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Exploring Bangladesh Disaster Management's Institutional and Policy Challenges: A Critical Review

Mohammed Mahin Uddin^{*1}, Mohammad Al-Amin², & Semonara Akter³¹Assistant professor, Department of Public Administration, Comilla University, Cumilla-3506, Bangladesh²Bachelor Student, Department of Public Administration, Comilla University, Cumilla-3506, Bangladesh³Master's Student, Department of Public Administration, Comilla University, Cumilla-3506, Bangladesh

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Abstract: Institutional and policy challenges in disaster management (DM) are a worldwide policy and academic concern. The research objectives were to analyse the DM institutional framework's capacity, governance challenges, community participation, and the reasons for not implementing DM policies. The critical literature review examined the Disaster Management Act of 2012, the Standing Order on Disaster (SOD) of 2019, the National Plan for Disaster Management (NPD) of 2021–2025, and the Bangladesh DM framework. This study employed secondary data sources, including articles, newspapers, conference papers, and books. The research findings investigated that centralized decision-making, imprecise cooperation, inadequate training, political unwillingness, elite's influence, and functional overlap hampered the successful DM efforts in Bangladesh. The study's results also revealed that lack of transparency, accountability, monitoring, bureaucratic rigidity, and corruption were significant challenges to DM in Bangladesh. Furthermore, according to the findings, inadequate stakeholder participation, disregard for women's involvement in decision-making, limited participatory structures, and an ineffective government-NGO relationship were significant participatory challenges to DM. Finally, the findings revealed irregular DM committee meetings, bureaucratic hurdles, and corruption are fundamental reasons for not implementing DM policies here. The study recommended that the government might prepare short-term and long-term action plans and programs based on vulnerable districts, Upazilas, and Unions.

Keywords: Disaster, Disaster Management, Institutional Challenges, Policy Challenges, Bangladesh.

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INTRODUCTION

Disaster is an unfortunate and unexpected event that occurs in nature resulting in tremendous destruction of lives, livelihoods, plants, animals, and property (Shafiq & Ahsan, 2013). Multiple Southeast Asian coastal regions, the United States and the Caribbean, were damaged by the 2004 tsunami and other fatal natural disasters (Abdeen *et al.*, 2021; & Bang, 2014). Moreover, individuals have endured tremendous economic losses due to natural calamities such as floods, droughts, slides, lightning, etc. In the preceding decades, natural hazards have become more frequent, causing the deaths of 75,000 and affecting an estimated 200 million people (Bang, 2021; & Shakeri *et al.*, 2021). More than \$1092 billion has been lost due to natural calamities, particularly worldwide flooding, between 1980 and 2019 (Samuel *et al.*, 2022).

Regarding countries' susceptibility to natural disasters, Bangladesh ranks fifth (Nasreen, 2017a). Bangladesh is exceptionally vulnerable to natural hazards due to its topography, geographical location, land features, monsoon seasons, and multiple rivers like Padma, Meghna, Brahmaputra, etc. (Ahmed *et al.*, 2016; Hasan *et al.*, 2013; Sabur, 2012; & Khan & Rahman, 2007). The Bhola super cyclone in 1970 caused \$86 million in losses and killed 300,000 individuals (Shaikh and Barbier, 2022; Sattar *et al.*, 2020). The total

fatalities were over 24,376, and almost 129 million people were severely affected by disasters, with nearly 46 of the country's 64 districts being mishit by flooding in 2007 (Ahmed *et al.*, 2016).

Many countries have adopted various DM approaches and institutional frameworks based on disaster experience, resources, and political and legal structures (Shakeri, 2022). Although China has a robust institutional framework for disaster risk reduction (DRR), policies and plans could not be implemented effectively because of the management process's complexity and insufficient funds. Nepal's government could not enforce a disaster management plan due to improper policy and legal working environment (Samuel *et al.*, 2022). The primary constraints to implementing the DM policy framework in South Africa were poor coordination between the government and other agencies, stakeholders' misunderstanding of DM, unskilled human resources, and insufficient financial resources (Niekerk, 2014). Likewise, institutional incapacities, poor governance, political unwillingness, duplication of responsibility, coordination gap, and jurisdictional overlap were key barriers to DM policy execution in Pakistan (Shah *et al.*, 2020). The Bangladesh government has adopted disaster management-related policies, plans, programs, and an institutional framework such as the National Adaptation Program for Action (NAPA) of 2005, the

Standing Order on Disaster (SOD) of 2010, the Disaster Management Act (2012), National Disaster Management Policy (NDMP) of 2015, National Plan for Disaster Management (NPDM) of 2021-26 (Ahmed *et al.*, 2016).

Effective DM relies on communication, coordination, and collaboration between all government agencies and divisions (Shafiq & Ahsan, 2013). Bureaucratic impediments (Ogra *et al.*, 2021; & Sarker & Wu, 2019), communication gaps, limited disaster preparedness plans, inappropriate institutional arrangement, and policy framework, and inadequate collaboration between local and national government agencies inhibited DM activities (Sarker & Wu, 2019; & Reza *et al.*, 2014). Moreover, DM has hurdles from a lack of institutional autonomy, financial resources, competent labor, and collaboration and coordination between local and social organizations. (Abdeen *et al.*, 2021; & Zhang *et al.*, 2015). Despite these precarious conditions in DM, Bangladesh requires a well-thought-out strategy, a viable plan, and goodwill to stimulate locals to participate and reinforce resilience to meet the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. Therefore, the study's objectives are composed of the following research questions: (1) To explore the capacity of the existing DM institutional framework; (2) To identify the institutional governance's challenges; (3) To investigate community participation in DM institutional framework and; (4) Examining why disaster management policies aren't being implemented.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Disaster Management Institutional and Policy Challenges

Many experts and researchers have conducted several studies to investigate DM's institutional and policy drawbacks in developed, developing, and south Asian countries. Very few DM institutional frameworks support interstate planning and planned cooperation; in the USA, local governments usually lack initiative in developing DM legislation (Gerber, 2007). It was determined that insufficient participation had prevented DM policies from fully integrating risk reduction; also, these organizations are typically limited to a specific territory in Canada and Netherland (Henstra & McBean, 2005; & Paul & Dijkman, 2006). According to Shimizu (2012), relatively few institutional policies in Japan address survivability. Japan's DM policy practice lacks coordination and support from multiple stakeholders (Shimizu & Clark, 2015). Smith & Lawrence (2018) examined Australia's DM structure and policies concerning irresponsibility and the lack of community-based participation. Recently, enacting Sendai Framework faced many challenges in Russia (Goryushina, 2021). The strategies and procedures used during World War II were insufficient for UK disaster response policies and framework (Balasubramanya, 2019).

Although the same volume of disaster strategies was published annually in China, there were no substantial modifications in DM plans and strategies (Zhang *et al.*, 2018). Vietnam had ineffective human resources and institutionalized task ambiguity, and federal and provincial disaster management overlapped (Chau *et al.*, 2014; & Nguyen *et al.*, 2018). A study asserted in South Africa revealed that DM-related information attained is relayed to the localities and that most decisions are made at the central government level (Makaya *et al.*, 2020). In Malaysia, no agencies had released any documents that fully endorsed systemic disaster response (Khairilmizal *et al.*, 2016). Several decades ago, Kiippers *et al.* (2007) and (Yustisia Lestari *et al.*, 2020) examined Kenya's disaster management procedures negatively affected due to poor regional and central plans. Djalante & Thomalla (2012) investigated Indonesia's institutional and disaster policy execution complexity. Cameroon looked at institutions that cannot prepare disaster risk management interventions since coordinating instruments and processes are not operating as intended (Bang, 2021). Municipalities endure many budget constraints in managing emergencies in Ecuador (Solberg *et al.*, 2003). A weak institutional and organizational framework increases a nation's susceptibility to environmental hazards in Haiti (Rahaman, 2017).

According to Jones *et al.* (2014), the DM act is still ineffectual, and Nepal has undergone slight changes since it was passed. The institutional capacity is reduced by a lack of a clear division of responsibilities at different stages of DM in Pakistan (Cheema *et al.*, 2016). Furthermore, NIDM hasn't convened a meeting in over three years and hasn't formed a clear strategy (Cheema *et al.*, 2016). According to recent research conducted in Pakistan, for NIDM to properly fulfil all of its tasks under the 2010 Act, it must work within budgetary constraints (Shah *et al.*, 2020). Similarly, disaster management's legal and institutional framework has been developed in Pakistan recently (Shah *et al.*, 2020). Due to institutional political influence among actors in Sri Lanka, Abdeen *et al.* (2021) investigated that formal and systemic collaboration at the national and international levels is the most significant political challenge faced during emergencies.

Using diverse administrative and managerial approaches while carrying out projects in the field could lead to contradictory strategies, and donors purposively impact DM programs in Bangladesh (Hasan *et al.*, 2013). According to (Islam & Walkerdén., 2017), the role of local connectedness and belonging sense is underappreciated by Bangladeshi policymakers, favoring national networks over local ones. Ineffective leadership, financial mismanagement, and an unskilled workforce create weak institutions, which wastes the national economy (Pinto, 2019; Ahmed *et al.*, 2016). Rahman *et al.* (2020) found implementation challenges

due to public misunderstanding and poor instructional resources. Unadopted institutional structures, healthy coordination, evaluation, and growing urbanization confront Bangladeshi DM efforts (UNDRR, 2020; & Ahmed *et al.*, 2016). Alam & Ray-Bennett (2021) pointed out that poor DM is caused by a lack of abilities, information, and tools in the country context. Because decision-makers are unaware of the crisis context, centralized decision-making and elitism are most prevalent in the country's DM process (Sarker & Wu, 2019). Bangladesh NPDM doesn't identify DMCs' functions and accountability at the national level (Ahmed *et al.*, 2016). Similarly, Ahmed *et al.* (2016) asserted that the SOD determines committee tasks, where performance and support are lower from local committees to response and policy execution. Furthermore, Ahmed (2013) explored that inefficiency, corruption, monitoring, bureaucratic complexity, and lack of political commitment are significant challenges for DM in Bangladesh.

Literature, as mentioned earlier, found DM constraints in developed and developing countries, including Bangladesh. The present study investigates the institutional and policy challenges of DM in Bangladesh. Although the literature review of the

current research highlighted DM framework and policy issues to some extent, this focused on insufficient systematic collaboration, political unwillingness, financial constraints, functional overlapping, lack of mechanism and involvement, and poor information (Abdeen *et al.*, 2021; Shah *et al.*, 2020; Makaya *et al.*, 2020; Tanesab, 2020; Rahaman, 2017; Ahmed, 2013; Gerber, 2007; & Hwacha, 2005). In addition, two previous studies (Ahmed, 2019; Ahmed *et al.*, 2016) were moderately related to the present study. Yet, no research has been exposed in Bangladeshi literature on DM's institutional and legal challenges. Hence, the current study was conducted.

Institutional Framework of Disaster Management in Bangladesh

Bangladesh's government established an institutional framework for disaster rescue, relief, and rehabilitation activities. The framework consists of two layers of structure: the national level structure and the local level structure. Additionally, it possesses several special coordination committees, such as CSDDWS, FPOCG, NGOCC, and DMTATF. Besides the special committee, 22 national and local authorities are responsible for DM in Bangladesh, as shown in figure 1.

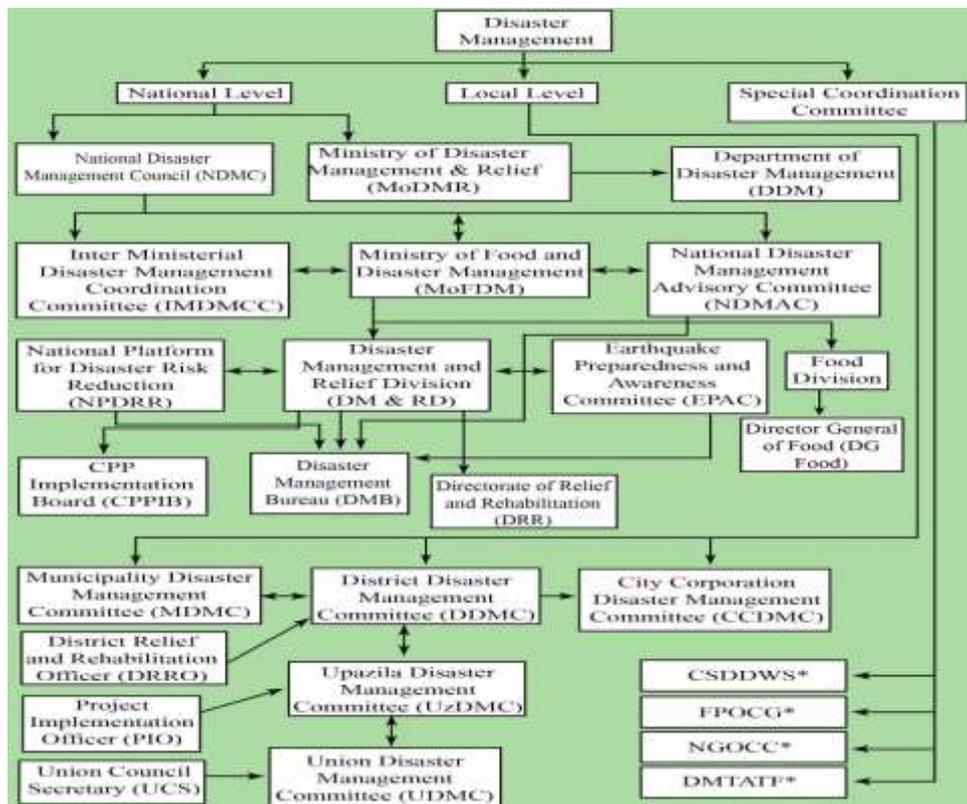


Figure 1: Disaster Management's Regulatory Framework of Bangladesh

Source: (DMB, 2010a cited in Ahmed *et al.*, 2016)

CSDDWS*: Committee for Speedy Dissemination of Disaster-Related Warning/Signals

FPOCG*: Focal Point Operation Coordination Group of Disaster Management

NGOCC*: NGO Coordination Committee

DMTATF*: Disaster Management Training and Public Awareness Building Task Force

Bangladesh Disaster Management Policies and Acts

In Bangladesh, there are several acts and policies regarding DM. These policies and laws aim to provide swift response for rescue, recovery, relief, and reconstruction to disaster-affected vulnerable individuals and groups. The following acts and policies/plans play a prominent role in DM in Bangladesh. i) Disaster Management Act-2012, ii) Standing Order on Disaster (SOD)-2019, iii) National Plan for Disaster Management, iv) National Disaster Management Policy, v) Flood Management Plan, vi) Cyclone and Storm Surge and Tsunami Management Plan, vii) Delta Plan-2100 (Nasreen, 2021; & Management, 2017).

METHODOLOGY

This study attempts to evaluate the challenges associated with implementing policies and institutional frameworks in disaster management. The study used a qualitative research approach that underwent a rigorous assessment. This study employed secondary data sources, including articles, newspapers, conference papers, books, and published theses. The national and local institutional frameworks and Bangladesh's disaster management policies were critically reviewed in the literature. The Disaster Management Act of 2012, the Standing Order on Disaster (SOD) of 2019, and the National Plan for Disaster Management (NPDM) of 2021–2025 were all examined in the study.

ANALYSIS

Institutional Challenges

Although Bangladesh's DM process confronts institutional impediments, similar challenges persist globally. Pakistan's suffering is aggravated by the government's inability to coordinate multiple overlapping functions and obligations (Ahmed, 2013). Likewise, the French experienced political, legal, and institutional difficulties in providing humanitarian assistance (Urquijo, 2013). Indeed, after consecutive floods and devastating cyclones of 1988 and 1991, Bangladesh drew global attention for technical support (MoDMR, 2012; Nasreen, 2017). Despite developing various institutional mechanisms, there were no effective institutional measures due to budgetary shortages, unskilled human resources, and technical difficulties in Bangladesh (Pinto, 2019). The possible institutional challenges are as follows.

Technical Capacities

In Bangladesh, inadequate government initiatives, resource mobilization, inappropriate execution instructions, and disarray in global, national, and regional collaboration impede DM (Ahmed, 2019; Sarker & Wu, 2019; Nasreen, 2017a; Ahmed *et al.*, 2016; & Emdad & Salim, 2013). Additionally, it has been explored in several studies that insufficient communication tools and scientific instruments make DM challenging to interact with and forecast in remote areas (Alam & Ray-Bennett, 2021; UNDRR, 2020;

Nasreen, 2017; Hossain & Huq, 2013). Apart from this, it was noticed that the committee members were unaware of the government's instructions, and significant technical drawbacks were investigated by several prior studies (Rahman *et al.*, 2020; Haque, 2017; Rezoane, 2016; Ahmed *et al.*, 2016; & Hossain & Huq, 2013).

Human Capacities

The absence of regular inspection and follow-up techniques raises the expense of DM operation (Shakeri, 2022; & Rezoane, 2016). Unskilled management during preparedness, rescue operations, and relief programs; little experience with local entities were found in the Bangladesh DM process (Ahmed *et al.*, 2016; & Nasreen, 2017). The central and local level twenty-two DM committees in Bangladesh were doubted because of their skills, competence, capability, poor leadership, and experience (Alam & Ray-Bennett, 2021; UNDRR, 2020; Ahmed, 2019; Ahmed *et al.*, 2016; Rezoane, 2016; & Hossain & Huq, 2013). The government failed to manage the expertise and adequate personnel and stimulate employees' dedication to carrying out government initiatives at the local level (Sarker & Wu, 2019; & Hussain, 2018).

Malfunctioning and Overlapping

Because of prejudice and the dominance of the local elite and politicians, the functional overlap is reinforced in DM operations, even though no meetings are regularly held in emergency warning situations (Ahmed *et al.*, 2016; & Rezoane, 2016). There is no interaction, coordination, or trust between the project implementation and district rehabilitation officer, Union, Upazila, and district committees, and, indeed, the implementing officers do not comply with the SOD and NPDM's directives (Shakeri, 2022; Alam & Ray-Bennett, 2021b; Mohibbullah *et al.*, 2021; Ahmed, 2019; Pinto, 2019; Ahmed *et al.*, 2016; Huq, 2016; & Rahman, 2014). Therefore, disputes arise every period, from disaster preparedness to reconstruction; sometimes, government and NGOs perform unclear roles (Kisinger & Matsui, 2021; UNDRR, 2020; & Haque, 2017)

Financial Constraints

Fund shortage and misuse were identified as operational challenges for Bangladesh DM (Barua, 2022; & Alam & Ray-Bennett, 2021b) Bangladesh DM plans to fall short because of resource scarcity and extensive reliance on donor agencies (Shakeri, 2022; UNDRR, 2020; Ahmed, 2019; & Hasan *et al.*, 2013). Furthermore, Bangladesh's DM framework's financial limitations are predominantly due to sloppy politics; consequently, community demands for relief and rehabilitation are disregarded (Khan, 2013, cited in Sarker & Wu, 2019).

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

National and Local level

The Bangladesh DM framework at the mid-level limits female participation in decision-making and puts restrictions on the vulnerable group; therefore, vulnerable resilience systems are ineffectual. (Islam, 2022; Rahman *et al.*, 2020; Ahmed, 2019; Hasan *et al.*, 2019; Nasreen, 2017; & Islam & Walkerden, 2017). The framework is free from proper accountability to ensure local involvement; it is over a centralized process up to the root level (Mohibbullah *et al.*, 2021; Haque, 2017; & Hossain & Huq, 2013). The Sendai Framework places a considerable emphasis on empowering local authorities and civil society to use their expertise and resources for DM efforts (Alam & Ray-Bennett, 2021a). The involvement of NGOs, women, the civil community, donor agencies, and stakeholders is inadequate in the Bangladeshi local DM committee (Islam, 2022; Shakeri, 2022; Haque, 2017; Ahmed *et al.*, 2016; Huq, 2016; & Hasan *et al.*, 2013).

NGOs participation

Lack of engagement prevents NGOs from participating in local government decision-making, which results in the repetition of some tasks during disaster recovery in Bangladesh (Islam & Walkerden, 2017; & Ahmed *et al.*, 2016). Besides, the involvement of the private sector and NGOs remain challenging due to the unwillingness of MoDMR in Bangladesh (Alam & Ray-Bennett, 2021b; Ahmed, 2019; & Nasreen, 2017b). Moreover, the cooperation gap between the government and humanitarian organizations was highlighted as blockage (Alam & Ray-Bennett, 2021b; & Emdad & Salim, 2013). Regarding UDMC's participation, roadless help was received, which diminished the framework's capacity volume, while it was asserted that NGOs ensure about 10% participation in the Bangladesh DM process (Islam, 2022; & Islam & Walkerden, 2017).

Institutional Governance Challenges

Transparency

For disaster risk reduction, transparency and accountability in governance are key features (Ahrens & Rudolph, 2006). Transparency was identified as a significant challenge in local institutions of DM in Bangladesh (Barua *et al.*, 2021). There was a lack of transparency in financial transactions, which is responsible for corrupted behavior among the Chairman and UDMC member (Alam & Ray-Bennett, 2021). The transparency rate was moderate because of slow response and cooperation at the Bangladesh district level DM activities (Moula *et al.*, 2020)

Accountability

NPD (2021-2025) provides eight points that comply with DM accountability issues. Considering Bangladesh's socio-economic and cultural aspects, two ends of the accountability framework undergo considerable obstacles (Ahmed, 2019). MoDMR's role

is coordinating between ministries, agencies, or other stakeholders at local and national levels; it experienced challenges due to several bipartisan politics in Bangladesh (Ahmed, 2019). During cyclone Aila, the Bangladesh government determined to aid every household with 43-72 dollars; 95% of households received aid well under a government decision; absence of accountability is liable here (Mahmud & Prowse, 2012).

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES

Limitations in Act and Policies/ Plan

Challenges like insufficient data and resources were experienced in implementing DM acts and policies in Bangladesh (Barua, 2022; & Hussain, 2018). Although the management act 2012 possessed multiple impressive points, its execution is a great challenge because it does not mention financial accountability, complaint procedures, and urban DM guidelines (Haque *et al.*, 2017). Despite SOD saying the roles and responsibilities of ministries, departments, public representatives, NGOs, and citizens to DM at the local and national levels; however, it did not focus on stakeholders' accountability (Haque *et al.* 2017; & Nasreen 2017). Once a year, the National coordination committee is supposed to organize a meeting; however, the committee regularly fails to meet, resulting in no supervision over the meeting (Haque *et al.*, 2017).

Bureaucratic Obstacles

In Bangladesh, bureaucrats have elitist attitudes that render them superior to the general people, especially during disasters (Sarker & Wu, 2019). Due to bureaucrats in Bangladesh, the vulnerable population affected by hazards does not practically participate in the policy formation process (Alam & Ray-Bennett, 2021; & Hasan *et al.*, 2013).

Coordination

Zila and Upazila Parishad perform an influential role in the coordination process, while there is no reasonable opportunity for Union Parishad, a key stakeholder (Parvin *et al.*, 2021). (TBT, 2020; & Islam & Walkerden, 2017). The UDMCs failed to coordinate policy development and supervise its implementation because of corruption, political nepotism, irregular meeting, and centralized bureaucratic power (TBT, 2020; & Islam & Walkerden, 2017).

Corruption

Disasters policy execution authorities in Bangladesh, such as ministries, departments, and NGOs, are accused of bribery (Khan & Rahman, 2007). While no one knew where the funds would spend, who the beneficiaries would be, or how the entire amount would be used; instead, Upazila Parishad made decisions on financial transactions, recipients, and projects that would be implemented (Khan & Rahman, 2007). According to Islam & Walkerden (2017), favouritism towards party men, bribe transactions, and

mismangement in relief distribution is the expected scenario by NGOs and government agencies in Bangladesh.

DISCUSSION

Summary of the Findings

The research findings revealed ineffective leadership, financial constraints, incompetent workforces, insufficient communication tools, and technical difficulties. Moreover, the result investigated that centralized decision-making, imprecise cooperation, inadequate training, political unwillingness, elite's influence, and functional overlap hampered the successful DM efforts in Bangladesh. Furthermore, the study's results explored that lack of transparency and accountability, corruption, poor monitoring, and bureaucratic rigidity were significant challenges to DM in Bangladesh. In addition, inadequate stakeholder participation, disregard for women's involvement in decision-making, limited participatory structures, and an ineffective government - NGO relationship is responsible for unsuccessful DM policy execution. Finally, the findings highlighted irregular DM committee meetings, bureaucratic hurdles, and corruption that significantly obstruct the implementation of the Bangladesh DM plans/policies.

Strength and Limitations

The study was desk-type research, and the personal opinions of the researchers might be reflected; therefore, we confessed it as a significant drawback of the study. The systematic literature review is an intensive qualitative study; instead, the present study adapted a critical literature review that could be another study limitation. Despite some limitations, there are a few strengths of the study. In this field, no studies were conducted considering DM institutional and policy challenges based on secondary data. We mitigated these challenges by deeply analysing existing research articles, newspapers, conference papers, and books.

Implication for Policy and Practice

The study's original purpose was to identify the existing regulatory framework capacity. The research findings revealed ineffective leadership, financial constraints, incompetent workforces, insufficient communication tools, and technical difficulties, and the results supported a few earlier investigations without any intervening distance (Abdeen *et al.*, 2021; Alam & Ray-Bennett, 2021; Shah *et al.*, 2020; Tanesab, 2020; Makaya *et al.*, 2020; UNDRR, 2020; & Pinto, 2019). According to the findings, centralized decision-making, imprecise cooperation, inadequate training, political unwillingness, elite's influence, and functional overlap hampered the successful DM efforts in Bangladesh (Shakeri, 2022; Mohibbullah *et al.*, 2021; & Arefin *et al.*, 2016). The second objective was to explore institutional governance's challenges. The study's results revealed that lack of transparency and accountability, corruption, poor monitoring, and bureaucratic rigidity

were significant challenges to DM in Bangladesh, which complied with several past findings (Ahmed *et al.*, 2016; Ahmed, 2013). Third, the study analysed community participation in DM institutional framework. Inadequate stakeholder participation, disregarding women's involvement in decision-making, limited participatory structures, and an ineffective government -NGO relationship coincided with previous studies (Shakeri, 2022; Islam, 2022; & Haque, 2017). The study's final objective was to determine why Bangladesh hasn't implemented DM policies. The findings revealed irregular DM committee meetings, bureaucratic hurdles, and corruption, which were all consented to by prior studies (Huq, 2016; Rahman, 2014). Despite having well-defined policies and institutional structure, the existing DM was undermined by irregularities, malpractice, corruption, duplication, resource waste, and neglecting indispensable duties. Government and stakeholders need to reinforce the DM framework and policies.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Bangladesh is one of the most vulnerable nations, as indicated by the increased frequency and intensity of disasters. Since Bangladeshis have constantly confronted hazards, they've developed coping skills. Catastrophes have enhanced the nation's management and generated new laws and regulations. Bangladesh hasn't managed a disaster well despite its regulatory framework and policies. However, this study concluded that Bangladesh still has several challenges, including resource and knowledge gaps, inadequate monitoring and accountability, task duplication, and a poor collaboration system; moreover, stakeholders are unaware of their roles and responsibilities. These are DM's policy and practice weaknesses in Bangladesh. Therefore, the research proposed sundry functional and time-befitting frameworks and plans for the DM of Bangladesh.

Initially, the government might provide theoretical and practical DM training to government officials to strengthen their skills in the country and overseas. Secondly, technical capability should be developed with the help of NGOs and funders. Thirdly, good governance must be enforced to prevent fraud, discrepancies, and effluents in the DM framework and policies. Moreover, women, youth, and civil society should be involved in disaster management, capacity building, and decision-making. Furthermore, bureaucracy should be modern, responsive, adaptive, and cost-effective instead of red tape, delays, and misdirection. Finally, the government should prepare short-term and long-term action plans and programs based on vulnerable districts, Upazilas, and Unions.

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