Good Governance

Bureaucracy complexities in policymaking in Bangladesh

Faria Shobnom,
Suroj Banik,
Aditta Ghosh,
Md. Tohidul Haque Sagar,
Mohsenul Kabir Mithun.
Ismet Ara Emu.

Department of Social Relations, East West University, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Abstract

The policymaking parts and duties of political and bureaucratic executives are frequently troublesome to recognize. Taking the case of Bangladesh, this article argues that the part of the bureaucracy in policymaking is undermined by excessive political impact, the bureaucracy's need of successful engagement with gracious society and non-governmental associations, and a decay in bureaucratic capacities in terms of arrangement back and arrangement administration. Bureaucrats lose objectivity in policymaking as undue political induction and fanatic interface abrogate impartial ability. Policy-relevant bits of knowledge from the community don't nourish into approach processes because of a bureaucratic hesitance to lock in frequently with gracious society organizations, think tanks and the media. A steady decrease within the instructive quality and professional benchmarks of open authorities comes about in destitute capacity to deal with

policy issues. The examination proposes that rather than tussling with political administrators in the exercise of control and specialist, bureaucrats must way better use their knowledge, expertise and encounter by locks in definitively in approach things that have a direct effect on citizens. Bureaucratic possession of key angles of policymaking is a basic figure in speeding up socioeconomic improvement in a nation such as Bangladesh.

Introduction:

Good Governance: Bureaucracy complexities in policymaking in Bangladesh

Literature Review

Three especially critical components are suitably tended to here. These are the politicization of open organization; the need of engagement with gracious society, think tanks and the media; and an disintegration of the capacity of open workers.

Politicization of public administration:

The Bangladeshi respectful benefit has regularly been politicized and in this way incapable to function free from undue political weights and impacts. It has remained institutionally weak since of its politicization, with endeavors to change the organization and reduce political impact having had as it were restricted victory (Huque, 2011, p. 65). Its politicization began at the exceptionally starting of autonomous Bangladesh (Mollah, 2011, p. 152).

It was intensely politicized amid military and semi-military administrations from 1975 to 1991. The military administration required its back, and in return it fortified its own position. Its control extended as military administrations were subordinate on its organizational strength and administrative abilities (Jahan, 2006, p. 12). Indeed after the equitable transition and return to parliamentary majority rule government in 1991, it kept on be greatly politicized by political

pioneers. Divided interface impacted and molded it and its relationship with the political official (Huque & Rahman, 2003, p. 404–405; Jahan & Shahan, 2008, p. 308). A barefaced case of career gracious servants' deep-rooted political involvement was watched in 1996 when a few senior bureaucrats played a basic divided part in mobilizing individuals against the occupant government by freely supporting resistance parties. In doing so, they repudiated the rules of conduct that anticipate them from being specifically included in legislative issues (Zafarullah & Rahman, 2008, p. 742).

The politicization of the bureaucracy can be seen as having two measurements. The first includes politicization of its staff. The objective is to populate its higher echelons with party followers or sympathizers. Divided deputies in respectful benefit recruitment agencies attempt to enroll as numerous party followers as conceivable. Bureaucrats who are perceived to be adjusted with the restriction parties are exchanged to less important posts (frequently exterior the capital) or punished by being made officers on extraordinary duty (OSDs). The OSDs get pay and benefits, but are not alloted to perform any task (Huque, 2011, p. 67). After the parliamentary decisions in 2009, an assessed 434 senior authorities were made OSDs, with a lion's share of them being on political grounds (Alam & Teicher, 2012, p. 869). Choices on arrangements, exchanges, postings, promotions and rejections are regularly found to be based more on political contemplations than on any judicious standards (Siddiquee, 2003, p. 51).

The moment measurement of politicization includes giving uncommon administrations and benefits in the shape of support to party activists. These divided exercises by politicized bureaucrats run from the ordinary exemption of a activity infringement to the awarding of party followers of gigantic open contracts worth millions of dollars. Hence, the effects of the politicization of the bureaucracy plague the commonwealth, society and economy.

Need of engagement with gracious society, think tanks and the media:

There's a common recognition that respectful workers are generally apathetic to wants of the individuals and are unwilling to tune in to them (Jahan, 2006, p. 2). This reserved quality and elitist mindset may reflect the colonial bequest which owes its beginnings to the British rulers, who created the authoritative framework to serve the royal interests of the realm. This colonial engrave has protects the bureaucracy from the general populace (Jahan & Shahan, 2012, p. 277).

Fair as lawmakers ought to, so as well must bureaucrats' interface with the open and gather bits of knowledge that will encourage improvement of better policy choices. The public administration must try persistently to put through with the open in arrange to understand and comprehend social elements that can advise approach arrangement efforts. The arrangement handle can advantage massively when partners have the opportunity to comprehend the approach cycle and give educated inputs to the surrounding, implementation and assessment of approaches (Zafarullah & Huque, 2001, p. 1394). Formal and informal partnerships with civic educate such as non-governmental associations (NGOs) enrich the quality of policymaking (Haque, 2004b, p. 272).

In Bangladeshi open organization, there has been a need of veritable civic engagement (Sarker, 2009, p. 1113). Indeed, in spite of the fact that discussion and discourse with all stakeholders have gotten to be basic within the execution and change of policies, there have been no moves to reorient open hirelings to ended up sharp in locks in with the open (Zafarullah & Huque, 2001, p. 1390).

Capacity of Bureaucrat:

The pertinence of the master preparing and instruction of authorities to their zones of work has been tricky (Zafarullah & Rahman, 2008, p. 745). Open authorities lack opportunities to create inquire about capacities that may empower them to address and propose more educated and systematically sound approach choices. A basic figure has been the insufficiency of preparing programs run by the respectful benefit preparing institutes. The effect of preparing is unimportant as preparing proceeds to endure from various inadequacies and does not prepare gracious hirelings with the fundamental abilities to perform their specific employments (Siddiquee, 2003, p. 40). Hence, holes in arrangement investigation and explanatory capacities remain. Numerous of the preparing programs center on procedural and administrative issues instead of subject-specific specialized points that can help in approach analysis. Khan (1989, p. 311) famous that "public segment preparing in Bangladesh is still characterized by ad-hocism, assortment of preparing educate, need of qualified coaches, need of interest of gracious workers in in-country preparing, bureaucratic control, and disappointment to link training with promotion". The Bangladesh Open Organization Preparing Centre (BPATC), the vital regulatory and administration preparing founded for the civil service, has had small positive impact. The BPATC's undue reliance on deputising civil workers to act as educates, its disappointment to pull in qualified proficient trainers

and its failure to plan inventive courses have long influenced its execution (Khan, 1989, p. 311). These components have contributed to the in general decay within the level of substantive and expository capacities within the bureaucracy to bargain with approach issues.

Methodology

Search strategy This review is mainly based on the current published data or information. The major electronic databases and search engines including Cochrane library, Pub Med, Scopus, Google Scholar databases and the Bangladesh Journals Online were searched from 2001 to 2021 before August to accumulate current findings. The major keywords and their combinations used in search strategy was following: good governance, bad governance, bureaucracy, politic, abuse of power, corruption in bureaucracy, weak executive, Corruption in Bangladesh, Bureaucratic complexities etc. Reference list and reviews were used during the search process. Searches were limited to articles published in the English language. Criteria for inclusion and exclusion Inclusion criteria for this study were (1) reported study data with relevant information of good governance in Bangladesh, (2) study reported of the good governance; (3) study published in a peer-reviewed journal in the English language (4) study conducted Bangladeshi daily newspaper article of governances; (5) analyzed Anti-Corruption commission report of Bangladesh. (6) . Studies published in other languages than English and contained only qualitative data were excluded from this review analysis.

Result

We drove out the British and Pakistanis but we still a slave to the bureaucrats. We always hearing in the air that the country is floating in the tide of development but remember don't judge a book by its covers. It is more difficult to defend than to gain independence. In Bangladesh the bureaucrats have made themselves king and we all are their tenants. We are in a situation where we will be getting penalty if we speak against the bureaucrats. Most of the bureaucrats in our country are busy to establishing themselves as a lords of the state. Themselves as a lord of the state. They continue to utter their own words of greatness because power has blinded them. On the paper they are public servants but harsh reality is that they are have enclaves the people we unconsciously address them as '' Sir''.

How we are being dusted through bureaucrats, these consequences are given below:

- 1. Unproductive public Management practice: In our country bureaucratic management is an example of inefficient unproductive and infestation management. Recently a news was published where department of primary education proposes to send one thousand government officials to India for training in ''Khichuri cooking' 'at an estimated cost of 15 crores taka. In this context, a proverb came to my mind which is '' to waste inconsiderably ''being a real example of this incident.
- 2. Centralization of power: General Ershad took a great initiative in this case. He forced to arrange for the transfer for judges at the upazilla level. Then the lawyers of the two major parties (Awami league and BNP) tried to abolish this. Current situations we can see the government officials go abroad for months on vacation and their salaries are transferred to their accounts on time, people went to court year after year hoping for justice.
- 3. Administrative structure and decision-making problem: The misery of the mind is the great misery. It has become our habit to calling them sir and greeting them such as Shahib babu (Bureaucrats) whenever we see him. He has forgotten that they are servants of people. They are imposing on us all the work of lord (Patron) and we are doing all the work as servants (Client).
- 4. Gap between bureaucrats and citizens: Bureaucrats between as like as "Swell like a turkey cock". Their attitude such as elite class and treated us parasite of them. We are living creatures their grace.

- 5. Lack of transparency: transparency which is "a castle in the air". If we got judge their transparency, we will have definitely gone to prison like journalist Rozina.
- 6. Lack of accountability: because of bureaucrats do not have to be accountable to anyone. Bureaucrats are plundering hundreds of crores of taka and reserving it Swiss banks in front of government. If the government is associated with it them then the question of accountability does not come up. There is a proverb" birds of a feature flock together are appropriate in this situation. 7. Problems of recruitment: since independence the recruitment process of government of officials has become a part of joke. Even after passing BA, they are sitting in the chair as a government official in post-independence period. Giving notice of appointment by leaking question papers is nothing but show off. Although there is a condition of vacancy in the case of promotion, this condition is constantly being violated in the administration, promotion is being given even through there is no post this has created a chaotic situation in the administration.

Conclusion:

Bangladesh faces critical challenges to attain national level objectives in poverty reduction, improvement and financial development. Conditions of degraded destitution and other social issues in a creating nation such as Bangladesh request that the public administration play a pivotal part within the forms of socio-economic enhancement (Haque, 2004a, p. 369).

The three variables tended to in this examination as influencing the bureaucracy's part in policymaking are went with by other critical powers and elements. These include structural irregularities, destitute human assets administration, debasement, need of accountability, and arrangement burden by worldwide benefactors. All of these variables in various ways and degrees influence the bureaucracy's capacity to create suitable approaches. Furthermore, as the vital needs of the government have progressively moved towards privatisation, progression and deregulation, government and bureaucratic involvement in approach things is progressively undermined (Haque, 2001a, p. 1415).

Open organization in Bangladesh has been subject to a number of changes and structural changes. The piecemeal nature of change and the hesitance of the political leadership to start a exhaustive redesign of the bureaucratic apparatus have negated the prospect of setting up a solid organization (Siddiquee, 1999, p. 93). At the same time, the vision of a incline government and of market-led administration mechanisms has remained a myth. The organization still accept conventional and overwhelming roles and duties within the generation and conveyance of merchandise and administrations such as health care, instruction, transport, horticulture and mechanical framework. It remains the major instrument of government and a drive in its possess right (Zafarullah, 2007, p. 171). Accordingly, since the bureaucracy's part in policymaking is improbable to decrease, it is imperative that it create a capacity to lock in in viable policymaking together with the political official and the community.

Reference

পদ ছাড়া পদোন্নতি. (2021). Retrieved from

https://www.prothomalo.com/opinion/editorial/%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%A6-

%E0%A6%9B%E0%A6%BE%E0%A7%9C%E0%A6%BE-

%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A8%E0

%A6%A4%E0%A6%BF?fbclid=IwAR3xW2kWesXG-

ALlx peYXXp5T94c XUXjsIKD3VmdBntgXMMUOiPSDHfCE

Mofizul, S. (2020). খিচুড়ি রামা শিখতে ভারত সফর, ৫ কোটি টাকার আবদার!. banglanews24. Retrieved from

https://banglanews24.com/national/news/bd/811839.details?fbclid=IwAR2fgD0ODIHR_75PjPT_zlYxDfflitoONZr5QT7gsYT3UO2M4sy9tGXESrQ

Ahmed, E. (1980). Dominant bureaucratic elites in Bangladesh. In M. M. Khan & H. M.

Zafarullah (Eds.), Politics and bureaucracy in a new nation: Bangladesh (pp. 149–175).

Dhaka: Centre for Administrative Studies.

Alam, Q., & Teicher, J. (2012). The state of governance in Bangladesh: The capture of state institutions. Journal of South Asian Studies, 35, 858–884.

Huque, A. S. (2011). Accountability and governance: Strengthening extra-bureaucratic mechanisms

in Bangladesh. International Journal of Productivity and Performance Management, 60, 59–74.

Huque, A. S., & Rahman, M. T. (2003). From domination to alliance: Shifting strategies and accumulation of power by the bureaucracy in Bangladesh. Public Organization Review, 3, 403–418.

Jahan, F., & Shahan, A. M. (2008). Politics-bureaucracy relationship in Bangladesh: Consequences

for the Public Service Commission. Public Organization Review, 8, 307–328.

Jahan, F., & Shahan, A. M. (2012). Bureau bashing and public service motivation: A case for the civil service of Bangladesh. International Journal of Public Administration, 35, 272–284.

Khan, M. M. (1989). Resistance to administrative reform in Bangladesh, 1972–1987. Public Administration and Development, 9, 301–314.

Mollah, Md. A. H. (2011). Growth and development of civil service and bureaucracy in Bangladesh: An overview. South Asian Survey, 18, 137–156.

Sarker, A. E. (2009). The new mode of public governance and public accountability in developing countries: An analysis with particular reference to Bangladesh. International Journal of Public Administration, 32, 1101–1123.

Siddiquee, N. A. (1999). Bureaucratic accountability in Bangladesh: Challenges and limitations. Asian Journal of Political Science, 7, 88–104.

Siddiquee, N. A. (2003). Human resource management in Bangladesh civil service: Constraints and contradictions. International Journal of Public Administration, 26, 35–60.

Zafarullah, H., & Huque, A. S. (2001). Public management for good governance: Reforms, regimes, and reality in Bangladesh. International Journal of Public Administration, 24, 1379–1403.