

Study on Prevention of Crime in Bangladesh

Dr. Md. Washel Uddin Mollah

Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh

Abstract– Crime prevention is any initiative or policy which reduces or eliminates the aggregate level of victimization or the risk of individual criminal participation. It includes government and community based programs to reduce the incidents of risk factors correlated with criminal participation and the rate of victimization, as well as efforts to change perceptions. At the present time in Bangladesh, MOHA and Bangladesh police are taking the lead role in establishing a crime prevention and community safety program through its efforts to implement the community Policing Strategy (CPS) throughout the country. In time, other Government Ministries and NGO's should also incorporate the principles and philosophies of crime prevention and community safety into their respective policies. For example, the ministry of education (MOE) can identify where the principles of crime prevention can apply to its functions and incorporate some aspects to enhance the safety and well being of teachers and students within the school environment. Community safety is a broad concept which can focus on the individual (physical and emotional well-being). The literature on the subject refers to community (economic, environmental and social well-being). The literature on the subject refers to community safety as aspects of 'quality of life' that incorporates issues such as crime prevention/reduction, road safety, public health, emergency management and the environment. The discipline of crime prevention and community safety is very broad and responsibility rests with a large range of stakeholders. The framework for the strategy is designed to allow a great deal of flexibility into the process. Bangladesh's social development is progressing rapidly and the people appear excited by the change. The main emphasis throughout this framework is partnerships, empowerment and acceptance of responsibility. These are philosophical requirements which can only be instilled through cultural change. This is the reason that a national strategy has to be lead and supported by the highest authority, while ownership and implementation rests with the community. This framework shall enable the establishment of the systems and processes needed to develop and implement the overall strategy.

Keywords— Crime, Prevention, Law, Criminal, Victimization;

I. INTRODUCTION

The word 'crime' is derived from the Latin word 'krinos' which means to accuse. It covers those acts which are against social order and deserve disapprobation and condemnation of society. In General sense, crime means which violate law, rules, regulation or which harmful or destroy human society or resources or which create problems in human life. The word Crime has not been defined in the Bangladesh Penal Code. In its broad sense, however, it may be explained as an act of commission or omission which is harmful to the society in general. But all acts tending to prejudice the community are not crime unless they are punishable under the law.

Crime is the contrary act of social orders. It is not a mater out of society rather a common part of human society. It means that it is one kind of behavior of human being. Crime is phenomenon which is of primary concern to every member of the human society. To conceive of crimeless society is practically impossible. From the beginning of human civilization crime has been a common problem in every society. It is closely related to social policy of the time. The concept of crime depends much upon the social values, accepted norms and behavioral patterns of a particular society of a given time.

According to Osborn, crime is an act or default which tends to the Prejudice of the community, and forbidden law on pain of punishment inflicted at the suit of the State. In its legal sense, therefore, crime includes such offences being acts or defaults which have been made punishable by the Bangladesh Penal code. It is apparent from the above that there is nothing which by itself is a crime, unless it has declared by the legislature as punishable.

Definition of Crime

Though it is difficult to appreciate a definition of crime, so many scholars tried to define crime based on the concept of crime. The concept of crime is dynamic in nature so that it cannot appreciate to fix a definition of crime which is absolute and universal.

According to Oxford Advanced Learner's dictionary activities that involve breaking the law: According to Black's Law Dictionary: An Act that the makes punishable; the breach of a legal duty treated as the subject matter of a criminal proceeding.

According to Kenny "Crimes are wrongs whose sanction is punitive, and is in no way remissible by any private person, but is remissible by the crown alone, if remissible at all". But this definition has evoked criticism on the ground that there are indeed a number of compoundable offences that are remissible by the consent of the parties.

According to Roscoe Pound, commented that "A final definition of crime is impossible, because law is a living and changing thing, which may at onetime be based on sovereign will and at another time on juristic science, which may at one time be uniform and at another time give much room for judicial discretion, which may at one time be more specific in its prescription and at another time much more general".

According to Blackstone, a crime is an Act committed or omitted in violation of a public Law either forbidding or commanding it. He, however, realized at a later stage that this

definition may be proved to be misleading because it limits the scope of crime to violations of a "Public Law" which normally covers political offences such as offences against the state. Therefore, he modified his definition of crime and stated, "a crime is a violation of the 'public rights and duties' due to the whole community, considered as a community".

According to Donald Taft, 'Crime is a social injury and an expression of subjective opinion varying in time and place".

Tappan defined crime as "crime is an intentional act in violation of criminal law"

Stephen; the editor of Blackstone said, "Crime is an act which is both forbidden by law and revolting to the moral sentiments of the society."

According to the Roberstone, "a crime is an act that has been prohibited by a political authority, usually through the enactment of a law."

David Popenoe defined, "crime is a behavior that is prohibited by governmental authority and that can be punished through the application of formal sanctions".

Hulsbury's definition of crime is the most acceptable comparatively. He stated crime, "as an unlawful act which is an offence against the public and the perpetrator of that act is liable to legal punishment."

Legal Definition

Crime is a legal term and it has a sanction of law in the society. Thus, the legal definition of crime distinguishes crime from sin, religious or moral wrongs. It also gives a basic and strong foundation of discussing offences which is scientific and precise to criminology.

Paul W. Tappan has defined crime as "an intentional act or omission in violation of criminal law, committed without defense or justification and sanctioned by the laws as felony or misdemeanor."

Concept of Crime

It is a myth to think of a crimeless society. In fact, there can be no society without the problem of crime and criminals. The concept of crime is essentially concerned with the social order. It is well known that man's interests are best protected as a member of the community. Everyone owes certain duties to his fellow men and at the same time has certain rights and privileges which he expects others to ensure for him. This sense of mutual respect and trust for the rights of others regulates the conduct of the members of society. Although most people believe in 'live and let live' principle yet there are a few who, for some reason or the other, deviate from this normally behavioral pattern and associate themselves with anti-social elements. This obviously imposes an obligation on the state to maintain normal in society. This arduous task of protecting the law-abiding citizens and punishing the lawbreakers vests with the state which performs it through the instrumentality of law. It is for this reason Salmon has defined

law as a 'rule of action' regulating the conduct of individuals in a society. The conducts which are provided by the law in force at a given time and place are known as wrongful acts or crimes whereas those which are permissible under the law are treated as lawful. The wrongdoer committing crime is punished for his guilt under the law of crime.

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To find out the present situation of Crime in Bangladesh.
2. To identify the reasons of Crime increasing day by day in Bangladesh.
3. To find out the solution of Crime problem in Bangladesh.

III. METHODOLOGY

For having correct and smooth completion of research work it requires some rules and methodologies. The present study followed some rules and methods to ease the procedure of data collection. Accuracy of study depends on the survey and data analysis. This study accordingly collected the primary data from the field of some selected district by survey. Besides this, secondary data were collected from different sources like Ministry of defense, Home Ministry, different journals and books, different types of NGO's and research works. Basically this research mainly depends on secondary data.

Observation Method

The study was survey type. Survey method involves a systematic and comprehensive study of a specific community with a view to the analysis of social problem and presentation of recommendations for its solution.

Study Area

There are 8 (eight) districts were the study area for this study.

Tools for Data Collection

Questionnaire was used for data collection for this study.

Sample Size

For this study 500 (five hundred) respondents were selected for sample.

Source of Primary Data

Primary data were collected by the researcher/ investigator himself through questionnaire from field operation. The most important data and information have been collected from the respondent. In addition to this observation during the field visit has been incorporated on this research.

Source of Secondary Data

To conduct this research, secondary data were also collected from various sources including authentic writings, books, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Home, articles, documents

etc of eminent authors, journals, statistical reviews, academic papers, government documents, newspapers, magazine, souvenirs, published and unpublished research works, NGO’s reports, internet homepages etc. relevant to the main theme of the study.

Data Analysis

After completing the field investigation, all the collected data were edited and some errors were detected and corrected accordingly. Output in the forms of the case study and narrative qualitative analysis were taken. The qualitative analysis has been made through narrative and analytical manner. Collected data were tabulated and analyzed by using Microsoft Excel and SPSS.

Variables

Respondent’s Category I

- a. Lawyers, Senior & Junior
- b. Barristers
- c. Judges
- d. District Magistrate/Additional District Magistrate (ADM)

Respondent’s Category II

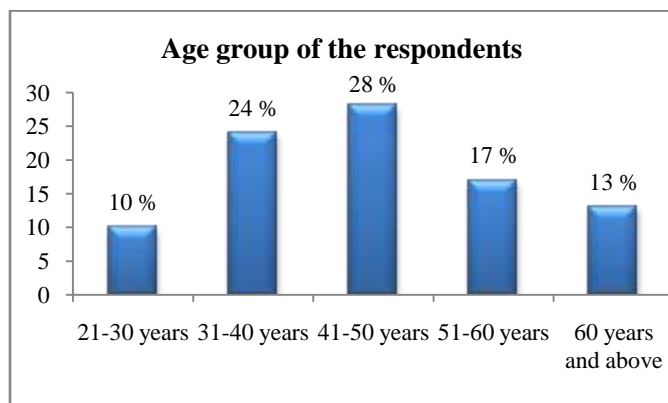
- e. Bangladesh police/Law enforcing agencies (POLICE, RAB, CID, NSI, SB etc.)
- f. Journalist

Respondent’s Category III

- g. Teachers
- h. Physicians
- i. Businessman
- j. Civil society

Site: i. Dhaka District, ii. Satkhira District, iii. Pabna District, iv. Comilla District, v. Sylhet District, vi. Barisal District, vii. Mymensingh District & viii. Rangpur District.

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

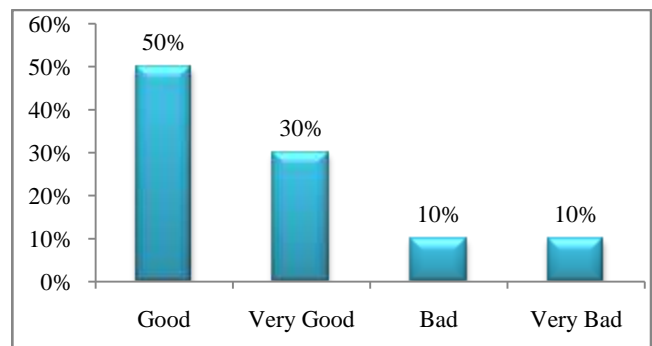


From the result it was found that Age group 41-50 was 28% which was maximum, Age group 31-40 was 24% which was second position, Age group 21-30 was 18% which was third position, Age group 51-60 was 17% which was fourth

position and age group 61 and above was 13% which was the minimum.

Table 1: Present Situation of Crime Prevention in Bangladesh

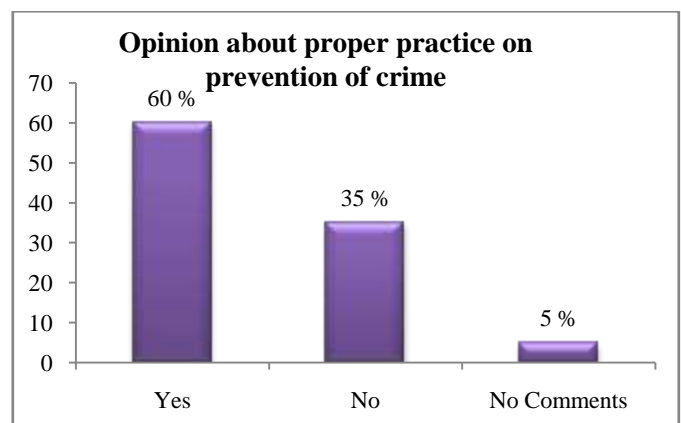
Variable	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Good	200	50%
Very Good	120	30%
Bad	40	10%
Very Bad	40	10%
Total	400	100%



From the result was found that 50% respondents express good about the present situation of crime prevention in Bangladesh 30% respondents express very good about the present situation of crime prevention in Bangladesh, and 10% respondents express very bad about the present situation of crime prevention in Bangladesh and 10% express very bad about the present situation of crime prevention in Bangladesh.

Table 2: Proper practice of prevention of crime is guided by concern authority in Bangladesh

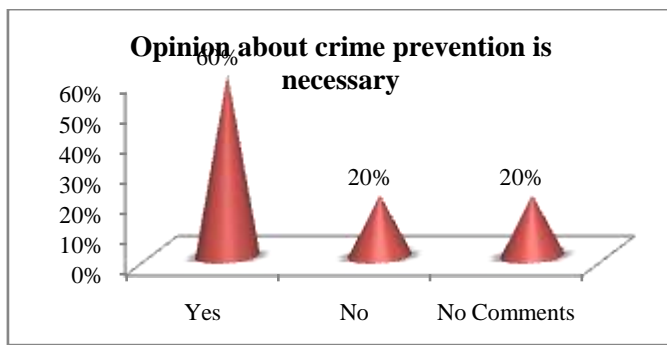
Variable	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	240	60%
No	140	35%
No Comments	20	5%
Total	400	100%



From the result was found that 60% respondents express positive about proper practice of prevention of crime is guided by concern authority in Bangladesh, 35% respondents express negative about proper practice of prevention of crime is guided by concern authority in Bangladesh and 5% respondents express nothing about proper practice of prevention of crime is guided by concern authority in Bangladesh.

Table 3: Crime prevention is necessary in Bangladesh

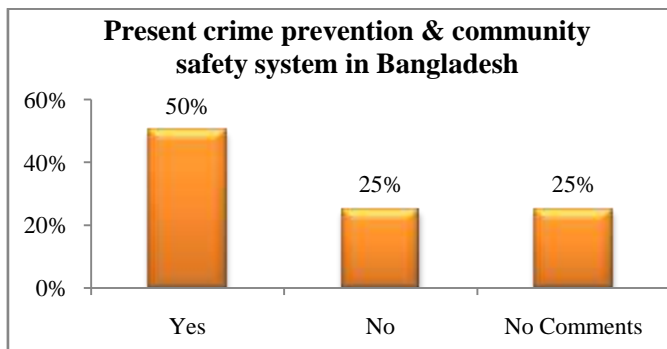
Variable	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	200	60%
No	100	20%
No Comments	100	20%
Total	400	100%



From the result was found that 60% respondents express positive about crime prevention is necessary in Bangladesh, 20% respondents express negative about crime prevention is necessary in Bangladesh and 20% respondents express nothing about crime prevention is necessary in Bangladesh.

Table 4: Present crime prevention & community safety system in Bangladesh

Variable	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	200	50%
No	100	25%
No Comments	100	25%
Total	400	100%



From the result was found that 50% respondents express positive about the present crime prevention & community safety system in Bangladesh is maintaining standard level of the world, 25% respondents express negative about the present crime prevention & community safety system in Bangladesh is maintaining standard level of the world and 25% respondents express nothing about the present crime prevention & community safety system in Bangladesh is maintaining standard level of the world.

V. CONCLUSION

The discipline of crime prevention and community safety is very broad and responsibility rests with a large range of stakeholders. The framework for the strategy is designed to allow a great deal of flexibility into the process. Bangladesh social development is progressing rapidly and the people appear excited by the change. The main emphasis throughout this framework is partnerships empowerment and acceptance of responsibility. These are philosophical requirements which can only be instilled through cultural change. This is the reason that a national strategy has to be lead and supported by the highest authority while ownership and implementation rests with the community.

Despite legal, social, Psychological and panel measures for combating crime, the problem still persists in alarming dimensions. With the change of time new crimes are coming up and the traditional crimes are vanishing fast. The advancement in knowledge of human behavior and growth of commerce and industries has brought in their wake new complexities in life.

These complexities account for the rising of criminality. It is therefore apparent that crime there is no reason to be upset with the present increase in crime rate. Nor should it create a misleading impression that the penal programmes have totally failed or proved ineffective. It must be stated that criminality in Bangladesh is for less than in many other countries of the world. The reason being that society of Bangladesh. Still retains the virtues of the tolerance, mutual respect and co-existence through its social institutions such as religion, family, parental control etc.

Before concluding a ward must be said about the general tendency among people to keep away from agencies administrating criminal law and justice. The root cause of this apathy is to be found in common means distrust for law, justice, prosecutors and the members of the Bar. Instances are not wanting when people watch a crime being committed in their presence, but they never report in to the police because of the fear of the procedure. A commoner always prefers to avoid police or law courts even at the cost of suffering a slight harm or injury. He refrains from instituting a criminal proceedings against the offender to avoid the botheration of contracting police or visiting law courts. This apathy of people towards law. Enforcement agencies provide fertile ground. For offender to carry on their criminal activities undeterred which hinders the cause of crime prevention. It

must be accepted that there is a great divergence in practice and precepts so far workings of police and law courts is concerned. The problem of the day therefore is to restore confidence among the public for these agencies of justice through an extensive propaganda and convince people that these institutions are meant to help and not to harass them. Prevention of crime should be treated as everyone's concern. Unless this broader outlook is developed among the members of the society, elimination of crime seems rather difficult. In general, the state of law lessens indicates lapses on the part of the state agencies and the abuse of state power by corrupt coteries and their immoral behaviors by way of deviating from professional standard and accepted norms both within the organization and the society. This obviously causes the public to harbor a feeling to distrust and contempt for the law enforcement agencies and authorities on whom the responsibility of crime prevention develops. It is therefore, necessary that the traditional outlook that crime prevention is solely the concern of law enforcement agencies must be changed and it should be treated as a social cause necessitating involvement of every citizen. It is only then that the measures to prevent crimes and criminals can succeed and public tranquility maintained in the country. When we can success to crime prevention then our society must be changed positively. In this way we can develop social, economical, political and overall every sector. This framework shall enable the establishment of the systems and processes needed to develop and implement the overall strategy.

VI. RECOMMENDATIONS

On the large scale, social change depends on crime prevention. The focus of this study on the perceptions of diverse stakeholders about criminal involvement of society members, specific risk and protective factors related to criminal involvement or crime prevention in society and our social changes, and strategies for crime prevention in our society complements the existing research. Learning from this research can be used as a catalyst for thoughtful public discourse, sound policy development and the development of responsive services and effective practices to prevent criminal involvement of our community measures. We would recommend that stakeholders consider the followings next steps.

- It is necessary for our country members, to clarify about the relation between crime prevention and social change.
- It is also necessary for our country numbers to clarify about the positive components for social change like crime prevention.
- Understandings about the criminal involvement of our country members should be acquired achieved and clarified.
- The suggested framework for crime prevention in our society should be adopted as a starting point for collaborative planning, and develop and implement

and coordinated action plan for primary, secondary and territory prevention.

- A sound multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral infrastructure with a clear mandate and adequate resources should be established to support the implementation of the action plan, and to ensure effective communication, coordination, and collaboration among participating stakeholders.
- Big-picture, balanced emphasis on prevention and intervention should be established family based, school-based, and community-based support, and policy, practice and research.
- Access of our country members should be advocated to educational and economic opportunities.
- Our country members should be involved in all collaborative efforts.

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BIOGRAPHY



Dr. Md. Washel Uddin Mollah is an Advocate of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. He has been practicing for Criminal Sectors in Bangladesh since 2002. He is actively engaged in research activities through his academic career more than ten years and published many research papers. He has participated many international seminars & conferences.