DRAWING INFERENCES OF HUMAN SECURITY IN MARITIME DIMENSION IN BANGLADESH: A GOVERNANCE PERSPECTIVE

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Introduction

The concept of human security is considered as a contemporary emerging thought in security parlance. The concept of human security hasparticularly been popularized and articulated for the first time in lexicon of security discourse only in 1994 by Human Development Report of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).On the other hand, given the resource constraints as well as increasing human demand on depleting land resources, exploration and exploitation of the seas and ocean space is increasingly becoming important for mankind especially for the maritime nations. Over ninety percent of the planet's living and non-living resources are available within few hundred kilometres of the coasts and nearly two third of world's population lives along the coastal belt (Alam, 2004, p.21). Sea is a huge reservoir of minerals, chemicals, oils, gas and energy. Hence, like any other time of the history, people and nations are incessantly using the sea and ocean space as principal medium of trade and commerce. The ocean also influences the weather, climate, monsoon, bio-productivity and bio-diversity of the mother earth. Having so much of stakes out at the seas, human footholds at sea is increasing exponentially, so does the concerns for the human security at maritime regime.This is because various human security issues as identified in the land like food security, health security, environmental security, security against violence, crimes, political disorder and instability etc. also equally find their presence in the oceanic domain (Azad, 2008, p.2).

Bangladesh particularly has a critical dependency on sea and in many ways a true maritime nation. Its economic activities are heavily dependent on foreign imports and about 92% of international commerce of the country flows through the sea routes (Kabir, 2016, p.49). A large size of populations (about 40 million) of the country lives around coastal areas of the country and endures directly or indirectly on marine dependent profession or activities (Moinul, 2014, p.17). Recently, Bangladesh has solved the maritime boundary disputes with its both maritime neighbours i.e. Myanmar and India (ITLOS Verdict, 2012 and PCA Verdict,

2014). Due to these verdicts, and also due to the contemporary phenomenon of exploiting blue economy, the maritime domain of Bangladesh could draw much attention of the common mass in general and policy makers in particular. But, the increase of human activities at maritime domain in Bangladesh have also given rise to many illicit activities such as piracy, armed robbery, trafficking of human beings, drugs, illegal arms, threat to physical security of humans, ships and marine activities, degradation of marine environment in an unbridled manner by different agents at sea. These all have important implications not only for a state's security but as well for all components of human security.

Searching Inferences in Contemporary Literature

The conceptof human security emphasises that in present day world, the traditional state security mechanisms are not the sole guarantee to the individual or societal security. The concept of human security is found more progressive and has universal appeal to general human being as contrary to parochial and regressive state centric notion (Senand Ogata, 2003, p.4). It focuses principally on the security of individual. The chief referent here is the citizen not the state. It is because in many cases the state security does not necessarily mean the security of its people. Thus, core emphasis in human security is the security of the people everywhere – in their homes, in their jobs, in their streets, in their communities, in their environment (Haq, 1995, p.115). The UNDP Human Development Report popularized, and is representative of, thisapproach: "For most people today, a feeling of insecurity arises more from worriesabout daily life than from the dread of a cataclysmic world event. Job security,income security, health, environmental security, security from crime – these areemerging concerns of human security all over the world." (UNDP, 1994). The UNDP Report furthermore has depicted the Human Security basing on its two fundamental tenets - "freedom from fear" and "freedom from want". These are also recognized as one of the corner stone of the founding of the UN (UNDP, 1994, p.24). In continuation to the UNDP report (1994), United Nations(UN, 2014) took number of efforts to institutionalized the concepts of human security. The former Secretary General of UN, Mr. Kofi Annan took particular initiative on the issue (Annan, 2000). In similar connotation the Commission on 'Human Security', chaired by Nobel Laureate AmartyaSen and the former UN High Commissioner for Refugees,Sadako Ogata, defines human security as: 'to protect the vital core of all human lives in ways that enhance human freedoms and human fulfilment'(Sen and Ogata, 2003). The government of Japan on a little different tone from UNDP

concept offers another way of describing human security that "covers all the measures that threaten human survival, daily life and dignity … and strengthens efforts to confront these threats (MOFA Japan, 1999)." On the other hand, the government of Canada elucidatedby its Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy, has delineated human security as "freedom from pervasive threats to people's rights, their safety, or even their lives" (Axworthy,1997,pp.183-196).In crux it means safety of people from both violent and non-violent threats. Canada however lays emphasis not only on individual security but also on state security, and, as means of ensuring security, suggests promotion of political development ad global norms and institutions. The Canadian definition, therefore, largely restricts the parameters of humansecurity to violent threats against the individual

The UNDP approach of conceptualization of human security as described before is generally considered as the broad approach to human security (UNDP, 1994 and King & Murray, 2002). The broad approach of human security concept primarily focuses on the issues that undermine the life chances of the largest numbers of people. The reality is that by far the biggest killers in the world are extreme poverty, preventable disease, and the consequences of pollution. According to this approach, any conception of security that neglects this reality isconceptually, empirically and ethically inadequate (Newman, 2010; Liotta & Taylor, 2006). The second approach to human security is narrower, and focuses on the human consequences of armed conflict and the dangers posed to civilians by repressive governments and situations of state failure. This narrow definition has sometimes been identified as a "Canadian approach" to human security as mentioned before (Axworthy, 1997, pp. 183-196). Some of the scholars however also prefers to reflect both the broad and narrow approaches to human security. Within this approach, a small but important focus is on the gendered aspects of security and insecurity (Hyndman, 2001; Gibsonand & Reardon, 2007). There are other differences among human security approaches. This concept can be divided into material and nonmaterial conceptions (Newman, 2010). Material approaches focus on tangible physical threats whose impact can be measured. Numbers of fatalities are the starkest benchmark of impacts, and physical survival of individuals is the bottom line. Nonmaterial approaches to human security embrace such physical indicators but also embrace intangible values such as sense of well-being and human dignity (Sen & Ogata, 2003). It is also manifested from the essence of all approaches to human security that the referent of security policy andanalysis should be the individual, but the approaches may however differ about which threats the individual should be protected from, and what

means should be employed to achieve this protection. Thus the challenges for the scholarship studying human security remain the human-self when the human being is securitized. Bajpai has tried to resolve the complexities involving the values tied to human security suggesting the construction of a "human security audit" with pivotal emphasis on bodily safety and personal freedom of an individual (Bajpai, 2000). But as Paris suggests there are more important values to be considered, for example, education, for human security and advancement. He proposes to consider both military and non-military threats along with environmental and economic threats to survival of societies, groups and individuals (Paris, 2001, p.100). Hence the academicians delineated different perspective on the issue. The summarized views as deliberated by prominent academicians in different literature on the subject are summarized below:

Table 1 :The Spectrum of the Concept of Human Security Threat: Summary of the Key Literature

Writers/ Concept	Predominant/Key Human Security Tenants						
UNDP (1994)	Environment	Economic	Personal	Health	Community	Food	Political
Sen &Ogata, (2003)	Environment	Economic	Personal	Health	Community	Political	
Bajpai, (2000)	Personal	Health	Environment	Political	Food	Economic	
MOFA, Japan (1999)	Health	Personal	Food	Economic	Environment		
King, Gray and Murray (2002)	Political	Health	Community	Economic			
DFAIT,Canada (1999)	Personal	Political					
CHS Report (2003)	Personal				Weight		
				Strong	Medium	Low	

Source: Based on:Liotta. and Taylor,2006,p.50.

The maritime dimension of human security in Bangladesh is receiving its due currency off let mainly due the growing awareness on maritime affairs created by the two verdicts, given by ITLOS and PCA. Beside the buzzing phenomenon of 'blue economy' has also created huge interests on ocean and maritime affairs among policymakers and academicians alike (Moinul, 2014, p.16 and Osman, 2016, pp.35-38). The maritime domain now encompasses sensitive national wealth, and their significance has further reached new heights, in view of the resources depletion on land, particularly due to over population. As one of

the least developed and overpopulated countries of the world with persistent shortage of land-based food, fuel, and relatively poorly endowed with natural resources Bangladesh is persistently looking towards the sea for the sustenance of her people (Alam, 2004). The opportunities apart, the increasing human activities at maritime zones has also ushered host of human security challenges, which include: piracy, human trafficking, maritime pollutions, marine accidents, natural disaster, climate change and many more. To manage and negotiate these challenges a coordinated and comprehensive governance approach has become imperative for Bangladesh (Moinul, 2014, p.21; Huq, 2016, p.25).

In general, the concept of Human Security, its dimensions and the key determents of human security have been also a popular discussion features. Besides, the empirical result on the effect of Human Security has been also discussed in few of the write ups. However, the existing literatures generally have focused on the issue in a broader spectrum. Many of the literature have focused on the issue of human security in regional parameters such as of South-Asia. There are certainly have enough scope of exploring the emerging challenges of human security and its effect in more focused areas such as in maritime dimension in developing countrieslike Bangladesh.While, sporadic works on human security in the maritime dimension have made its way in the literature discourse but, a direct comprehensive work on the subject is still lacking (Azad, 2008, p.3).Hence, the research gap in this vital domain is quite evident. In this connection, a fresh reappraisal of the importance of maritime dimension of human security will be significant not only in view of maritime domain's ability to support and sustain the earth life system by providing many vital resources like food, energy, commerce, medicines and recreation, but also in terms of its linkage and the increasing interdependence among the human security of the maritime domain, its governance and the security of the nation at large (Azad, 2008, p.3).

Analysing the Key Concepts

Transformation of the Concept of Security: Since the end of Cold War, there has been a trend in the western as well as non-western official and academic circle to redefine the concept of security. This tendency to re-conceptualize has of course, been reinforced by the post-Cold War process of globalisation and emergence of security threats which have much lessto do with armed forces and military power. Today, areas such as economic deprivation, population growth, migration, global-warming and resource depletion threaten the security in ways,

which would have been quite beyond the comprehension in the past (Davis, 1996, p.14). Presently, a nation is viewed to have assured its own security when its citizens are economically developed, politically secured and socio-culturally cohesive. According to the traditional idea, the state would monopolise the rights and means to protect its citizens. But due to the changing dimensions of security concerns and perceptions, it often fails to fulfil its security obligations and sometimes has even become a source of threat to its own people (DFAIT, 1999). That is why today attention has shifted now from the security of the state to the much broader spectrum of security of the people i.e. human security. Its aim now is to render all-encompassing protection against the threats those creating vulnerabilities particularly to the well-being of the people. This transformation or evolution of security concepts is illustrated below:

Table 2: Evolution of Security Concept towards Human Security			
Period	Broad Reliance on	Narrow Reliance on	Security Reference (Security for Whom?)
Pre- Industrial Revolution	Soldiers and mercenaries for Security	Food (Economics), Nature (Environment), Wealth	Security of the Reign
Industrial Age	Standing Armed Forces for Security	Resources, Raw material	Security of the State
Post-Cold War Era	Economic Strength, Industrial Prowess and Resource (Environment)	Soldiers/weapon	Security of the Citizens:Human Security
Source: Author, based on the theme sourced from Mandel (1998,p.10)			

Concept of Human Security: The broad conceptual approach to human security, for example, largely draws on the work of the UNDP, as well as subsequent work of the UN-appointed Human Security Commission, the Japanese Government, and a host of academics.In all cases, the overriding emphasis on external sources of threat under state security paradigm is resolutely questioned (Delwar, 2008, p.17). The UNDP Human Development Report (UNDP. 1994)insists on making "a transition from the narrow concept of national security to the all-encompassing concept of human security." It is a change from "an exclusive stress on territorial security to a much greater stress on people's security" and "from security through armaments to security through sustainable human development." (Haq, 1998). Human security is defined as a situation where individuals or the citizens are free from threats or as a way that guarantees the survival of human beings in a particular community or society. The UNDP Human Development Report

popularized, and is representative of, this approach: "For most people today, a feeling of insecurity arises more from worries about daily life than from the dread of a cataclysmic world event. Job security, income security, health, environmental security, security from crime – these are emerging concerns of human security all over the world." The UNDP report (UNDP, 1994) has thus delineated the human security as -"Safety from chronic threats such as hunger, disease and repression," and as"Protection from sudden and hurtful disruption in the patterns of daily life – whether in jobs, in homes or in communities." The UNDP Report furthermore has depicted the Human Security basing on its two fundamental tenets - "freedom from fear" and "freedom from want". These are also recognized as one of the corner stone of the founding of the UN. The objective of human security is to create political, economic, social, cultural and environmental conditions in which people live knowing that their vital rights and freedom are secure. The objective of human security is to keep critical pervasive threats from invading the vital core of human lives (Ghandi, 2010, pp.112-113). Basing on these broad objectives, there are several attempts to group the tenets of human security. However, most accepted approach is to group them in seven broad categories i.e. economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community, and political security (UNDP, 1994, pp.22-25).In continuation to the UNDP report, United Nations (UN) took number of efforts to institutionalized the concepts of human security. The former Secretary General of UN, Mr. Kofi Anan took particular initiative on the issue. In his Report on the subject elaborates following broad description of human security as below:

"Human Security in its broadest sense, embraces far more than the absence of violent conflict. It embraces human rights and good governance, access to education and health care and ensuring that each individual has opportunities and choices to fulfill his or her own potential. Every step in this direction is also a step towards reducing poverty, achieving economic growth and preventing conflict. Freedom from want, freedom from fear, and the freedom of future generations to inherit a healthy natural environment - these are the interrelated building blocks of human - and therefore national - security."(Annan, 2000).

In similar connotation the Commission on 'Human Security', chaired by Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen and the former UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Sadako Ogata, delineated further comprehensive definition of human security. The Sen-Ogata Commission defines human security as: 'to protect the vital core of all human lives in ways that enhance human freedoms and human fulfilment'(CHS, 2003, p.4).The report moved away from traditional,

state-centric conceptions of security to one that concentrates on the security of the individuals, their protection and empowerment. It draws attention to a multitude of threats that cut across different aspects of human life and thus highlighting the interface between security, development and human rights; and finally the report promoting a new integrated, coordinated and people-centered approach to advancing peace, security and development within and across nations (CHS, 2003).The government of Japan on a little different tone from UNDP concept offers another way of describing human security that "covers all the measures that threaten human survival, daily life and dignity … and strengthens efforts to confront these threats"(MOFA Japan, 1999). On the other hand, the government of Canada and precisely its Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy, has delineated human security as "freedom from pervasive threats to people's rights, their safety, or even their lives" (Axworthy, 1997, pp.183-196).In crux it means safety of people from both violent and non-violent threats. Canada however lays emphasis not only on individual security but also on state security, and, as means of ensuring security, suggests promotion of political development ad global norms and institutions. The Canadian definition, therefore, largely restricts the parameters of humansecurity to violent threats against the individual (DFAID, 1999).

Concept of the Maritime Dimension of Human Security: A school of academicians, sociologists, security and defense experts have attempted to examinethe subject of human security from different perspectives for varied conceptualization and also formaking the concept more operational and pragmatic. The concept is hence being studied from a angle that tries to connect it with theother contemporary themes like globalization, governance, human rights regime, terrorism, collapsed state etc (Azad, 2008, p.3). The 2008 UN Secretary General's Report on Oceans and the Law of the Sea provides an outline of the commonly included threats in maritime domain (UN. 2008, pp. 18-33). The report delineated seven significant threats of the maritime domain: (1) Piracy and armed robbery, (2) terrorist acts, (3) the illicit trafficking in arms and weapons of mass destruction, (4) the illicit trafficking in narcotics (5) smuggling and trafficking of persons by sea, (6) illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and (7) intentional and unlawful damage to the marine environment.In this respect, a very little efforts being expended to understand the concept of human security from an maritime perspective, not with standing the fact that the issues that are related to human security in the land environment find their equal applicability in the maritime domain too. While, some works on sustainable development in
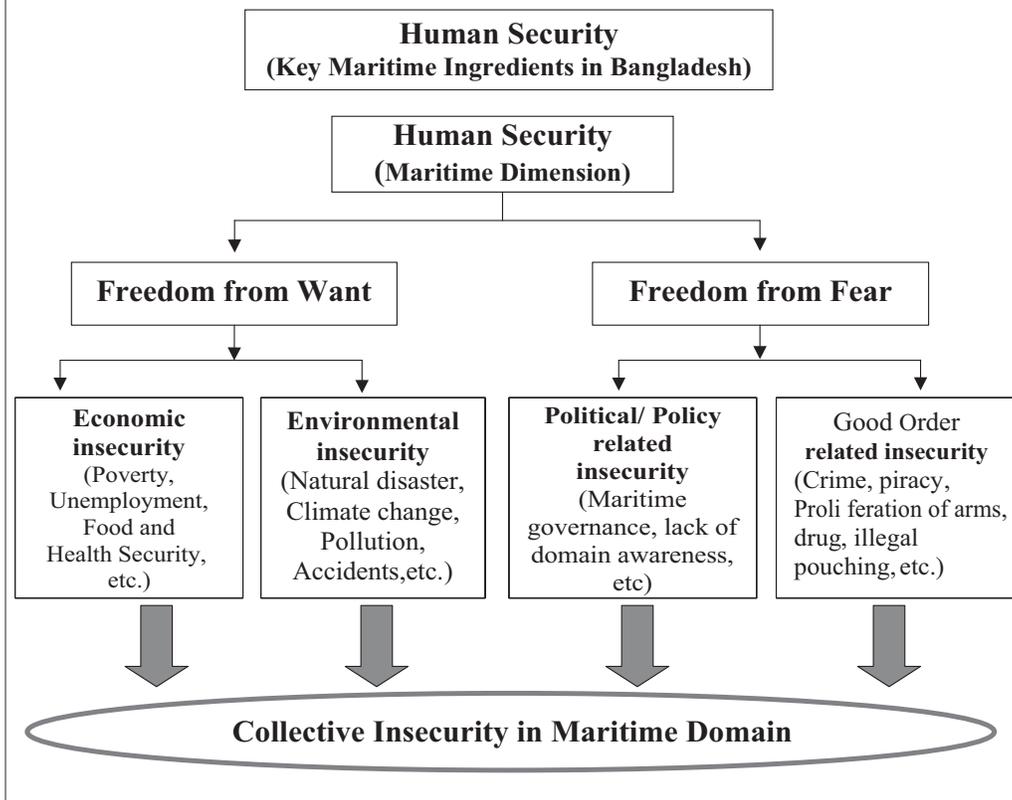
the maritime domain, in particular, in the post-Rio period (Rio Summit, 2012) could be seen in the contemporary literature. However, it is perceived that "…any indifference to the marine dimension of human security, cannot remain a long lasting phenomenon.This is because various human security issues as identified in the land like food security, health security, environmental security, security against violence, crimes, political disorder and instability etc. also find their presence in the maritime domain" (Azad, 2008, p.3). In this connection, a fresh understandingonthe significance of maritime domain is to be made not only in view of its ability to upkeep and sustain the earth life system by providing many vital means like food, energy, commerce, medicines and recreation, but also in terms of its linkage with the world climate system, the increasing interdependence among the nations and the world security at large(Azad, 2008, p.3 and Ian, 2016. p.3).The re-appreciation also demand due consideration several critical factors that are likely to affect the resource base and the carrying capacity of the maritime domain like the growth in the intensity of ocean activities, the competing and conflicting claims of several users over the same ocean resources, the deterioration in ocean health as a consequence of pollution from different sources, the release or deliberate dumping of extremely hazardous wastes, the increasing pressure on the coastal areas due to increase in population, the possibility of extracting marine resources due to development in science and technology, and finally, the occurrence of various types of crimes in the maritime domainwith adverse impacts on goodorder and stability at sea(Azad, 2008, p.3).

Maritime Dimension of Human Security and Bangladesh: The maritime dimension of human security in Bangladesh is receiving its due currency off let mainly due the growing awareness on maritime affairs created by the two verdicts, given by ITLOS and PCA (ITLOS, 2012 and PCA, 2014). Beside the buzzing phenomenon of 'blue economy' has also created huge interests on ocean and maritime affairs among policymakers and academicians alike (Shoieb and Rahman, 2014 and Osman, 2016). The maritime domain now encompasses sensitive national wealth, and their significance has further reached new heights, in view of the resources depletion on land, particularly due to over population. As one of the least developed and overpopulated countries of the world with persistent shortage of land-based food, fuel, and relatively poorly endowed with natural resources Bangladesh is persistently looking towards the sea for the sustenance of her people (Alam, 2004). The opportunities apart. the increasing human activities at maritime zones has also ushered host of human security challenges, which include: piracy, human trafficking, maritime pollutions, marine accidents,

natural disaster, climate change and many more. To manage and negotiate these challenges a coordinated and comprehensive governance approach has become imperative for Bangladesh (Moinul, 2014). However, to tap the optimal benefits, the existing legal and institutional frameworks related to the maritime governance in the country also need to strengthen further (Huq, 2016).

Categorization of Insecurities: The wide ranging issues surrounding human security in maritime domain in Bangladesh may be grouped together primarily into two broad groups, first related to 'freedom from want' and second concerning 'freedom from fear'. Under the 'freedom from want' factor, Economic and Environmental insecurities gets general prominence. Although, the environmental insecurities also have a cross linkage with 'freedom from fear' but predominantly the environmental insecurities often caused widespread economic problem, hence it may be primarily grouped under 'freedom from want'. The main threats under the economic insecurities are poverty, unemployment, food and health security, etc. The environmental insecurities in the country include natural disaster, climate change, marine pollution and marine accidents, etc. On the other hand, under the 'freedom from fear', the Political or Policy related insecurities andSocietal or good order related insecurities are the broad areas of concernsin Bangladesh. The policy related insecurities include good governance, lack of maritime domain awareness, etc. The good order related insecurities may be manifested by various factors such as crime at sea, piracy, proliferation of arms, drug, illegal pouching etc. The cumulative and cross-linkage of such varieties of insecurities creating general perception of insecurities in Bangladesh. These broad categorization of insecurities may also be taken primarily to analyse the human security threats in the maritime domain of the country. Hence, as a whole, the broad spectrum of human security (maritime dimension) in Bangladesh may be depictedbythe following interaction model:

Figure 1: Interaction Model on Human Security (Key Maritime Ingredients) in Bangladesh

Human Security
(Key Maritime Ingredients in Bangladesh)

Human Security
(Maritime Dimension)

Freedom from Want

Freedom from Fear

Economic insecurity
(Poverty, Unemployment, Food and Health Security, etc.)

Environmental insecurity
(Natural disaster, Climate change, Pollution, Accidents, etc.)

Political/ Policy related insecurity
(Maritime governance, lack of domain awareness, etc)

Good Order **related insecurity**
(Crime, piracy, Proli feration of arms, drug, illegal pouching, etc.)

Collective Insecurity in Maritime Domain

Source: Prepared by Author (Theme: Buzan, 1991, pp.19-20)

The Maritime Domain and Good Governance: In recent time, the international organisations and watchdog like World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the United Nations (UN) have explicitly promoted good governance as the new reform imperatives for the developing countries (World Bank, 1989). The characteristics of good governance assure that corruption is minimized, the views of marginalized groups and societies are taken into account and duly valued. Good governance has profound impact and inseparable from security, as good governance prevent anarchy, chaos or conflict and promote peace & stability. The management of maritime affairs is a complicated task as maritime domain is a medium different from that of land. However, the maritime governance is crafted in a manner that is capable of meeting many challenges that the maritime arena face at present. From human security perspective, meeting such challenges means prosperity and wellbeing of mankind. Bangladesh as a maritime nation also faces numerous critical human security problems in its maritime zones. It

is, therefore, an imperative for the country to confront such challenges in line with the contemporary maritime governance (Azad, 2008).The challenges to ensure law and order in maritime domain are numerous. The vast ocean and coastal area of the country is surrounded generally by socially and economically backward coastal population, who are susceptible of de-motivated/derailed with very little economic incentives. Hence sustainable exploitation and environmental standard are not really understood by them (Moinul, 2014). This is again further deteriorated particularly due to the lack of awareness and poor governance. The legal frameworks and the intuitions related to maritime governance in the country are also not well structured to handle such magnitude of human security aspects. The inter-agency coordination is also lacking to a great extend among these institutions (Huq, 2016). A comprehensive and well-coordinatedgovernance approach is thus essential to negotiate and manage the human security threats in maritime domain of the country.

Conclusion

The demise of the Cold War has brought a paradigm changes in security thought process. Presently, the world witnesses that the lives of millions of people being threatened not only by international war and internal conflicts but also by human security threats such as chronic and persistent poverty, climate-related disasters, organized crime, health pandemics, and sudden economic and financial down-turns. The concept of human security was popularized and articulated for the first time in lexicon of security discourse only in 1994 by Human Development Report of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP, 1994). The report addresses the most important components of human security as 'freedom from want' and 'freedom from fear'.

In recent times the concept of human security has been expanded to include various contemporary theme such as human rights, environment regime and also the angle of maritime dimension (Azad, 2008). The maritime dimension of human security is an important perspective as almost two-third of the world surface is covered by the maritime sphere. The maritime domain holds enormous global resources and provide job, food, energy, ecological services, recreation and host of opportunities. Most of the people on earth lives close to the maritime zones and in fact it is the core areas of human activities. Hence, the necessity of examining the human security aspects in the maritime domain has become essential.

Bangladesh is thriving maritime nation and dependency of the country on maritime domain is very crucial. By virtue of the two verdicts, given by ITLOS and PCA rights have been established over maritime zones as per the laws delineated in UNCLOS (ITLOS, 2012 and PCA, 2014). Bangladesh being an overpopulated and developing country with shortage of land based food and energy source needs to look increasingly towards the sea. However, the increased human activities naturally ushered illicit activities too. Host of issues such as security, accident, environmental and natural phenomenon threatening human security of the maritime domain in Bangladesh. Hence, the re-conceptualization of the security perspective of Bangladesh in maritime domain from mere state centric approach to the emerging human security approach has become essential.

Maintaining the core concept of good governance by ruling elites and by all government and associated machinery is an important prerequisite for ensuring human security. The interplay of vicious factors, such as piracy, crime, marine accidents and law order situation etc in the ocean domain often contributes to a pervasive societal frustration and adds further negativity towards the 'fear' dimension of human security. On the other hand the natural disaster, environmental degradation and economic manipulations caused negative connotation on 'want' factor. The widespread upsurge in 'want' and 'fear' factors may create a general apprehension among common people that there is not enough individual security in the maritime domain in Bangladesh. Collective thinking of such nature might ultimately cause the broad societal human insecurity in the country. In the maritime domain, it is perceived that both the 'want' and 'fear' factors of human security are found to be immediate and pressing. Policy measures are hence urgently required to prevent the widespread of phenomenon of insecurities to ensure the healthy growth of the country. A comprehensive security strategy covering the all facades of human security dimensions is urgently needed to be formulated to strengthen the maritime domain and the national security perspective of the country as a whole. To negotiate human security threats, in the maritime domain a coordinated and comprehensive approach is necessary from individual, community, organisational and from state level. The organisational culture of accountability, transparency and corruption free regime should be enforced. The state governance should be citizen friendly, self-less and in all true sense carry the democratic spirit to eradicate the 'want' and 'fear' factors from the citizen's perception to ensure enduring human security in the maritime domain in particular and for the human security of the nation as a whole.

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