

## **The Role of Problem Oriented Proactive Policing in Preventing Crime: A Study on Dhaka District Police**

\*Md. Ohidujjaman<sup>1</sup>, ARM Mehrab Ali<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Lecturer, Department of Sociology and Social Work, The People's University of Bangladesh

<sup>2</sup>Senior Research Associate, Innovations for Poverty Action, Bangladesh

Corresponding Author: \*Md. Ohidujjaman

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**Abstract:** Problem-oriented policing is considered to be a very effective strategy to prevent crimes, which prefers proactive strategies over reactive responses. Understanding the importance of problem-oriented policing, Dhaka District Police has already taken some initiatives for preventing offenses in the first place. The paper has given a look at those initiatives taken by Dhaka district police and wanted to explore whether those initiatives can decrease crimes and minimize the tendency of criminal behaviors. Our result shows that the number of case filed under Dhaka District Police has a decreasing pattern during 2011-15, especially cases concerning violence against women and children have reduced significantly. It is clear that the problem-oriented proactive policing worked as one of the catalysts to reduce the number of cases filed. This result is consistent with the evidence from similar other studies and existing theory, which predicts that problem-oriented proactive policing will reduce cases and have a positive impact on the community level. However, further research with extensive primary data collection is necessary to measure the impact of the proactive policing practice of the Dhaka District Police.

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Date of Submission: 01-08-2016

Date of acceptance: 08-09-2017

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### **I. INTRODUCTION**

Establishing public safety is one of the fundamental obligations of a country towards its citizen. The law enforcement organizations plays the key role in ensuring the law and order condition of the country. Traditionally, law enforcers provide more emphasize on into a reactive strategy, where they use their resources in responding to calls for services (Alber & Reiss, 1992). In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century the response time for police has reduced with the advent of police car, radio and telephone. However, through the reactive strategy, the law enforcement agencies mainly concentrated on felonies and other serious crimes instead of focusing on crime prevention. Problem-oriented policing prefers proactive crime prevention strategies over reactive responses. Proactive policing does not refer to aggressive policing. Rather, proactive policing promotes strategies that deal with the possible causes of crime and tries to address those causes. Through proactive policing strategies, the police provides intervention about community problems (Scott, 2000). Proactive policing can be defined simply as police work initiated by law enforcement agencies or the officers themselves that is intended to deter crime, reduce disorder, reduce citizens' fear of crime, or remedy other specific concerns in a given area.

#### **Background and Justification of the Study**

In the 1970s, Kansas City Police Department of Kansas City conducted an experiment which found that the reactive policing strategy is ineffective (Kelling, Pate, Dieckman, & Brown, 1974). During the 1980s and 1990s many law enforcement agencies adopted community policing and problem-oriented policing. Problem-oriented policing argues that there will be fewer crime incidents if the policy makers can accurately identify and minimize the causes of crimes (Sherman, et al., 1998). Since 1970s proactive law enforcement strategies have been prescribed by the scholars due to its effective process of reducing crime (Nix & Rojek, 2014). Study affirms that proactive and tailor-made efforts can be most effective in reducing crime (Lum, Telep, Koper, & Grieco, 2012). The modern proactive policing idea was derived from the Broken Windows theory. The theory argues that for minimizing the impact of crime, police officers must have direct interaction with the community (Wilson & Kelling, 1982). Dhaka District Police, being a dynamic and proactive organization, starting practicing problem-oriented policing as part of their modern policing strategy.

This study specifically aims to investigate the impact of these problem-oriented proactive policing practices. This study explores the research question whether proactive problem oriented policing can decrease crimes and minimize the tendency of criminal behaviours. The study also looks into the fact that whether rate and intensity of crime is reduced in Dhaka District area due to these programme/activities and looks into the

problems, challenges of doing so. The study also provides some suggestions for remedies of current problems and better services.

## **II. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY**

The overall objective of the study is to reveal the role of proactive policing in improving the crime scenario in Bangladesh.

## **III. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

The study also seeks to achieve the following specific objectives:

1. To identify the pattern of proactive policing activities and practices in the study area.
2. To investigate the impacts of the problem-oriented proactive policing strategies taken by Dhaka District Police.

## **IV. METHODOLOGY**

This is an exploratory research which seeks to explore the pattern of proactive policing activities by the Dhaka District Police and its impacts in the study area. To reach the goal of this research, study team visited study area and the key informants. The study team also examined the number of filed cases both in Thana and the Court in the study area. The study used both quantitative data and qualitative data. Time series data for the number of filed cases for the years from January 2010 to December 2015 were collected from the Dhaka District Police. Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), In-Depth Interviews (IDIs) and case studies were conducted to collect the qualitative data. Along with officials from the police, our team also carried out Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), In-Depth Interviews (IDIs) and case studies for the community members. Besides, the research team conducted several meetings with the officials from Dhaka District Police to collect information and documents on their activities. Three FGDs were conducted in Savar Model Thana and Keraniganj Model Thana. Each FGD was steered with the participation of the local opinion leaders, community police, and local stakeholders. Besides, In-Depth Interviews were conducted with the opinion leaders, community police, corresponding Officer in Charge (OC) of the Thana, and the direct beneficiaries from the socially excluded community. One case study was done on the beneficiaries from the Bede community. The quantitative data were entered using MS Access and exported to STATA 12 for cleaning and analyses. STATA and MS Excel were used for generating the graphs. The qualitative data were used to find the impact of proactive policing practiced by the Dhaka District Police. The field notes from the FGDs and IDIs were cleaned and digitized for analyses. Analyses were done based on the consensus of the FGDs and the IDIs on a particular issue. After that the researchers were consulted to explore the theoretical background of the findings.

## **V. STUDY FINDINGS**

### **5.1 Problem-oriented proactive policing activities of Dhaka District Police**

Sociological interpretations of crime and criminal activities assert that people learn criminal behavior through the process of interpersonal interaction. Abnormal and criminogenic social conditions encourage committing crime. In this regard, prevention method should be prioritized for combating crime. Understanding the importance of proactive policing, Dhaka District Police have initiated multiple proactive policing activities for preventing crime. The research team conducted numbers of meetings with the Dhaka District Police and collected reports highlighting the most prominent activities done by Dhaka District Police. The activities are given below.

#### **5.1.1 Social Protection program for Marginalized People**

Around the globe successful Police departments do not bound them into the enforcement activities only, rather involve themselves in some social activities analyzing the social needs which may lead to any criminal activities if not taken care of in time. Dhaka District Police also identified some social vulnerability which might push the citizens to commit crimes, and took some initiatives to prevent crimes in the first place. As a part of these initiatives, study found that, Dhaka District Police have taken some effective measures to ensure social protection and social inclusion of marginalized people of our society as they are more exposed to commit crime. Evidence suggest that socio-economic disadvantage has significant association with crime(Kitchen, 2006)(Fergusson, Swain-Campbell, & Horwood, 2004). It is a hardship for the marginalized people such as lower economic class, transgender and Bede people to become part of the mainstream society. Dhaka District Police try to keep communication with vagabond and transgender group to help them get involved in the mainstream society through solving their problems. To ensure social protection and inclusion of ostracized people in the mainstream society, Dhaka District Police have undertaken different activities such as rehabilitation of Bohemians or Gypsies community (locally known as "Bede community" through initiating to provide permanent residence, arranging different life skill training programs and logistics, so that they could

change their traditional livelihood. “We Identified that unemployment problem is the main reason for the tendency of committing crime among Bede community. We also identified that they do not have sufficient skill to get a job. We took an initiative by sending 65 women to the Youth Development Directorate to get training on sewing”, said an Additional Police Super of Dhaka District Police. “As a part of these inclusion activities, we also pressurized the concern authority to construct a road in the Bede community area and the road has been constructed inside the Bede community. For the Bede Community, a specialized cell has been made in the Savar Police station. Besides, to ensure the wellbeing of Bede community specialist doctors are giving medical aid every week and providing medicines for free is under consideration of District Police” he added. To eradicate the unemployment problem among Bede community, a group of women have been trained on sewing and one hundred sewing machines have been allotted for them after the completion of the training programmes which have already been handed over to them. Moreover, a member of Bede community has been appointed in Bangladesh Police. Dhaka District Police has been trying to include more members from this community in the department (Banglanews24, 2016). Currently, 36 young men are being trained up on driving through the support of BRAC.

Transgender, locally known as Hijra, are generally seen in the street or any occasion or baby shower program for singing and dancing to collect money for their survival. It is a matter of concern that they experience financial, social, and psychological humiliation in each and every sphere of their life. Their sufferings hardly sensitize the rest of the society. Taking into account their miseries, Dhaka District Police have taken different initiatives to empower Hijra community and integrate the Hijra community in the mainstreams. Moreover, the study found that the Dhaka district police has taken some initiatives to promote small and medium enterprises (SMEs) for destitute people in KasaPalli.

### **5.1.2 Motivational, Awareness Raising and Community Engagement program**

People are motivated to commit crime by their social arena and peer group members. Psychological and social motivation also refrain those destitute people accomplishing criminal activities. Study found that the Dhaka District Police have commenced some motivational services such as counseling with the drug dealers. Starting with identification of the drug dealers, they have provided counseling not to continue this ill-business anymore. The dealers have been counseled about the adverse effects of drug business to their personal and social life. According to the police super of Dhaka District Police, “we have not only provided counseling to leave this business, but also have taken the dealers to the mainstreaming employment sector by managing different earning sources.”

The study noticed that the Dhaka District Police have also built up collaboration with different schools and colleges counseling their students being restrain from eve teasing, taking drugs, and helping police informing any kinds of criminal offences they experienced or noticed. Teachers motivated their students keeping them away from any kind of criminal offences. School and college authority organized seminar or workshop with the help of Dhaka District Police for raising awareness among students about crime. Apart from these, different programs have been arranged to raise awareness like anti-drugs awareness seminar, workshops in school; assigning religious leaders like Imams to discourage criminal activities among Muslim communities, their families and acquaintances; arranging voluntary blood donation programs in schools, colleges and madrasas; arranging discussion meeting with journalists; seminar on adolescence law, teenage crime and prevention procedures, providing class routines in schools consisting awareness information and so on.

Study found that as a part of proactive policing, Dhaka District Police have some regular community engagement programs. Dhaka District Police regularly arranged meeting with the journalist to keep them updated about the crime scenario as well as to discuss with them to identify major issues. As a part of community engagement program, Dhaka District Police arranged Iftar party with local people and orphans to reduce gap between the community and police, and ensure increased engagement of the society. The study has also found some unique community engagement programs such as, blood donation program, free eye checkup program for local people, Distribution of gifts to street children, River erosion protection activities, etc. To ensure community’s engagement and motivation of the local Choukidars, Dhaka District Police regularly arranged meeting with them, and distributed gifts. On the other and Dhaka District Police have also included different religious leaders in motivating people of their distinct religion. They arranged meeting with Kazi to motivate them not to registrar any early marriage.

### **5.1.3 Strengthening community policing, village policing program**

To keep the law and order stable the community police programme and Village police have been strengthened. A community policing committee has been formed duly and they have been solving general disputes among community members effectively. They also work as a source of community and inform police for immediate steps in the society. Community policing and public awareness activities have been strengthened as well. On the other hand, Village police, Choukidar, has also been empowered by the Dhaka District Police. They have also been provided with motivational gifts from district police.

**5.1.4 Tele-policing Activities**

Traditionally police take action after a crime incident; however through tele-policing, it is possible to take proactive measures for addressing the causes of crime and ensure quick responses to people's concerns. Through tele-policing, general people can directly communicate with police and inform police over the phone about the law and order situation in their areas. For ensuring fast response to any crime incident and ultimately reduce the crime rate, it is important to build a sense of partnership between police and general people. Tele policing can promote such cooperation, through facilitating a fast and reliable communication channel between police and general people.

**5.1.5 Mobilizing Infrastructural Development**

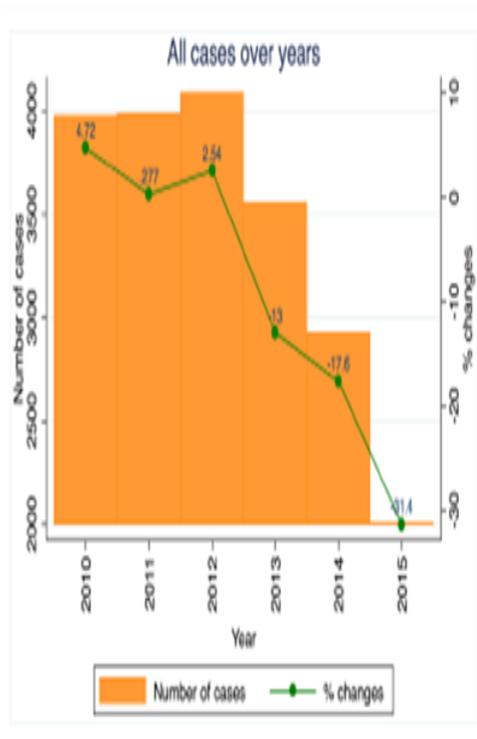
Moreover the study found that the Dhaka District Police have also been working to mobilize infrastructural development through motivating the concerned authority for improving road transport – infrastructure in the vulnerable geographical locations. They have also mobilized lightening systems in different crime spots.

**5.2 Impacts of the problem-oriented proactive policing strategies:**

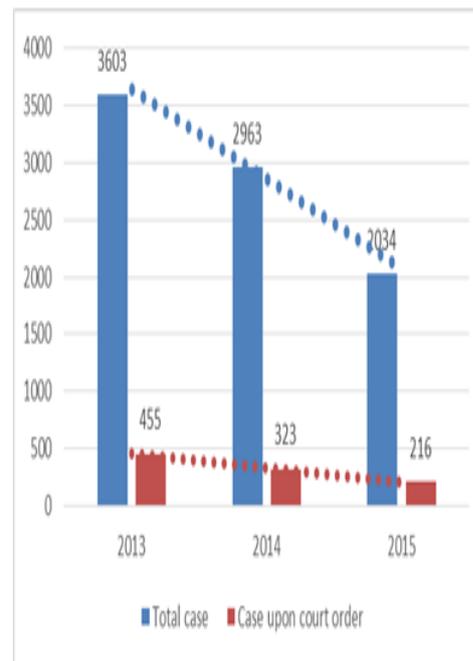
The study team also wanted to know the impacts of those pro-active policing strategies taken by Dhaka district police. The findings are given below.

**5.2.1 Decreasing tendency of total number of cases file**

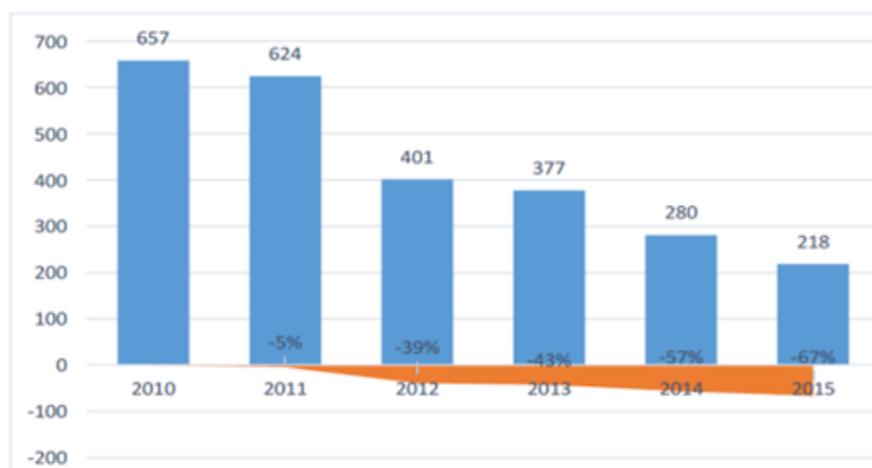
The recent success rate of Dhaka District Police in terms of the number of registered cases indicates the success of the proactive policing strategy. Relatively fewer cases/litigations are getting filed and as a result, investigating officers are getting more time to investigate the current cases properly. Proactive policing has also reduced the public sector's expenditure for resolving criminal cases. Data shows that there was a rising pattern in the number of total cases filed from 2010 to 2012 (graph 1). During 2013 total number of cases filed dropped by as much as 13% compared with the previous year, in the year 2014 it was reduced by 18% and in the year 2015, it was reduced by 31% compared with last year, which is the maximum drop rate over the last 15 years. The last three years' number of cases filed upon court order also had a decreasing trend (graph 2). The number of cases filed upon court order decreased by more than 50% in 2015 from 2013.



Graph 1: Number of total cases filed from 2010 to 2015



Graph 2: Total case filed and case filed upon court order



**Graph 3:** Rate of changes from 2010 in the number of violence against women cases

Despite a rising pattern in the number of violence against women cases filed from 2001 to 2010, a decreasing pattern was observed since 2011 (Graph 3). It was observed that, compared with 2010, the number of violence against women cases filed dropped in 2011 by 5%, in 2012 by 39%, in 2013 by 43%, in 2014 by 52% and in 2015 by 67% compared with the corresponding previous years. Data shows a negatively sloped trend line for number of cases filed in this category.

In the year 2012 the number of violence against children cases filed in this category was found to be reduced by 70% and so far the annual number of cases filed in this category is the lowest compared with the other categories. Data also shows that compared with other homogeneous districts, Dhaka district has lower number of annual cases in this category. Especially, compared with Narayanganj, Dhaka district had very low number of cases filed in this category over the past 5 years (Table 1).

Year	District	VAC cases	District	VAC cases
2010	Dhaka	8	Narayanganj	114
2011	Dhaka	10	Narayanganj	134
2012	Dhaka	3	Narayanganj	150
2013	Dhaka	7	Narayanganj	116
2014	Dhaka	9	Narayanganj	136
2015	Dhaka	11	Narayanganj	158

**Table 1:** Violence against children cases in Dhaka and Narayanganj

### 5.2.2 Social Protection and Social inclusion for Crime Prevention

Rehabilitation, employment, shelter house, schooling, small and medium enterprises, stipend/scholarship, free books, reading materials were the major initiatives taken by Dhaka District Police to ensure social protection and social inclusion of marginalized groups like Bede Community, Transgender (locally known as Hijra) and Bohemians. A group of Bede people settled down at Savar through a proper rehabilitation process. Demezne had also been allocated to shelter less or floating people. One Bede woman (35 years old) mentioned about their rehabilitation, “we were floating people and did not have any stable dwelling, but now we do have a permanent address”. Proper rehabilitation does not mean the shelter only, because they need food, education, and health security for survival. Bede women were found making fashionable dresses branded as Uttaran due to be trained on sewing. “I used to work as Sapure and Talisman but now I can make dresses for girls now as I have been trained on it”, said a 18 years old Bede girl. She also mentioned that, “Now I feel that I belong to a social class, but I did not have any identity before getting this employment opportunity”. Males also got employment opportunities as driver after receiving training on driving. They were found more solvent than previous times as well as had belongingness in the mainstream occupation. “I get respect as a driver while I was treated as untouchable people being a Sapure”. He was also pleased to express that, “I can also get married with

girl for this profession who is not from our community though it was quite impossible a few year back”(30 years old Bede Man). Dhaka District Police also provided schooling facilities to the community people. People were also employed in white collar jobs like policeman, officer, businessman, engineer and many others for receiving education facilities.

Small and medium enterprises were promoted by the Dhaka District Police for ensuring employment of destitute people. Various programs and steps ensured by Dhaka Police department boosted empowerment, social participation, wellbeing of families and children of the craftsmen. One craftsman revealed, “I am now empowered and running a small enterprise with the strong support of Dhaka District Police”. A 20 years Bede man expressed his gratitude that, “I am working as police constable just for being educated and I am really grateful to the SP of Dhaka District Police for this opportunity”. Consequently, Bede community people had interests on education as well as sending their children to school. A father of 12 years old boy also stated that, “Dhaka District Police is providing stipend to our child for continuing education along with reading materials such as pen, khata and books”. Retired Engineer and member of Bede Community expressed, “I am overwhelmed by the grace of Dhaka District Police that they are even controlling child marriages”. Social transformation was cognizable among Bede community people who were no more with criminal activities as they got opportunities to establish their belongingness in the conventional society.

### **5.2.3 Combating Crime through Motivational and Awareness Raising Activities**

Dhaka District Police took the dealers to the mainstream employment sector by managing different earning sources. As a result, more than hundreds of drug-dealers had left this business and started to live a normal social life by earning through mainstream employments. One rehabilitated drug peddler stated, “I worked as drug-dealer before but I left that business because of the counseling of Dhaka District Police. Now I am doing general business with help of them which is highly appreciated by my family members as well as society”. Dhaka District Police motivated people restraining from taking drugs through their different innovative anti-drug programs because drug is responsible to increase crime in a society. Hawker leader also confirmed, “Previously we were bound to keep drugs in our street vendor but we are not afraid of drug peddlers now as police are with us”.

School and college students were found to be refrained from eve-teasing, drug, and other crimes because of motivations from the teachers and Dhaka District Police. As a result, eve-teasing cases were found reduced remarkably. A Principal of local college commented regarding this issue, “We organize different motivational programs for our students with the collaboration of Police. Consequently, crime has been reduced such as our students are not teasing girls as well as taking drugs like previous period”. A women leader of Savar have also supported the claim of Principal and stated, “Eve-teasing and sexual assault against girl and women have reduced at satisfactory level in our area due to the initiatives taken by Dhaka District Police.

Motivational publications consisting of safety tips, calendar with important mobile numbers, pocket notebook, stickers are more effective to create awareness among common people. Child marriage and drug addiction have also been reduced due to the constant motivations of different religious leaders like Imam and Purohit. One Imam claimed that, “I always motivate people to be refrained from drug addiction. I also discourage child marriage particularly in my Khutba on Jumma Mubarak”.

Crime rates had declining trends due to different awareness programs commenced by Dhaka District Police. People were more conscious about the adverse effects of drugs and early marriages which kept them away from these. Local stakeholders appealed that, “We are more aware about different crimes like eve-teasing, drug, early marriage. Now we could easily take help from Dhaka District Police calling the help line as we do have their number. We also provide them important information regarding criminal activities in our community”. One journalist also asserted, “People are more aware about criminal offences than before due to different awareness programme of Dhaka District Police”.

### **5.2.5 Empowering Community and Village police (Choukidar)**

Community and village police (Choukidar) were empowered by the Dhaka District Police as they support police in combating crimes from inside of the community. Community policing and public awareness activities were strengthened as well. Community police representative claimed, “We inform police different criminal offences occurred in our community taking proper steps. ASP and our community police have stopped 3 child marriages in Bede community as well as these families have been promised for proper help when their child will be in marriageable age”. Dhaka District Police engaged Choukidar in crime reduction activities who were found more responsive than previous. ASP of Savar stated, “Recently a Marijuana/Ganza peddler was caught in hand and informed police by a Choukidar that is really exemplary for whole Bangladesh”.

### **5.2.6 Infrastructural Development and Crime Prevention**

Infrastructural developments promote rapid action of crime prevention. Due to the construction of different roads in different localities, police could go there quickly to intervene criminal activities. As a result, crime rate reduced in some crime zone. "Now we can easily go to the critical zone for arresting criminals", said the ASP. Lightening in important points also helped to combat crimes in certain localities. People could move at night without fear. Wall boundaries in river side have also discouraged criminal offences related with river in Savar and Keranigonj area. Representative of Savar Bank Colony referred, "Dhaka District Police have inspired to build boundary wall on riverside nearby Savar Bank Colony which has dramatically reduced crimes in our areas".

### **5.2.7 False case, adjudicating communal disputes and others**

Dhaka District Police were concerned about false cases. In this regard, they did not take cases without primary investigation. Primary investigations before filing cases remarkably abridged the number of false cases. A symphonic relationship in the community members had been guaranteed by persuading proper steps to eliminate intercommunity disputes. As a result, communal clashes and criminal offences regarding above issues went down. Non-cognizable crimes were found decreased due to the settlement strategy of Dhaka District Police that also reduced the recorded crime in Dhaka district. "There was misunderstanding with my brother and I came to Keranigonj Thana OC for filing case against my brother. OC did not take the case and called both of us for clarifying our misunderstandings. I thank to OC for this great initiative", a beneficiary from Keranigonj revealed. Along with above of these, rapid legal facilities, security enhancement projects, traffic control technologies, quick responses of police intensified crime combating process in Dhaka district. Innovative General Diary form, Sub inspector's desk and citizen charter also promoted the reduction of criminal activities in Dhaka. As one local representative of The Daily Star confessed, "In the past, police inspired to file case against someone earning money, the situation has been improved lately. Citizen charter, information, GD form, block for SI, SP's phone number available to common people which have reduced crime in Savar area".

## **VI. Discussions**

It was observed that the number of overall filed cases had a rising trend from 2011 to 2007 having a drop since 2012. Despite in the year 2007 the number reached the highest pick in the recent history, Dhaka District Police were successful enough to reduce the crime rate since 2008. The drop rate became impressive in 2013 (13%) and in 2014 (18%). The drop rate became highest among the recent years during 2015 (31%). This trend was observed for both cases filed at local thanas and cases filed upon court order. This is not easy to name one catalyst that worked behind this. Government's strategy blended with the problem-oriented proactive policing practice can be stated as one of the major reagents that worked. This substantiates the well-established evidences from previous researches and theories. Problem-oriented policing approaches have been implanted in many countries with evidence of successes (Sherman, et al., 1998).

Violence against women and violence against child cases were found to be declining. Dhaka District Police conducted motivational activities such as awareness programme among the community with high involvement of the community people. Dhaka District Police started counseling to eradicate child marriage. School and college student were found to be refrained from eve-teasing because of the motivations and awareness programmes. Simultaneously, settlement strategy paid off by reducing non-cognizable crimes. Identifying the root of the problem and proper initiation, thus, reduced the women and child violence in the communities.

Crime mapping supports the problem-oriented policing approach. Problem-oriented policing calls for analyzing police incidents in terms of location as a potentially useful way to aggregate incidents into clusters (Scott, 2000). As part of primary analysis this mapping can be very useful to find an appropriate starting of the investigation. The practice of crime mapping helped Dhaka District Police to be more efficient in improving the crime scenario. Similarly, understanding the benefits of Tele-policing, Dhaka District Police initiated Tele-policing in the year 2014. The activities started from the Thana level. As the Tele-policing concept received wide spread acceptance among the general people, the idea has been expanded to the rest of the police stations.

On the other hand, Dhaka District Police initiated proactive actions such as installing and maintaining close circuit camera, crime mapping, data charting and using watch tower which reduced crimes like theft, arms recovery, narcotic recovery and other cases. Problem-oriented policing works best when police can identify the problems most effectively and take most appropriate initiative. The study found that Dhaka District Police have been successful enough to identify the problems and appropriate solutions. Although the scope of work of Dhaka District Police was very limited, but the strategy worked satisfactorily well.

Quantitative data showed that narcotic recovery cases had an increasing pattern with tremendous success over the past five years. Dhaka District Police have been very much effective in using the proactive policing strategy here. Along with the specialized strategies like CC camera, crime mapping, data charting and watch tower, community involvement and voluntary services helped Dhaka District Police to deal with drug

dealers with immense success. At the same time, impact of vast awareness and motivational programmes could be observed in rousing the youth to refrain from drugs.

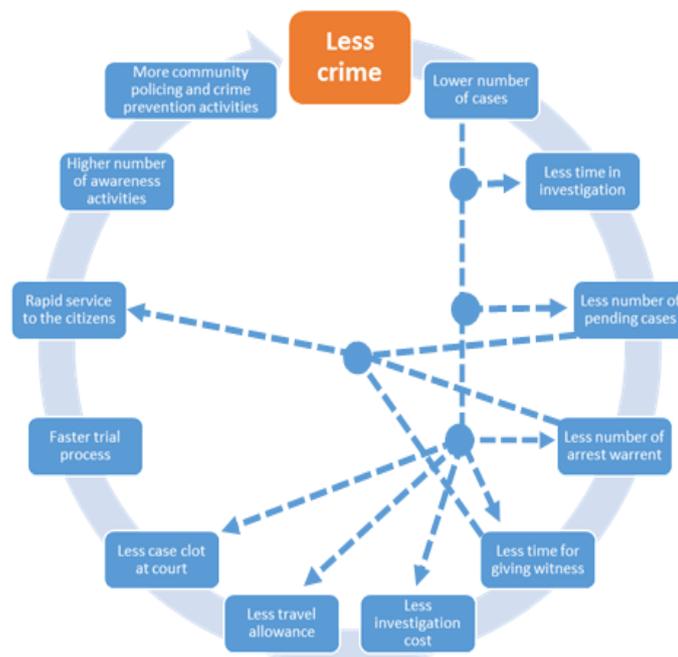
Dhaka District Police even went to the root of the drug problem. It is apparent from studies that poverty and unemployment are closely related to drug abuse (Shaw, Egan, & Gillespie, 2007). It is also said that drug abuse and unemployment falls under a vicious cycle. Unemployment, which means lower income and possibly poverty, increases a person's likelihood to be drug addicted, and being drug addicted probability of getting a job goes down. Thus, a person falls into a vicious cycle (White, 2014). Aside from the motivational and awareness programmes, Dhaka District Police initiated to improve the livelihood of marginalized communities which are more vulnerable to such crimes. Dhaka District Police initiate dynamic activities such as rehabilitation, creating employment opportunities and promoting small and medium enterprises, mobilizing infrastructural development and schooling facilities, providing stipend, free books etc.

Dhaka District Police also focused on empowering community and village police. Community and village police are from inside the community who understand and love their community mostly. Hence, they are the people who can actually prevent crime in their community with their will and with the help of police. Based on this idea, Dhaka District Police prioritized on motivating and empowering the community and village police through meetings, awareness and motivational programmes, increasing engagement in police works and helping them with increasing their livelihood. On the other hand tele-policing process has made considerable impact on the daily life of general people by reducing crime rate. The tele-policing model establishes an effective communication channel between the community member and police, which actively encourages people to report any crime to the police.

It is quite evident that the crime scenario has been improving over the recent years. The problem-oriented proactive policing practice played an important role on improving the crime scenario. Crime is one of the greatest problems of any society, not to mention the social benefit of crime reduction. Because of the less number of cases the officers can give more time to the investigations and law enforcement with better concentration. At the same time the financial and economic cost for the investigations have been reduced which is beneficial for the Government. Besides, reduced number of cases has been lowering the burden of cases at the court as well. All these consequently help reduce the crime rate further.

Figure 2 below illustrates the virtuous circle of crime reduction which was invented and experimented by the Dhaka District Police. According to Dhaka District Police's theory, reduction in the number of cases filed has a cyclic effect on the society through more effectiveness of the staffs, less financial and economic cost and fewer burdens for the court. All of these consequents to a lower rate of crime in the society. Dhaka District Police experimented their own theory which consequently increased the effectiveness of the staffs resulting in a lower number of cases filed.

The virtuous circle of crime reduction is shown in the below figure:



**Figure 2: The Virtuous Circle of Crime Reduction**

Theories also approve this hypothesis that the fewer crimes, the more cops and the more cells per crime, lead to less crime (Kleiman & Hollander, 2011). Hence, it is undoubtable that because of the less number of cases, the police can more efficiently enforce the law to further reduce the crime and maintain the law and order in the society.

## VII. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Although it is difficult to state any effect size or bring out any hard evidence without any extensive impact analysis, however, it is evident that the problem-oriented proactive policing that was practiced by the Dhaka District Police successfully improved the crime scenario in Dhaka District. The study found that the number of cases filed in Dhaka District significantly decreased over the recent 5 years. Dhaka District Police implemented numbers of problem oriented proactive policing practices with a view to reducing the crime rate. Rather than just enforcing law and catch the criminals followed by any crime must not be enough to ensure peace and justice. This requires identifying the root cause of the criminal activities. The motivational campaigns can be more effective having more impact if experts including psychologists, professional social workers and professional counselors are directly involved. With help of this experience of problem-oriented proactive policing of Dhaka District Police, Bangladesh Police can think of mainstreaming and scaling up this strategy. However, integration of research and expert consultancies will play key role to the success of these kind of interventions.

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Md. Ohidujjaman. "The Role of Problem Oriented Proactive Policing in Preventing Crime: A Study on Dhaka District Police." IOSR Journal Of Humanities And Social Science (IOSR-JHSS) , vol. 22, no. 9, 2017, pp. 01–09.