. Planning for sustainable urbanisation in fast growing cities: Mitigation and adaptation issues addressed in Dhaka, Bangladesh. *Habitat International*, 33(3), pp.276-286.