A Study on CNG Driven Auto Rickshaw Service in Some Selected Locations on the Street of Dhaka City

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Abstract

The specific objectives of the study include gaining knowledge about the scenario of CNG driven auto rickshaw service in Dhaka city. Survey has been performed from some selected locations in Dhaka Kailash to Mirpur-2 Commerce College Road. A literature review has been made to find out what are the problem people facing during their travel in this route by CNG auto rickshaw. Focus has been given on CNG auto rickshaw meter, CNG auto rickshaw rent, causes of increasing the CNG rent, increasing the CNG auto rickshaw rate than other transport. Data collection is done by field survey which includes location of survey area, date of survey, Address of the survey area, identification of the longitude and latitude by GPS (Google Earth). From Kailash to Mirpur-2 Commerce college road, the survey has been conducted in nine locations. Kailash, Mouchak, Banglamotor, Panthapath, Farmgate, Taltola, Kazipara, Mirpur-1 and Mirpur-2 Commerce College. The questionnaire has been prepared by focusing mainly on three issues: (a) the nature of the problem as perceived by the surveyed residents, (b) their understanding about the causes of these problems and (c) their recommendations on solutions to these perceived problems. Finally some recommendations have been suggested to improve the service.

Keywords: CNG, Traffic jam, Traffic police, Auto rickshaw, Parking.

INTRODUCTION

Transport in Bangladesh is an important part of the nation's economy. Since the liberation of the country, the development of infrastructure within the country has progressed at a rapid pace, and today there is a wide variety of modes of transport by land, water and air. However, there is significant progress still to be made to ensure uniform access to all available transport. In contrast to practice in other nations, Bangladesh has four ministries responsible for transportation within country. The study is based on the topic of CNG auto rickshaw problems in Dhaka city.

The questionnaire has been prepared by focusing mainly on three issues: (a) the nature of the problem as perceived, (b) understanding about the reasons of these problems and (c) their recommendations on solutions to these perceived problems. The analysis based on some process by applying some issues.

This analysis done for some specific problems in Dhaka city depending on CNG auto rickshaw case. Auto rickshaws locally called “baby taxis” and more recently “CNGs” due to their fuel source are one of the more popular modes of transport in Bangladesh mainly due to their size and speed. They are best suited to narrow, crowded streets, and are thus the principal means of covering longer distances within urban areas.

There are more than 2.5 million vehicles in Bangladesh. Frequent traffic jams waste valuable fuel and time and makes travel very unpleasant and difficult. Private cars, a mere 4% of the total vehicles on the roads, represent vehicles which take around 70% of the road space. Public transport needs to be stressed in any future policy. Although, the change a compressed natural gas (CNG) cars saved over 4,000 premature deaths in 2009, their cheap price has spiked the total...
numbers of cars on the streets though the recent prices hikes of CNG may have affected the spike.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

General

A survey has been conducted in the months September 2016 to December 2016 from Dhaka Kakrail to Mirpur-2 commerce College road, to determine the term traffic management is frequently used to refer to and understood as parking control, control of side friction of the roads which are usually demand management approaches. So far, these factors have been given more priority and considerable efforts have been taken as well. On the contrary, supply management approaches are self-enforcing, effective and low-cost measures that are not considered for eliminating the congestion problems in Dhaka city. Therefore, this study is undertaken on this management approaches with a view to investigate the applicability of these management regulations. Figure 1 shows the compendium of the study methodology.

Questionnaire Survey

Survey has been performed from Dhaka Kakrail to Mirpur-2 commerce College road. This study used various methods of data gathering.

These included field visits, observation, and interactions with passengers, traffic police and CNG auto rickshaw drivers as well as discussion with traffic police officers. 150 street walker individual were surveyed through a predefined questionnaire (annex-a). The scanned questions given below:

**Questionnaire to the Drivers**

1. Why the drivers are not interested to follow meter?
   a. For traffic jam
   b. Roads are not so good condition
   c. We don’t have meter
2. Do you follow meter?
   a. Always
   b. From morning 7 am to 10 pm
   c. Sometimes
   d. Only for longer distance trips
3. Do you go all places in Dhaka city?
   a. some times
   b. Don’t go to in local area
   c. Not so far
   d. Go to all places
4. Do you easily get gas all time?
   a. Not all the time
   b. Need to wait long time for gas
   c. After 10 pm gas is generally finished
   d. Sometimes we have to cost extra money
5. How much is the daily deposit of the CNG auto rickshaw during day time?
   a. 1200 taka
   b. 1300 taka
c. 1400 taka
d. 1500 taka
6. Do the traffic police create any problem?
a. If we don't pay money they the block the CNG auto rickshaw
b. Sometimes they issue cases without any fineable reasons
7. General people complain that CNG auto rickshaw drivers want more money than actual rent?
a. Wrong idea
b. Because of traffic jam
c. Many people don't have any idea about meter
d. Sometimes the complain is true
8. Do you have licence of CNG auto rickshaw?
a. Yes
b. I have applied for a licence
c. No

Questionnaire to the Passenger

1. Generally do you use CNG auto rickshaw through meter fare?
a. No I don’t
b. Most of the time
c. Sometimes
2. Do the CNG auto rickshaw drivers prefer meter to use?
a. Always
b. Sometimes
c. They never follow
3. How much extra money CNG auto rickshaw drivers ask on average in addition to the fare indicated by the meter?
a. Nothing
b. 20 - 40 BDT
c. 40 - 80 BDT
d. More than 80 BDT
4. What do you think what main reason for increasing this CNG auto rickshaw meters Problem?
a. Lack of traffic rule
b. Corruption of CNG auto rickshaw drivers
c. No action from the authority
d. All of these above
5. What is the CNG auto rickshaw driver’s explanation of not using meter?
a. Traffic jam is much
b. Not profitable to go in meter
c. CNG auto rickshaw rent is much
d. All of these above
6. When you are outside of the DMP area, do the drivers follow meter?
a. All time they do
b. Not profitable to go in meter
c. CNG auto rickshaw rent is much
d. All of these above
7. How can general people lead a great role for removing this problem?
a. People cannot do anything
b. Need a strong feedback and action
c. Government interval is need

Questionnaire to the Traffic Police

1. What is the action you take when the drivers have not any meter?
a. Take fine from them
b. We send CNG auto rickshaw at police station
c. According to the traffic rules, we take actions
d. All of these above
2. Do you have any actual record that how much CNG auto rickshaws are registered?
a. Yes we have
b. No we don’t have
3. Some CNG auto rickshaw drivers can be related with the crime circle like hijack, then what do you do about this matter?
a. We always monitoring for this
b. We have list of them
4. What is your opinion about CNG auto rickshaw drivers that how much they maintain Governing rules and regulation?
a. They break the rules frequently
b. They are compelled for maintaining than rules and regulations

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RESULTS

Drivers are not interested to Follow Meter

We asked some question to the drivers for their opinion about CNG auto rickshaw case. The question answers are given below with details.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>A. Why the drivers are not interested to follow meter?</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>For traffic jam</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Roads are not so good condition</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>We don’t have meter</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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The drivers are not interested to follow meter cause of traffic jam. Some negligible cause also included like if anyone want to go close distance they don’t go in meter. But for this option 100% drivers go through the option with (a) for traffic jam.

This question asked directly to the drivers about following meter. They are not generally interested to follow meter in small distance trips. The main point of view for them is small distance trips are not so profitable but much workable.

Drivers go to All Places in Dhaka City

This part has done for knowing the availability of CNG auto rickshaw drivers to go through all places of Dhaka city. This point is also can be a reason for increasing the demand and rent rate of CNG auto rickshaw.
For this point drivers are positive. They go to all the places of Dhaka city within their range. Its range about 20 kilometers from 0 point to all side of Dhaka.

Drivers do Not Get Gas All Time

They face many kinds of problem, this one is one of them. Gas are normally not available all time. Gas problem effects on the CNG auto rickshaw rate. So it also cause to public sufferings. Gas stations easily give gas to the private cars but not to CNG auto rickshaws. It can be a operation for getting some tip from CNG auto rickshaw driver.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>D. Do you easily get gas all time?</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Not all the time</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Need to wait long time</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>After 10 pm gas is generally finished</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Sometimes we have to cost extra money</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Drivers complained that they don’t get perfect gas as measured. Many time they paid 10-20 taka more for gas.

Some individual time like 5 pm to 9 pm they don’t get gas. And sometimes also at actual time they even don’t get gas. They should wait long time.

Traffic Police Create Problems for the CNG auto Rickshaw Drivers

Rickshaw for money. Traffic police issues cases for without any reason or very negligible reason. So it effects on rent rate of CNG auto rickshaw for public. Many times traffic police block CNG auto.
S.No. | F. Do the traffic police create any problem? | Frequency |
--- | --- | --- |
1. | If we don’t pay money they block the CNG auto rickshaw | 20 |
2. | Sometime they issue cases without any fineable reason | 13 |
3. | Maximum time they create trouble | 8 |
4. | No | 9 |

Figure 5: Percentage of problems creating by traffic police

Normally CNG auto rickshaw drivers have not any parking area for fixed. The government should take action for this matter. Traffic police can issue any case for illegal parking. Traffic police create various problems for this transport. This way CNG auto rickshaw drivers harassing every day.

CONCLUSION

The major finding of the study is that the CNG auto rickshaw is a so needful element for travel in the society. And it is also carry our tradition from the past. Many people cannot travel with bus or car. Also some cases a CNG auto rickshaw is important for peoples most demand. But nowadays it’s changing for people like a untouched vehicle and cause of sufferings. The findings will be discussed in two parts – Problems in Implementation and Hypothetical Solution.

Only the government power, rules and pressure can remove the people’s daily sufferings. Not only the pressure on CNG auto rickshaw drivers but also the government should work on basis of the reasons for this problem, the traffic jam, better transport plan, removing corruption, removing number of private cars and other vehicles and last when the drivers are free from every pressure they will automatically follow meter. If not then the drivers must be punished. That time people also can blame on the CNG auto rickshaw drivers and also can protest which they cannot do, now cause the drivers opinion also work on the quarreling field.

From five points of view this problem can be recommended. Here are the points.

- Removing corruption of the CNG auto rickshaw drivers.
- Action should be taken from the stakeholders associations.
- The Government should be more vigilant to improve public transport facilities so that demands of CNG three wheelers are minimized.
- The compressed natural gas collection from CNG pumps should be more easier to ensure uninterrupted and quick service for the CNG auto rickshaw drivers.
- The auto rickshaw fare should be made considering all the stakeholders interest.

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