

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR LEGAL RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS



Open Access, Refereed Journal Multi Disciplinary
Peer Reviewed

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INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR LEGAL RESEARCH & ANALYSIS
ISSN

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THE IMPACT OF ARMED CONFLICT ON FOOD SECURITY: A CASE STUDY OF BANGLADESH

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Abstract

Millions of people are affected by the growing concentration of food and nutrition insecurity in nations affected by armed conflict. Armed conflict and economic, political and environmental factors are not isolated but rather connected and mutually reinforcing. After discussing general aspects of armed conflict and food security, this paper discusses the relationship between war and food security in the context of Bangladesh. A country born by war and just after the war how it has designed its policies and regulations to ensure food security. Further, it links with the long stay of Rohingya in Bangladesh and how common concern of the burden of food and its challenges and prospective steps to mitigate those. The third aspect of the paper portrays how the war between Russia and Ukraine has impacted supply disruptions, and financial sanctions pose serious economic challenges in Bangladesh.

Keywords: Armed Conflict, Food Security, Food Insecurity, Rohingya Refugee Crises, Russia-Ukraine war, Bangladesh.

1. Introduction

Bangladesh is a densely populated (1,342 Density (P/Km²) country with a current population 173,978,162,² which bears 2.15 % of the world population in an area of 148,460 square kilometres (57,320 sq mi). The country is agrarian (more than half of the population are engaged directly in agriculture for survival) based.³ The major food crops are quite available in Bangladesh, especially rice,⁴ which is considered as the staple food of Bangladesh.

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² As of Thursday, February 1, 2024, based on Worldometer elaboration of the latest United Nations data. Available at <https://www.worldometers.info/world-population/>, access on 05 February 2024.

³ Dean Jolliffe et al. 'Bangladesh-Poverty Assessment: Assessing a Decade of Progress in Reducing Poverty, 2000-2010.' (2013), available at <https://policycommons.net/artifacts/1515233/bangladesh-poverty-assessment/2190307/> accessed on 02 February 2024.

⁴ Hossain Mahabub, 'Food Security in Bangladesh Achievement and challenges' The Daily Star (Dhaka, March
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According to the Food and Agriculture Organization's (hereinafter, FAO) definition, food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.⁵ This implies food security is the product of the availability, accessibility and utilization of food. It also extends to the stability of supplies and biological utilization.⁶ Here availability is, domestic production and insecurity, the situation where there is limited or uncertain access to nutritionally adequate and safe food, or a restricted ability to obtain acceptable food through socially acceptable means.⁷ Further, the stability of those three dimensions should be consistent over time and state should have ability to manage risks effectively in any manner. From the health perspective, those whose food consumption falls below their minimum calorie requirements are classified as food insecure,⁸ as are those who are truly unfit or have a sickness as a result of a lack of food and cravings or an unbalanced diet.

According to Hunger Index (GHI) Bangladesh ranked 81th in 2023. It is one of the 18 countries with moderate, serious, or alarming 2023 Global Hunger Index (GHI) scores and hunger has been worsen in recent years since 2015.⁹ Between 2015 and 2023 GHI scores, Bangladesh is one of the seven countries have achieved reductions of five points or more.¹⁰ As per the Global Food Security Index of 2022, Bangladesh ranked 80 among 113 countries.¹¹ Due to the several direct and indirect factors food security remains a pressing problem as one quarter of the population of Bangladesh faces food insecurity.¹²

20, 2013). See also, Debashis Roy et al., 'Food Security in Bangladesh: Insight from Available Literature', (2019) 4 (1) Journal of Nutrition and Food Security 75.

⁵ Rafael Pérez-Escamilla, 'Food Security and the 2015–2030 Sustainable Development Goals: From Human to Planetary Health: Perspectives and Opinions', (2017) 1 (7) Current Developments in Nutrition.

⁶ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 'The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2001', Rome, Italy, 2001. See also, Mark Gibson, 'Food Security a Commentary: What Is It and Why Is It so Complicated?' (2012) 1(1) Foods 27; See also, George-André Simon, 'Food Security' (University of Roma Tre: Rome, Italy 2012); Per Pinstrup-Andersen, 'Food Security: Definition and Measurement.' Food Security (2009) 1 (1) 7.

⁷ Anderson Sue Ann, 'Core Indicators of Nutritional State for Difficult-to-Sample Populations' The Journal of Nutrition (1990) Volume 120, Supplement 11, Pages 1555-1598 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/jn/120.suppl_11.1555>

⁸ The problem Magnitude and nature of food insecurity and vulnerability, <https://www.fao.org/4/x8346e/x8346e02.htm>, last accessed on 10th March 2025

⁹ Global Hunger Index- 2023, The Power of Youth in Shaping Food System, available at <https://www.globalhungerindex.org/pdf/en/2023.pdf>, accessed on 4th February 2024.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Global Food Security Index (GFSI), <<https://impact.economist.com/sustainability/project/food-security-index/>> accessed on 4th Nov. 2024.

¹² ---The Right to Food : Legal Protection in Bangladesh 'Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) Campaign for Right to Food & Social Security (RtF&SS)' 2015, available at <https://www.blast.org.bd/content/publications/Right-to-food-2015.pdf>, accessed on 1st Nov 2024.

To trace that food security and insecurity of Bangladesh this paper has chosen the instance of armed conflict. Armed conflict is one of the undeniably significant factors contributing to global food insecurity.¹³ Many conflict zones remind us of the vicious cycle between conflict and hunger.¹⁴ Food insecurity is connected to armed conflict at least two aspects. One is starvation as a method of warfare to create food insecurity,¹⁵ and secondly, food insecurity is an effect of armed conflict. Understanding the Liberation War of 1971 and its aftermath can demystify the idea of food insecurity in Bangladesh. The food crisis is growing in Bangladesh due to the burden of more than 1 million Rohingya refugees,¹⁶ and the Russia-Ukraine War¹⁷ just after the COVID-19 pandemic, which has affected all over the world.¹⁸

Therefore, the paper investigates the effect of armed conflict on Bangladesh's food security. Three situations have been taken into consideration to investigate how armed conflict may directly or indirectly impact food security, here Bangladesh. First situation, Bangladesh as a war born country how it has faced food insecurity and its steps to securitization. This example will help to understand post war crisis and required measures of a State for food security. Second situation, this paper look refugee influx can considered as a factor for food insecurity of the host country. During independence war of Bangladesh a huge number of Bangladeshi refugee was hosted in neighboring country India, in turn, 2017 Bangladesh become of host country of Rohingya refugee as a result of genocidal atrocities committed by Myanmar. Third situation, focus on how a armed conflict create trade deficit and may impact any State's food

¹³ Report of the Secretary General for the World Humanitarian Summit, 'One Humanity: Shared Responsibility' UN Doc. A/70/709, 2 February 2016, at 25. ^[1]_{SEP}

¹⁴ Security Council Reporter, Monthly Forecast: Conflict and Hunger (28 February 2018) available at ^[1]_{SEP}https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/monthly-forecast/2018-03/conflict_and_hunger.php, accessed on 4th February 2024.

¹⁵ The Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I), 1977, Article 54, Article 48; Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II), 1977, Article. 14; The Rome Statute 1998, Article 8(2)(b)(xxv). Read further, Dapo Akande, Emanuela-Chiara Gillard, 'Conflict-induced Food Insecurity and the War Crime of Starvation of Civilians as a Method of Warfare: The Underlying Rules of International Humanitarian Law' (2019) 17 (4) Journal of International Criminal Justice 753; George Alfred Mudge, 'Starvation as a Means of Warfare', (1970) 4 (2) The International Lawyer 228.

¹⁶ Zanjabil Mashkura, "Pressure on Bangladesh Government on the Rohingya Food Crisis Issue", 16 March, 2023, The Financial Express, <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/views/pressure-on-bangladesh-government-on-the-rohingya-food-crisis-issue>, Accessed on June 14, 2023

¹⁷ Abdullah Mamun, Josheph Glauber And David Laborde, 'How the war in Ukraine threatens Bangladesh's food security' (Issue Post, IFPRI, 20 April 2022) <<https://www.ifpri.org/blog/how-war-ukraine-threatens-bangladeshs-food-security>> Accessed on 6 June 2023

¹⁸ Sha Mohammad Fahim et al, 'Nutrition and Food Security in Bangladesh: Achievements, Challenges, and Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic' The Journal of Infectious Diseases S901 (2021), at 224 <<http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/infdis/jiab473>>

security. Here Ukraine- Russia conflict situation has been considered as global food security, where Bangladesh also impacted as a peripheral country.

2. Bangladesh a War Born and its Securitization of Food

While Starvation may intentionally use by conflicting parties as a method of warfare,¹⁹ sometimes it also occurs as an unintended consequence of military activities.²⁰ Without going into the debate This paper is not focused on Starvation as method of warfare but the food insecurity resulted due to the war in a post-conflict situation. The nine-month bloody war against Pakistani occupation forces for the liberation of Bangladesh in 1971 left the country with a fragile economy; feeding 70 million people was a major challenge during that time.²¹

In the aftermath of the Pakistani army's rampage last March, a special team of inspectors from the World Bank observed that some cities looked "like the morning after a nuclear attack." Since then, the destruction has only been magnified. An estimated 6,000,000 homes have been destroyed, and nearly 1,400,000 farm families have been left without tools or animals to work their lands. Transportation and communications systems are totally disrupted. Roads are damaged, bridges are out, and inland waterways are blocked. The rape of the country continued right up until the Pakistani army surrendered a month ago. In the last days of the war, West Pakistani-owned businesses—which included nearly every commercial enterprise in the country—remitted virtually all their funds to the West. Pakistan International Airlines left exactly 117 rupees (\$16) in its account at the port city of Chittagong. The army also destroyed bank notes and coins, so many areas now suffer from a severe shortage of ready cash. Private cars were picked up off the streets or confiscated from auto dealers and shipped to the West before the ports were closed.

— "BANGLADESH: Mujib's Road from Prison to Power", Time magazine, 17 January 1972.

¹⁹ In many situations parties to conflicts engage in deliberate practices that cause civilians to starve. The UN Commission of Inquiry on Syria, for example, has concluded that civilians are routinely denied medical evacuations, the delivery of vital foodstuffs, health items, and other essential supplies, all in an effort to compel their surrender, and has documented this conduct as being widespread in connection to sieges.

²⁰ Federica D'Alessandra, Matthew Gillett, 'The War Crime of Starvation in Non-International Armed Conflict', *Journal of International Criminal Justice*, (2019) Volume 17 (4), September 2019, Pages 815–847, <https://doi.org/10.1093/jicj/mqz042>

²¹ Mohiuddin Alamgir, *Famine in South Asia: Political Economy of Mass Starvation* (Oelgeschlager, Gunn and Hain, Cambridge, MA, 1980) .See also Amartya Sen, 'Starvation and Exchange Entitlements: A General Approach and its Application to the Great Bengal Famine, *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, (March 1977), Volume 1, Issue 1, , Pages 33–59, <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.cje.a035349>

“To describe the economic condition of newly-born Bangladesh, political analyst and the then US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger who served under US presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford dubbed Bangladesh a "basket case" while he was on a short trip to Dhaka in 1974.²² The total gross domestic product (GDP) of Bangladesh was about \$6.288 billion in 1972, while the per capita income was merely \$94. In 1977-78, the total GDP at current prices was Tk146.37 billion and the contribution of agriculture to GDP was 53%. At that time, the contribution of agriculture to the GDP was Tk77.57 billion.²³ In preparing its food budget for 1973-74, the Government of Bangladesh estimated a food gap of 2.2 million tons”.²⁴

Just after the war, Bangladesh confronted two formidable food crises in 1972 and 1974. While the government succeeded in averting a widely predicted famine in the first case, it failed to prevent an actual famine in the latter case when such a cataclysmic disaster was least anticipated.²⁵ Since its independence in 1971, Bangladesh has seen a number of man-made and natural disasters that have jeopardized the food security of the poor and marginalized, for example, the famine in 1974²⁶, floods in 1987, 1988, and 1998²⁷, and cyclones in 1991 and 2007²⁸. The Bangladesh famine of 1974 commenced in March 1974 and persisted until approximately December of the same year. Government estimate: 27,000; Unofficial estimate: 1.5 million deaths.²⁹ It was mainly caused by successive onslaughts of natural disasters such as

²² Salil Tripathi, ‘Bangladesh’s Long Journey From ‘Basket Case’ to Rising Star’ (Foreign Policy, April 10, 2021) <<https://foreignpolicy.com/2021/04/10/bangladesh-independence-anniversary-basket-case-rising-star/>>

²³ Dr Md Saidur Rahman, ‘From Hunger to Plenty’ (The Business Standard, December 16, 2020) <<https://www.tbsnews.net/analysis/hunger-plenty-172354>>

²⁴ Rehman Sobhan, ‘Politics of Food and Famine in Bangladesh’, Economic and Political Weekly, (1979) Vol. 14, No. 48 (Dec. 1, 1979), pp. 1973-1980

²⁵ Caf Dowlah, ‘The Politics and Economics of Food and Famine in Bangladesh in the early 1970s—with Special Reference to Amartya Sen’s Interpretation of the 1974 Famine’ International Journal of Social Welfare 15.4 (2006): 344-356.

²⁶ Caf Dowlah, ‘The Politics and Economics of Food and Famine in Bangladesh in the Early 1970s – with Special Reference to Amartya Sen’s Interpretation of the 1974 Famine’ International Journal of Social Welfare (2006) Vol. 15 at 344 <<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1468-2397.2006.00448.x>>

²⁷ Nurul Huda, ‘Floods Devastate Bangladesh’ Washington Post (1987) <<https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/politics/1987/08/28/floods-devastate-bangladesh/3238af9a-2cb4-4a34-a623-b535903d7b5d/>>; Also See, Carlo Del Ninno, Paul Dorosh and others, ‘Public Policy, Markets and Household Coping Strategies in Bangladesh: Avoiding a Food Security Crisis Following the 1998 Floods,’ World Development, Elsevier, (2003) Vol. 31(7), pages 1221-1238 ; Carlo Del Ninno and Paul Dorosh, ‘The 1998 Floods in Bangladesh Disaster Impacts, Household Coping Strategies, and Response’ International Food Policy Research Institute, Research Report (2001) at 122, <<https://www.alnap.org/system/files/content/resource/files/main/rr122.pdf>>.

²⁸ Tahmida Hadi and others, ‘Seeking Shelter: The Factors That Influence Refuge since Cyclone Gorky in the Coastal Area of Bangladesh’ Progress in Disaster Science 100179, (2021) at 11 <<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.pdisas.2021.100179>>

²⁹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bangladesh_famine_of_1974, last accessed on 10th March 2025

floods.³⁰ Evidence suggests that the 1974 famine was caused by successive onslaughts of natural disasters such as floods and droughts and man-made disasters such as the government's inability to import foods, the directing of subsidized food to the politically vocal urban population, an abrupt fall in food aid and political and administrative corruption that encouraged massive hoarding and the smuggling of food grain.³¹

However, this paper claims the effect of armed conflict was a big reason of the famine after the war. This is evident in different political dialogues and steps of government. In the post-conflict situation government's government was unable to import foods, the directing of subsidized food to the politically vocal urban population, and; Political and administrative corruption that encouraged massive hoarding and the smuggling of food grain.³²

For the importation of food and other crisis management for Bangladesh, it was very necessary to have United Nations Membership. To obtain UN membership and recognition from many other countries, it was argued by many scholars in 1974, Bangladesh agreed to repatriate 195 prisoners of war (hereinafter, POW) Bangladesh – India – Pakistan: Agreement on the repatriation of Prisoners of War and Civilian Internees, 9 April 1974.³³ The significance of food security can be found in the Constitutional Provisions to protect the right to food. Within the ambit of Fundamental State Policy of Bangladesh under Article 15 (a) of the constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh explicitly states that providing food shall be a fundamental responsibility of the State.³⁴ The material and cultural standard of living of the people, with the goal of ensuring the provision of basic requirements of life, especially food, to its population. Bangladesh also has an international obligation to the right to food. Bangladesh ratified International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in 1998; article 11(2) of the Covenant declares that State Parties are obliged to recognize the fundamental right of every individual to be free from hunger. It further mandates that they shall take appropriate measures, both individually and through international cooperation, including implementing specific programs, to fulfil this right. Thus, Article 11 upholds fundamental

³⁰ <https://mygoldenbengal.wordpress.com/2014/11/08/1974-famine-in-bangladesh-economic-context-and-myths/> last accessed on 10th March 2025

³¹ Caf Dowlah, 'The Politics and Economics of Food and Famine in Bangladesh in the early 1970s—with Special Reference to Amartya Sen's Interpretation of the 1974 Famine' *International Journal of Social Welfare* 15.4 (2006): 344-356.

³² Ibid

³³ Ibid

³⁴ Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh [Bangladesh], 4 November 1972, available at: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b5684.html> [accessed 15 June 2023]Article 15

human rights and liberties and respect for human dignity and worth.

The constitution establishes rural development and the agricultural revolution (Article 16), as well as improving nutrition and public health (Article 18), as essential principles of State policy. Thus, while the constitution does not recognize the right to food as a basic right, the spirit of the constitution might be considered to be in favor of the full realization of this right. Furthermore, the constitution recognizes the right to life as a basic right (Article 32), which might be claimed to encompass the right to food through judicial interpretation. In the case of other socioeconomic rights, the judicial extension of this civil right to areas previously regarded as non-enforceable has already been documented in Bangladesh.³⁵

After the war anarchic situation was created in Bangladesh, people were divided into small groups of people and thereby to control the situation government passed the Special Powers Act, 1974.³⁶ The Act was enacted to establish specific measures aimed at preventing certain harmful activities and ensuring a more expeditious trial and effective punishment for severe offenses.³⁷ Under section 25 it provides the capital punishment whoever is found guilty of the offence of **hoarding** or dealing in the black-market shall be punishable **with death**, or the offender may face imprisonment for life or rigorous imprisonment for a period of up to fourteen years, in addition to being subject to a fine.³⁸ The capital punishment for hoarding or black marketing remain us how important was to manage food chain at that time. Under Section 25 B it also penalize smuggling for takes out (or in) of Bangladesh jute, gold or silver bullion, manufactures of gold or silver, currency, **articles of food**, drugs, imported goods, or any other goods. Most importantly, it penalizes for adulteration of, or sale of adulterated food, drink, drugs or cosmetics. According to Article 25C, if someone deliberately adulterates any food or beverage item, making it harmful for consumption with the intention of selling it as food or drink, or being aware that it is likely to be sold as food or drink, they are in violation of the provision.

Emergence of food insecurity and Bangladesh active role towards food security can be positively seen in FAO. FAO has been working in Bangladesh since 1973.³⁹ Bangladesh joined

³⁵ Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh 1972, Article 11, 16, 18, and 32.

³⁶ The Special Powers Act, ACT NO. XIV OF 1974

³⁷ Ibid, Preamble .

³⁸ Ibid, Section 25.

³⁹ FAO Bangladesh, <https://www.fao.org/bangladesh/en/> , last accessed on 10th March 2025

FAO on 12 November 1973 within two years of gaining its independence from Pakistan.⁴⁰ Over time, the food and agricultural sectors of the country have undergone significant transformations. Bangladesh has successfully attained food security for its substantial and expanding population. As one of the fastest-growing economies globally, the nation is now placing greater emphasis on achieving nutrition security and expanding its food exports. Though, after the famine in 1974 Bangladesh has not faced gross food insecurity, there is some situation that is linked to food security discussion in Bangladesh.

Bangladesh, although making gradual progress in achieving food security and raising the level of nutrition, the overall situation of food and nutrition does not give a good impression. Therefore, the existing food crises in Bangladesh, having multiple variables along with bloodstained historical events like the Bangladesh Liberation War of 1971, puts immense pressure on the current government and the people of Bangladesh.

3. Rohingya Refugee Crises and Food Crisis in Host Locality

In 2017, the genocidal atrocities and human rights violations in Rakhine (The Rohingya's native place, previously recognized as Arakan) State of Western Myanmar driven an estimated 750,000 Rohingya refugees across the border into Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh.⁴¹ The United Nations termed the Rohingya as "the most persecuted minority in the world",⁴² and these is the fourth largest displacement of population in the world.⁴³ Currently, there are more than 1.1 million refugee living in the camps in Cox's Bazar, while many refugee has been settled in local area as well as they are unidentifiable as the host community and rohingya shares religious, linguistic, and cultural similarities. The speed and scale of the influx created a critical humanitarian emergency,⁴⁴ putting an immense strain on infrastructure, services, and the host

⁴⁰ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/b30fe0cd-c3bf-43e0-87f7-8ec674a60bf7>, accessedz

⁴¹ *Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (The Gambia v. Myanmar)* (Preliminary Objections) [2022] ICJ GL No. 178

"Bangladesh: Rohingya Refugees Flee to Largest Camp" (World Food Program USA, August 1, 2017) <<https://www.wfpusa.org/countries/bangladesh/>>

⁴² Amani Shahan, 'Rohingya: The Most Persecuted Minority in the World' (Global Village Space, January 31, 2020) <<https://www.globalvillagespace.com/rohingya-the-most-persecuted-minority-in-the-world/>>

⁴³ Asraful Alam and others, 'Impact of Rohingya Refugees on Food Prices in Bangladesh: Evidence from a Natural Experiment' (2022) *World Development* 105873. at154 <<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2022.105873>>

⁴⁴ Strengthening the Capacities of Local And National Ngos in The Rohingya Refugee Response, Feb 2023, <https://www.icvanetwork.org/uploads/2024/09/Bangladesh-Food-Security-Sector-IASC-Localization-Good-Practices.pdf>, last accessed on 10th March 2025

population.⁴⁵ When refugees are hosted in the neighboring countries, impacts created by refugees on the developing host countries.⁴⁶ Burden for the host community, and their presence is thought to lead to increases many developmental problems.⁴⁷ Along with other problems like high crime rate, discomfort around the camps, rising cost of transportation, increase in cost of living, falling wages of laborers,⁴⁸ environmental degradation and mainly economical development of Bangladesh has impacted. The growing need of Rohingya refugees have compounded existing socioeconomic burden for host communities, exacerbating pressures on public services, infrastructure, and the environment. Several studies shows the correlation Refugee hosting and negative socio economic outcomes, specially in food insecurity.⁴⁹

This part of the paper will look at the impact of the sudden influx of Rohingya on food security in the main host region of Bangladesh.⁵⁰ Though, the impact on the food securities due to Rohingya population in Bangladesh is not apparent, there is strong evidence to an increase in food prices in short run since there has been significant increase in demand.⁵¹ A research shows indicate that 8 percent of overall food prices was increased in the host sub-district of Ukhia, with prices of protein (7 percent) and vegetables (36 percent).⁵² For instance, just before the influx started, per kg potato cost 20 BDT (\$0.24) it has since tripled in price to 60 or 70 taka.⁵³ Though these, these food price did not grow up, they were not substantial enough to decrease other food prices. The price hike is not surprising, rather it has been observed in many parts of the world, the refugee host area has been evidenced price hike in every basic food availability.⁵⁴

⁴⁵ Food Security Cluster, Bangladesh Rohingya Refugee Response (Cox's Bazar), <https://fscluster.org/rohingya-crisis>, available at last accessed on 10th March 2025

⁴⁶ Bhajan Chandra Barman, 'Impact of Refugees on Host Developing Countries, in S.K. Das, and N. Chowdhary, (eds) *Refugee Crises and Third-World Economies* (Emerald Publishing Limited, Leeds, 2020) 103.

⁴⁷ Alix-Garcia et al. 'The Economics of Hosting Refugees: A Host Community Perspective From Turkana' (UNHCR and World Bank Publication, 2017). See also, Isabel Ruiz, and Carlos Vargas-Silva, 'The Consequences of Forced Migration for Host Communities in Africa' (2017) 31 (3) *Revue D'économie Du Développement* 135.

⁴⁸ Zaidi Sattar, 'Rohingya Crisis and the Host Community' (The Financial Express, 2019) <<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/views/reviews/rohingya-crisis-and-the-host-community-1564498784>>

⁴⁹ Athur Mabiso, et al. *Refugees, Food Security, and Resilience in Host Communities: Transitioning from Humanitarian Assistance to Development in Protracted Refugee Situations* (Vol. 2. Intl. Food Policy Research Institute 2014. However, only cross country study cannot show the exact correlation, it require holistic approach.

⁵⁰ Ashraful Alam,, et al. 'Impact of Rohingya Refugees on Food Prices in Bangladesh: Evidence from a Natural Experiment'. *World Development* 154 (2022): 105873.

⁵¹ Ibid (n-48)

⁵² Ibid(n-47)

⁵³ "Rohingya Refugees Test Bangladeshi Welcome as Prices Rise and Repatriation Stalls," 28 February 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-myanmar-rohingya-banglade-shtensions/rohingya-refugees-test-bangladeshi-welcome-as-pric-es-riseand-repatriation-stalls-idUSKCN1GC08Y>.

⁵⁴ Alix-Garcia, at el. 'Displaced Populations, Humanitarian Assistance and Hosts: A framework for Analyzing Impacts on Semi-urban Households', (2012) Vol. 40(2) *World Development* 373-386.

Bangladesh imports several food items, like wheat, oil and just after the refugee influx trade deficit of Bangladesh also increased. Though, there was no specific evidence that influx or the refugees contributed to it, Bangladesh tend to increase its dependency on the developed countries to balance importation of food items.⁵⁵

Apart from the scarcity of food due to sudden increase of consumer, there are other factors that contribute to the food insecurity in the region. For instance, to host the refugee the local people also constructed converted farming land to residence which increased which push the land prices in the region.⁵⁶ The massive influx of refugees into the Teknaf and Ukhiya. Teknaf peninsula is an ecologically critical area and Ukhiya is a forested regions, the settlement of Rohingya has threatened natural and planted forests.⁵⁷ This has impacted ecological chain and natural resource in the region of host community.⁵⁸ Food production disrupted due to occupy land, deforestation, change in the eco-system.

The situation for Bangladesh gets worse considering the weather extremes that creates more challenges to deal with food insecurity. During the May–September monsoon season, humanitarian conditions deteriorated significantly. Shelters were damaged and people displaced as Cox's Bazar is extremely prone to flooding and landslides because of its rugged and hilly terrain.⁵⁹ The overcrowded camps pose a fire risk. In March 2023, a massive fire affected 16000 people with over 5000 people displaced and nearly 3000 shelters damaged or destroyed. The fire destroyed many refugees documentation, essential for identification and to access assistance and services.⁶⁰

⁵⁵ Emese Laura László, *The Impact of Refugees on Host Countries: A Case Study of Bangladesh under the Rohingya Influx*, Aalborg University, Denmark.

⁵⁶ Ibid.

⁵⁷ Imtiaz Sakib, 'Ecological Impact of Rohingya Refugees on Forest Resources: Remote Sensing Analysis of Vegetation Cover Change in Teknaf Peninsula in Bangladesh' (2018) 4 (1) *Ecocycles* 16. According to UNDP Bangladesh and UN Women Bangladesh . 2018. Report on Environmental Impact of Rohingya Influx, Dhaka, Bangladesh. UN Woman data, the camp expansion has caused damage to approximately 2000 ha of forest after the arrival of over 750,000 Rohingya refugees just in August 2017. Read Further, UNDP Bangladesh and UN Women Bangladesh , 'Report on Environmental Impact of Rohingya Influx, 2018. Dhaka, Bangladesh.

⁵⁸ Ibid, See also, Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery Rohingya crisis 2017–2018 Draft Rapid Impact, Vulnerability and Needs Assessment: Executive Summary, 2018. <https://www.gfdrr.org/sites/default/files/Rohingya%20crisis%20exec%20summary-2.pdf> (accessed 06 February, 2024).

⁵⁹ 'Bangladesh Rohingya Refugees: Overview', ACAPS portal, (30 December 2022). Accessed on 05 June 2024 <https://www.acaps.org/country/bangladesh/crisis/rohingya-refugees>

⁶⁰ Humanitarian Response to the Fire in Rohingya Refugee Camp 11, 5 March 2023 Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, 6 March 2023. (Online) accessed on 05 June 2024. <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/www.humanitarianresponse.info/files/documents/files/20230307_iscg_fire_response_sitrep_as_of_eod_6_march_2023.pdf> last accessed on 22 December 2024

The requirement of huge humanitarian assistance fund for Rohingya refugees is another problem, as of July 2021, only \$366 million of around \$1 billion has been committed or disbursed.⁶¹ The overall disbursement has declined to 34 percent of the total money required.⁶² Bangladesh is shouldering a significant economic burden in providing support for the persecuted Rohingya population. The report published by Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), a think tank based in Bangladesh states that the country has to spend around \$1.22 billion every year on Rohingya Refugees.⁶³ As per CPD, an estimated cost of approximately \$7 billion would be necessary to host and provide support for the Rohingya refugees over the initial five-year period, assuming repatriation does not occur.⁶⁴

Indeed, many International Organization and also local NGOs are providing funds for humanitarian assistance. Like many other program, the launch of the Rohingya refugee Joint Response Plan, co-hosted by the Government of Bangladesh and the United Nations in Geneva comes at a critical moment, the international support is declining and lack of funds is resulting in World Food Program to cut rations in the start of 2023.⁶⁵ The food aid is literally a matter of life and death for Rohingya families, we have evidenced the worse in situation of ration cut.⁶⁶ It is undeniable that, huge humanitarian aid has been supplied as food products, such as cereals and lentils. Only ration cannot **fulfill all their nutritional demands**. There is gross food insecurity within the displaced Rohingya refugee population, they are malnutrition and allied problems of food insecurity.⁶⁷

⁶¹ Jamshed M Kazi, 'Who Will Bear the Financial Burden of Supporting the Rohingyas in Bangladesh?', The Diplomat, October 30, 2021) <<https://thediplomat.com/2021/10/who-will-bear-the-financial-burden-of-supporting-the-rohingyas-in-bangladesh/>> last accessed on 22 December 2024

⁶² Ibid

⁶³ Palma P, 'Funding on Decline, Challenges Up' (The Daily Star, August 24, 2021) <<https://www.thedailystar.net/rohingya-crisis/news/funding-decline-challenges-2160016>> last accessed on 22 December 2024

⁶⁴ 'The Growing Cost of Doing Right by the Rohingya' (Dhaka Tribune, August 27, 2021) <<https://archive.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/rohingya-crisis/2021/08/28/the-growing-cost-of-doing-right-by-the-rohingya>>

⁶⁵ 'Lack of Funds Forces WFP to Cut Rations for Rohingya in Bangladesh' (World Food Programme, February 17, 2023) <<https://www.wfp.org/news/lack-funds-forces-wfp-cut-rations-rohingya-bangladesh>> last accessed on 22 December 2024

⁶⁶ Tom Andrews, UN Special Rapporteur on Myanmar. "I have spoken with desperate families in the camps who have already had to cut back on essential food items due to a spike in prices. Reversing these cuts in food aid is literally a matter of life and death for Rohingya families." UN News, Global perspective Human Stories, Food Rationing for Rohingya Refugees a 'matter of life and death': Rights Expert, 2March, 2023. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/03/1134052>, last accessed on 22 December 2024

⁶⁷ Ibid

Just external assistance is not that much impactful in fulfilling accessibility of food, Bangladesh has to bear the burden of them.⁶⁸ Thus, the Rohingya refugee crisis is one of the major challenges for Bangladesh to mitigate rising food insecurity. Moreover, the long stay of Rohingya in Bangladesh has created the common concern of the general people, they are not ready to share the burden of food caused due to sheltering Rohingya.⁶⁹ However, the burden could have been converted as human resources.

Manpower always an asset of any countries if they can be utilized for economic development. But in case of Rohingya Refugee, they are restricted within the camps and not holds rights as like citizens of Bangladesh. But here most important aspect of utilization of manpower into a resource is lacking. The refugees are not allowed to access labour market and wage earning.⁷⁰ However, they have worked in unskilled category they have employed illegally mainly undertake work on constructions or in the fishery sector in cheaper wage (300 BDT while 500 BDT is the regular per day wages). The right to work or right at work Bangladesh Labour Code 2006 and related constitutional provisions are only limited to ensure rights of the citizen of Bangladesh.⁷¹ However, Bangladesh is under obligation under several international instruments to ensure well being of the refugee.⁷² Furthermore, there are several constitutional provisions and legislations of Bangladesh is applicable to Rohingya refugee on case to case

⁶⁸ T. F. Joehnk, How the Rohingya Crisis is Changing Bangladesh' (The New York Times, Oct. 6, 2017). <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/06/opinion/rohingya-bangladesh-myanmar.html>, last accessed on 22 December 2024

⁶⁹ Kudrat-E-Khuda (Babu), 'The Impacts and Challenges to Host Country Bangladesh Due to Sheltering the Rohingya Refugees' (2020) 6 (1) Cogent Social Sciences.

⁷⁰ UNHCR, Refugee Policy Review Framework, Country Summary as 30 Jun at 2020, available at RPRF-Country-Summary-Bangladesh. See also, Roger Zetter, and Héloïse Ruadel. "Refugees' right to work and access to labor markets—An assessment." World Bank Global Program on Forced Displacement (GPDF) and the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development (KNOMAD) Thematic Working Group on Forced Migration. KNOMAD Working Paper. Washington, DC: World Bank Group (2016).

⁷¹ Considering refugees as foreigners they are regulated by the Foreigners Act of 1946. And their entry, stay and exit are regulated by the Registration of Foreigners Act 1939; Passport Act 1920; Bangladesh Citizenship (Temporary Provision) order 1972 •; Extradition Act 1974; Naturalization Act 1926 etc. While Muslim Family Ordinance 1961 is applicable for all Muslim Citizen of Bangladesh, this has been interpreted as non-applicability to refugee and non-citizen resident. Even marriage between Rohingya refugees and Bangladeshis are prohibited. Read further, Ban on marriage with Rohingya refugees, 11 July 2024, The Daily Star, <https://www.thedailystar.net/ban-on-marriage-with-rohingya-refugees-32826>. *Babul Hossain v. the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh*, HCD, Writ Petition 2017.

⁷² Bangladesh ratified core Human Rights instruments, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948 (UDHR), Article 25 states that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for their own health and wellbeing and that of their family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in the circumstances beyond their control. ICCPR, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 1966 (ICESCR), CRC, CAT, CEDAW, etc.

basis.⁷³ For instance, every person present in Bangladesh has access to justice safe guard against arrest and detention,⁷⁴ no person shall deprived of life and personal liberty etc.⁷⁵

So economic opportunities for Rohingya is very limited to pecuniary benefit as a volunteer for work within camps. The increase in food prices have detrimental effect on the welfare of the host region population due to lack of effective policies to mitigate the economic impacts. Impacts of refugee on host communities food security.⁷⁶ The history of food problem in Bangladesh provides the idea of a transformative approach towards the food policy of Bangladesh.⁷⁷ While Bangladesh public policy pronouncements emphasize food self-sufficiency as a goal, ⁷⁸ more attention required in the policymaking.⁷⁹ The explicit price stabilization and food security policies need to be regulating in more comprehensive manner.⁸⁰ The study conducted by the Bangladesh Law Commission to assess the ground situation of the right to food and develop a comprehensive framework law illuminates the problem of food insecurity.⁸¹ Further, Bangladesh would benefit from taking the necessary steps to move towards instrument choices that are likely to be more effective in the long term. In order to do that, (i) supporting institutions need to be developed; (ii) the pacing and sequencing of reforms, and parallel development of non-trade policies, need to be managed; and (iii) the political economy forces that lead policymakers to favour short-term trade measures need to be contained.⁸²

⁷³ The Prevention of Oppression Against Women and Children Act 2000; The Domestic Violence Act 2010; The Child Marriage Restraint Act 2017; The Children Act 2013.

⁷⁴ The Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh 1972, Article 32

⁷⁵ The Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh 1972, Article 33

⁷⁶ Alam, Ashraful, et al. "Impact of Rohingya refugees on food prices in Bangladesh: Evidence from a natural experiment." *World Development* 154 (2022): 105873.

⁷⁷ Marcus Franda "Food Policy and Politics in Bangladesh" *India Quarterly: A Journal of International Affairs*, (1981) Vol. 37, at 165 <<http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/097492848103700201>> last accessed on 22 December 2024

⁷⁸ Nurul Islam, 'Food Strategy and Development in Bangladesh', (1989) 3284 *International Food Policy Research Institute* 37.

⁷⁹ Athur Mabiso, et al. Refugees, 'Food Security, and Resilience in Host Communities: Transitioning from Humanitarian Assistance to Development in Protracted Refugee Situations', (2014) Vol. 2. *Intl. Food Policy Research Institute*.

⁸⁰ Paul A. Dorosh, 'Food Price Stabilisation and Food Security: International Experience', (2008) 44(1) *Bulletin of Indonesian Economic Studies* 93.

⁸¹ Bangladesh Law Commission, A Study on Ground Situation of Right to Food in Bangladesh, Report prepared by BLC and facilitated by OXFAM in Bangladesh, May 2015. <<https://www.lc.gov.bd/Publication/A%20Study%20on%20Ground%20Situation%20of%20Right%20to%20Food%20in%20Bangladesh.pdf>> last accessed on 22 December 2024

⁸² Jonathan Brooks,, and Alan Matthews. 'Trade Dimensions of Food Security. (2015), available at https://www.oecd.org/content/dam/oecd/en/publications/reports/2015/02/trade-dimensions-of-food-security_g17a25ce/5js65xn790nv-en.pdf, last accessed on 10th March 2025.

4. What the Russia-Ukraine War means for the Economy of Bangladesh:

On February 24, 2022, an armed conflict between Russian Federation (Russia) and Ukraine escalated which has impacted global food security, in other words the humanitarian crisis inflict food insecurity. This incident had happened when world was already continuing the broken chain of food availability and accessibility. A report shows that in 2020, 155 million people globally were acutely food insecure, with 99.1 million of those living in 23 countries where war and conflicts were the main causes of food insecurity.⁸³ It indicates that war and conflicts is a major driver of hunger and food insecurity.

The Russia-Ukraine war has become one of the major inflictor of global food crisis. Because, both the countries are the major producers and exporters of wheat, maize, sunflower seeds, potassium, phosphorus and urea (46% nitrogen) fertilizers.⁸⁴ Russia was the top wheat exporter, sending out 32.9 million tonnes, which is equivalent to 18% of the world's wheat shipments. Ukraine ranked sixth in wheat exports, with 20 million tones, making up 10% of the global market share.⁸⁵ Both countries have a 25% share of global wheat export. These countries are known as global bread baskets, as nearly 50 countries depend on them for at least 30 percent of their wheat imports, with 26 countries sourcing over 50 percent of their wheat imports from these two countries.⁸⁶ They also played a significant role in supplying barley and corn, contributing approximately 20% of the global barley supply and 18% of the maize supply before the pandemic.⁸⁷ Additionally, Russia is a major player in the global fertilizer market, being the leading exporter of nitrogen fertilizers and the second-largest exporter of potassic fertilizers in 2021.⁸⁸ It was also the third-largest exporter of phosphorus fertilizers in the same

⁸³ Von Grebmer et al. 'Global Hunger Index: Hunger and Food Systems in Conflict Settings', FAO, 2022; Impact of the Ukraine-Russia Conflict on Global Food Security and Related Matters under the Mandate of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) (Issue 8 April 2022). https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/EN_125.pdf. sue October), 2021; Commodity Markets Outlook: the Impact of the War in Ukraine on Commodity Markets, (2022)World Bank Group, available at <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/entities/publication/4f55f6a4-a780-5119-8bbf-be6990042c4b>, last accessed on 22 December 2024.

⁸⁴ Oseph Glauber and David Laborde, 'How Will Russia's Invasion of Ukraine Affect Global Food Security?'(2022), IFPRI Blog : Issue Post. <https://www.ifpri.org/blog/how-will-russias-invasion-ukraine-affect-global-food-security>, last accessed on 22 December 2024

⁸⁵ The Importance of Ukraine and the Russian Federation for Global Agricultural Markets and the Risks Associated With the War in Ukraine, 3rd July 2023, available at <https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/4fce6098-a3ba-4742-b8f4-685454a5d409/content>, last accessed on 10th March 2025

⁸⁶ 'The Impacts and Policy Implications of Russia's Aggression against Ukraine on Agricultural Markets', Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), 5 August 2022.

⁸⁷ Hannah Ritchie, 'How Could the War in Ukraine Impact Global Food Supplies? - Our World in Data', Report, Our World in Data, 24 March 2022.

⁸⁸ Xinshen Diao, Paul A. Dorosh, et al. 'Bangladesh: Impacts of the Ukraine and Global Crises on Poverty and

year. The effect of war on global food security is unprecedented at least over a half century.

The food insecurity has caused market instability and food price hike. The simulated price impact (-10%) for wheat are in line with the FAO (2022)⁸⁹ in which wheat exports from Ukraine and Russia fall by 25 million tons per year, other grains by 5 million tons and oilseeds by 3 million tons. The FAO scenario leads to 8-22% higher food and feed prices in the short term (in 2022/23 compared to baseline) and after five years (2026/27) to 10 to 19% higher wheat prices compared to baseline.⁹⁰

While the Russia–Ukraine armed conflict disrupt national and worldwide food supplies, it has mainly impacted to the import dependent countries as the food supplies being interrupted. Russia's invasion of Ukraine has resulted in the displacement of millions of people, causing a significant humanitarian crisis,⁹¹ which has also hampered agricultural trade and production from one of the world's major exporting regions. This is the one factor as the conflict in Ukraine's has decreased the wheat production which also impact the global price increased.⁹² Disruption in production has threatened the supply of grain to countries traditionally reliant on imports from Ukraine.⁹³

But the main factor can be identified as the trade embargo imposed by sanctions on Russia. Undoubtedly there are negative impacts on Russian economy and the country has imposed sanctioned.⁹⁴ This has raised concerns about food and energy crises due to economic sanctions against Russia.⁹⁵ The United States, Europe, and Japan have taken the lead in imposing

Food Security, International Food Policy Institute, <https://www.ifpri.org/publication/bangladesh-impacts-ukraine-and-global-crises-poverty-and-food-security>, <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.135947>, last accessed on 22 December 2024

⁸⁹ Ibid (n-66)

⁹⁰ Hans Meijl et al. 'Impact of the Russia-Ukraine War on Global Food Security: Food Affordability under Pressure.' (2023), available at DOI: <https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-2383222/v1>, last accessed on 22 December 2024

⁹¹ 'Ukraine' (IDMC) <<https://www.internal-displacement.org/countries/ukraine>> last accessed on 22 December 2024

⁹² The scholarship assumed that if the conflict did not block Ukraine's wheat export, the global price would increase by up to 0.5% as a result of the decrease in Ukraine's wheat production. Read further, Faqin Lin et al., 'The Impact of Russia-Ukraine Conflict on Global Food Security', (2023) 36 Global Food Security.

⁹³ FAO, 2022b. FAO food price index. Food. Agri. Organ. United Nations. <https://www.fao.org/worldfoodsituation/foodpricesindex/en/> last accessed on 22 December, 2024

⁹⁴ Likka Korhonen, 'Economic Sanctions on Russia and their Effects', (2019) 20 (04) CESifo Forum 19; Sanctions and Counter-Sanctions: What are their Economic Effects in Russia and Elsewhere?. No. 2/2019. BOFIT Policy Brief, 2019. Iikka Korhonen et al., 'Sanctions, Counter-Sanctions and Russia: Effects on Economy, Trade and Finance (2018) 4 BOFIT Policy Brief.

⁹⁵ 'Nobuhiro Hosoe, 'The cost of war: Impact of sanctions on Russia following the invasion of Ukraine' Journal of Policy Modeling, (2023) Volume 45, Issue 2, Pp 305-319

economic sanctions, particularly the blockage of Russia's fuel exports (natural gas, oil, and coal) to prevent Russia from earning foreign currency, and to restrict imports to impede Russian domestic economic activity. ⁹⁶Study shows that, the sanctions against Russia spilled over negatively to trade and direct investment between Russia and former Soviet Union countries.⁹⁷

The world has been witnessing an increased number of people living in food insecurity, along with many other reasons where the war and conflict is one of the major reason for national as well as global food insecurity. The globalization of trade made countries interdependent on essential commodities. The global network of food and agriculture has become denser as more low-income countries participate in trade, resulting in the decentralization of food and agriculture trade⁹⁸. The impact of war in one region has the potential to disrupt the global food supply. This has increased surge in global commodity prices due to the Russia-Ukraine conflict has had severe consequences for many impoverished nations, including Bangladesh, which heavily depend on imported wheat and oil. Despite it is a peripheral country, Bangladesh has been indirectly impacted due armed conflict without any territorial boundary. The conflict not only jeopardizes the economic and political stability of Bangladesh but also has far-reaching implications for its social and environmental factors. These interconnected and mutually reinforcing impacts pose a significant threat to food security in Bangladesh. Bangladesh economy had recovered crisis occurred due to COVID-19 pandemic, the armed conflict posed a trade shock that inflict food insecurity. The war in Ukraine has negatively affected the food, energy, and fiscal situation in Bangladesh. While the rise of inflation to 7.4 percent is the highest since May 2014 and continued increasing up to a peak of 9.9 percent in August 2022.⁹⁹ Bangladesh has seen exponentially rising prices and supply problems in multiple areas of the agriculture and food industry.¹⁰⁰

As an example, the imposition of export bans has played a role in the escalation of prices in

⁹⁶ Ibid

⁹⁷ Sanctions were adopted in many sectors. In the trade sector, the export and import of arms was forbidden, as was the export of dual-use goods for military use. In addition, exports of certain types of goods related to oil exploration and production were banned. Read further, Gohar Samvel Sedrakyan, 'Ukraine War-Induced Sanctions against Russia: Consequences on Transition Economies', (2022) 44 (5) Journal of Policy Modeling 863.

⁹⁸ FAO, 'The State of Agricultural Commodity Markets 2020'. Agricultural markets and sustainable development: Global value chains, smallholder farmers and digital innovations. Rome, FAO.

⁹⁹ Major food crises in 2022 Bangladesh (Cox's Bazar), report available at <https://fsinplatform.org/sites/default/files/resources/files/GRFC2023-country-bangladesh.pdf>, last accessed on 10th March 2025

¹⁰⁰ Ibid

commodities such as palm oil. Additionally, wheat prices have witnessed a significant surge, with a real-term increase of 56% for palm oil and 100% for wheat between June 2021 and April 2022.¹⁰¹ In addition, high oil prices have a knock-on effect on other prices, leading to further inflationary pressure.¹⁰² The increase in price of fertilizer in global market and the fluctuating price due to the disrupted market has caused uncertainty among the farmers.¹⁰³

The sanctions on the trade, caused the food availability to access globally, but it especially affects disadvantaged and vulnerable groups.¹⁰⁴ Furthermore, the impact of sanctions can be extent to individual level.¹⁰⁵ Several research shows that, food availability is decreasing in most low-income countries due to supply restrictions from Ukraine and Russia.¹⁰⁶ As an enforcement measure, sanctions have been issued against Russia, but the sanction has impacted more to the third country in comparison to the imposed country (Russia). Though developed countries are sourcing their requirements from other oil-producing countries, small and poor countries like Bangladesh are finds it difficult, with their limited financial abilities, to meet their energy requirements. So, the sanctions imposed on Russia as a punishment for other countries, which are dependent in trading.

The dependency of vulnerable food-importing countries due to the effect of war politically powerful countries also considered as part food and politics.¹⁰⁷ Though the Russia-Ukraine armed conflict indirectly impact the food security of Bangladesh, should not be used as a pretext for increasing commodity prices, rather, the syndicates had increase the price using conflict as a weapon. Therefore, even if there is no direct effect of armed conflict in third country food security, the situation itself creates food insecurity from the local level.

¹⁰¹ Xinshen Diao, et al. 'Bangladesh: Impacts of the Ukraine and Global Crises on Poverty and Food Security', International Food Policy Institute, <https://www.ifpri.org/publication/bangladesh-impacts-ukraine-and-global-crises-poverty-and-food-security>, <https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.135947>, last accessed on 22 December 2024

¹⁰² Fahmida Khatun, What the Russia-Ukraine war means for Bangladesh's economy, <https://oecd-development-matters.org/2022/03/31/what-the-russia-ukraine-war-means-for-bangladeshs-economy/>, last accessed on 10th March 2025

¹⁰³ Gershon Feder and others, 'Futures Markets and the Theory of the Firm Underprice Uncertainty', (1980), Vol. 94 (2) Q. J. Econ. pp 317–328. <<https://doi.org/10.2307/1884543>>

¹⁰⁴ Fatemeh Mohammadi-Nasrabadi et al., 'Economic Sanctions Affecting Household Food and Nutrition Security and Policies to Cope with Them: A Systematic Review, (2023) 12 International Journal of Health Policy and Management .

¹⁰⁵ Daniel P. Ahn,, and Rodney D. Ludema, 'The Sword and the Shield: The Economics of Targeted Sanctions', (2020) 130 European Economic Review 306.

¹⁰⁶ Countries, Japan, India, and China reduced wheat imports from Russia. Nobuhiro Hosoe, 'The Cost of War: Impact of Sanctions on Russia Following the Invasion of Ukraine', (2023) 45 (2) Journal of Policy Modeling 305.

¹⁰⁷ Rahman Sobhan, Politics of Food and Famine in Bangladesh. Economic and Political Weekly, (1979), Vol. 14(48), pp 1973–1980.

The Sustainable Development Goal to creating a world free of hunger by 2030 is far-fetching from reality.¹⁰⁸ Bangladesh has contributed in economic development. After 50 years of birth, the GDP per capita of Bangladesh is competing with that of India and significantly exceed that of Pakistan.¹⁰⁹ The development of agriculture has been the utmost priority of the Government of Bangladesh, bringing significant structural changes, despite many problems and constraints like natural calamities, population growth, sociopolitical changes, technological advancement, and the creation of inclusive democracy.¹¹⁰ Bangladesh is at a crossroads in its efforts to combat poverty and achieve food security for its people.¹¹¹ The report prepared by International Life Sciences Institute provides an account of laws and regulations brought by Bangladesh through its National Food and Nutrition Policy.¹¹² However, it is yet to develop a unified Food Safety Administration System and to formulate a Food Safety Policy for its citizens.¹¹³

5. Conclusion

At present a huge number of people experiencing a crisis of food insecurity in, which conflict was the primary reason. But if we see the recent food crisis that is mainly caused by the impact of armed conflict, where countries are not parties to the conflict suffer even more than the parties of the conflict. Bangladesh had faced food crisis in post conflict situation as a part of the liberation war in 1971 beyond the question of whether Pakistan used Starvation in the warfare or not. The famine in the post-conflict situation shows that to ensure food security, the government had to take different steps at national and international levels to seek aid and global trade. Bangladesh is also struggling to feed a huge number of Rohingya refugees, caused due to armed conflict in Myanmar. In the area of Globalization and trade, despite having no direct influence of armed conflict, third countries' food security is being impacted. Bangladesh, like many other small states also impacted due to Ukraine –Russia. While the Covid-19 pandemic induced huge economic imbalance and world started has just to recover at that time the war

¹⁰⁸ United Nations, Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022, 9 <<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/The-Sustainable-Development-Goals-Report-2022.pdf>>.last accessed on 22 December 2024

¹⁰⁹ Kaushik Basu, 'Bangladesh at 50' (Brookings, March 26, 2021) <<https://www.brookings.edu/opinions/bangladesh-at-50/>> last accessed on 22 December 2024

¹¹⁰ Kashem M and Faroque M, 'A Country Scenarios of Food Security and Governance in Bangladesh' Journal of Science Foundation, (2013) Vol. 9, Issue 41 <<http://dx.doi.org/10.3329/jsf.v9i1-2.14646>> last accessed on 22 December 2024

¹¹¹ Agricultural and Rural Finance, <https://www.bb.org.bd/pub/annual/anreport/AR2010-11/chap08.pdf>, last accessed on 10th March 2025.

¹¹² ILSI-India, Laws And Regulation To Foods And Food Additives-Country Report Bangladesh. <http://www.ilsi-india.org/international_conference_on_regulatory_framework_on_foods_and_food_additives/Bangladesh%20%20Report.pdf> last accessed on 22 December 2024

¹¹³ Ibid

between Russia and Ukraine has impacted global economy. While Sanctions is one of the measures against war, but the real scenario is that instead of affecting sanctioned country, sanctions affect economy of small power third country. Due to Russia's position as the third-largest oil producer globally, the high oil prices are adversely impacting the global economy. While developed nations can rely on alternative oil-producing countries to fulfill their needs, smaller and economically disadvantaged countries face challenges due to their limited financial capabilities to meet their energy demands. Furthermore, the elevated oil prices have a ripple effect on other commodity prices, exacerbating inflationary pressures.

