

Abstract

The main objective of the study is to examine the role of politicians, bureaucrats and land database while implementing redistributive agricultural land reforms in Bangladesh since 1950. The study finds that the role of politicians in redistributive agricultural land reform caused constraints in supply side: a little amount of agricultural khas land has been acquired as ceiling surplus, a large area of agricultural khas land remains under the possession of illegal occupants and new ceiling law could not have been passed. The role of bureaucrats on the other hand caused constraints in distribution side *i.e.* settlement of agricultural khas land among landless households. Lack of authority, complex, multi-tier and time consuming procedure and political and judicial intervention affects overall performance of land administration in speedy and timely implementation of redistributive agricultural land reforms. Inadequate and poor land data base made an obscure in both supply and distribution channel of agricultural khas land. The study recommends for strong political vision and commitment for recovering agricultural khas land from illegal occupants, all kinds of government property like khas land, vested property, abandoned property, vacant and unutilized land of different government agencies should be brought under the same account for the purpose of redistribution and a ceiling of 25 bighas can be imposed. Administrative practices and procedures regarding settlement of agricultural khas land should be simplified. A computerized and updated data base of agricultural khas land and landless households should be prepared without any delay.