

Causes and Consequences of Child Labour in Bangladesh: An In-depth Study

Thesis submitted for Ph.D Degree

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Reg: No.-68

Session:2010-2011

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Declaration

I do hereby declare that the thesis entitled “**Causes and Consequences of Child Labour in Bangladesh: An In-depth Study**” is prepared and presented by me to the Dhaka University for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy. It is my original work. The thesis or any part of it has not been presented in any form to any other academic institutions for any degree or any other purpose.

(MD. MASUDUR RAHMAN)

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the thesis entitled “**Causes and Consequences of Child Labour in Bangladesh : An In-depth Study**” has been prepared under my direct supervision by Md. Masudur Rahman for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Peace and Conflict Studies. This is his original work. It does not contain any conjoint research work or analysis with me or any other else. It is further certified that the thesis or any part of it has not been submitted anywhere for any degree or publication.

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Acknowledgement

The study has been made possible through the help of various people who gave me their love, encouragement and time. I would like to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to all the people who were involved and helped me in different ways in completing this study.

Acknowledgement of debt should start with the supervisor, Dr. Dalem Ch. Barman, Professor in Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Dhaka, Dhaka, Bangladesh for his constant suggestions, guidance and help during the course of my research work. I am immensely benefited from his stimulating advice. Without his guidance, it would not have been possible for me to complete this work. It was indeed my good fortune to have had such an able and devoted guide. I am also thankful to his wife Mrs. Beena Rani Barman for her inspiration, cordial behavior, entertainment and other supports.

From the inception of the idea of the study to the submission, I have received helps from many people and institutions. I express my deep feelings for them and though I can not take the names of all of them individually, I must mention a few names whose help and cooperation have been of immense service to me. I am extremely grateful to Professor Mujib Khan, Founder President of University of Development Alternative (UODA), for his constant valuable suggestion and discerning comments on my thesis. I am thankful to Professor Emajuddin Ahmed, Vice Chancellor of UODA.

I am also thankful to former Chairperson of the Department, Associate Professor Md. Rafiqul Islam and all the teachers of Peace and Conflict Studies Department, University of Dhaka for their encouragement in completing this work. I have also discussed with many people working in this field and shared my ideas with them. Their suggestions, experiences and written materials on the subject have been very much helpful to me in getting the insights into the problems and steer the thesis appropriately. I am thankful to them.

I am extremely grateful to my elder brother, Mohammad Moshin, Asst. Professor, Department of Botany, Netrakona Govt. College and my younger brother, Md. Mahbubur Rahman, who helped me a lot during the time of my thesis work. They have always been cooperative and provided every support to me. I shared many of my ideas with them.

My sincere thanks to Dr. Jalal Ahmed, Dr. Kollyani Nandy, Dr. Ahmadulla Mia, Dr. Abul Bashar for their cooperation and encouragement in completing this work, besides I thank the children, employers and communities who provided me with their valuable time and information to make this work useful.

Finally, I am extremely grateful to my family for their moral supports and blessings.

Dhaka

Date:

(MD. MASUDUR RAHMAN)

Abstract

The concepts of child labour and child education are inversely linked with each other in terms of execution. Child labour does not allow child education and vice versa. Between the two types of economic ideologies normative approach promote child education but other ideology i.e. positive approach have preferred child labour. It is factual that, child labour, however, become a burden for every economy. It is a serious problem in any nation. Economy never accepts child labour and the high volume of child labour creates liability on economy. Any job of children always treated as the problem of underemployment through the labour market framework and all child work are strongly prohibited by ILO.

The main aims of this study find out the basic causes of children are recognized as child labour and try to know the causes behind existence a negative relationship between child education and child labour. In Bangladesh, the volume of child labour is so high, near about 4.7 million children, age limit of 5-14 years of age were economically active and percentage of labour force participation rate was 13.4 in the year 2002-03 [National Child Labour Survey (NCLS)]. On the other hand, the figure of informal activities of children is higher than above figure. If we compare with South–Asia, our labour force participation rate is higher than rest of the nations. So policy maker should concentrate to ameliorate education of children and reduce child participation in economic activity as well as unpaid work.

A nation has lost huge potential resource because of the employment activities of children. If a society desire to get qualified person, they must forgo the presence of child labour in economy. Every nation as well as family would like to make his or her children as a qualified person. Although many reasons are involved in child labour but poverty are the main reason and this cause mostly appearing in Bangladesh. Child labour engages in formal and informal sector in Bangladesh. Children are working mainly in rural areas, because most of the poor and vulnerable parents live in remote villages. They do not have enough ability to take all the responsibilities of their children. Majority of the parents can only afford to offer the food and lodging but they cannot afford the educational expenses of their children. But education is the basic right of a children and only education can make him or her resourceful person and be a good quality citizen as well. But in reality, poor parents get relief when their children earn some money and accomplish the family needs.

There is no alternative way to develop our nation without improving human resource development. If we want to do so, our children should get proper education and training facilities which will bring up him or her to apply in our nation building activities. Though it is a long-run achievement and poverty creates obstacle to arrive at this destination. So we need increasing role and close monitoring of government to continue child education.

Government has been taken different activities to do the same. We assess the government activities of child-education and find out a way, to keep in touch on education of children. Children are vulnerable from a very young age, with the risks for boys diminishing in their mid-teens as their physical strength increases. Overall, girls are much more at risk and children with

disabilities are particularly vulnerable, as they are perceived to be easy to be victims. There are different types of child abuse in different countries. In many ways, a sexually abused child is abuse twice, by the perpetrator physically, and second by society, both psychologically and socially.

The matter becomes even more traumatic because the child and his family have to observe forced “silence” on the matter. It may cause lots of bad effects among our children. We can reduce it by taking some steps, especially parents and government can play main role for reducing child abuse. It should be stop for our better society. The government of Bangladesh too appears to be recognizing the growing problem and has introduced tougher laws to prevent it, though its effective implementation is yet to be seen. We need such a society where the child get enough freedom which they actually deserve. Moreover we have to ensure an environment where they get the proper care and facility.

This study attempts to focus on different issues, historical perspective, current situation, causes and consequences of child labour with special reference to Bangladesh.

List of Abbreviations

AAFLI	Asian-American Free Labor Institute
BBS	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics
BGMEA	Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers & Exporters Association
BILS	Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies
BRAC	Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee
CDL	Child Domestic Labour
CL	Child Labour
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CSUCS	Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers
DNEF	Directorate of Non Formal Education
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GO	Government Organization
GOB	Government of Bangladesh
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GHG	Green House Gas
IGA	Income Generating Activities
ILO	International Labour Organization
IPEC	International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour
JCLWG	Joint Child Labour Working Force
JEM	Justice and Equality Movement
LGED	Local Government and Engineering Department
LFS	Labour Force Survey
NCLS	National Child Labour Survey
NGO	Non-government Organization
NFE	Non Formal Education
SKOP	<i>Shramik Karmochari Oikka Parishad</i> (Labourers and Workers Unity Organization)
TB	Tuberculosis
TK	Taka
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USDOL	United States Department of Labor

**Dedication to
My Beloved Heavenly Father.**

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Chapter 1: Child Labour: Meaning and Concepts

1.1 Introduction

1.2 Meaning (Child Labour vs. Child Worker)

1.3 Concept of Child Labour

1.1 Introduction

Child labour though, a source of earnings and security a many poor households is one of the major social problems in Bangladesh. Bangladesh has the largest child labour work force in the world. According to a UNICEF-GOB study in 2012, a total of 6.3 million children were work in Bangladesh. Child labour engineers the demolition of future generations. It is poverty that breeds the evil of child labour¹. Poor parents compel their children to work to supplement the family income. If a child is made to work from an early age, with no scope of going to school, we are gradually narrowing the nation's potential to a few privileged people of the country. Before independence, the Pakistani government and after independence the Bangladesh governments have enacted laws regulating child employment. In this regard, the Bangladesh government has made a policy commitment to the issue of child rights. Despite the adoption of these policy measures, it is important to ensure that these policies are actually carried out and that the commitments are met continually. Child labour has adverse effect on socio-economic development of a country. As children are considered income earners, more children are welcome in poor families which contribute to more population growth. This, in turn, hinders the social and economic development of the country.

Child labour has increased in several ways. Preference of child labour by many employers is mainly due to the fact that it is cheap and without any liability. A lot of children take up the jobs just because of economic compulsion and the non-availability of school in their areas and thus, rather than sitting idle, they prefer to go to work. Illiteracy and ignorance of

parents are also important factors. These parents do not consider child labour as evil. The child workers have to work for much more time than adult workers whether in the agricultural or non agricultural sectors. All the reports of ILO, BBS, BILS on child labour also indicate that the wages paid to the children are exploitatively low. The main factors for the prevalence of child workers are mass poverty, dropping out from school and the interest of employers in getting docile workers at a cheap rate. In certain factories, children are subjected to long hours, poor working conditions, low wages, insecurity of employment and occupational hazards. It is clear that the evil of child labour is a reflection of the abject poverty of parents and guardians.

Bangladesh has a large number of child labour working in several sectors. According to the National Child Labour Survey 2002-2003, carried out by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics with the support of the ILO/IPEC, among the 42.39 million children in Bangladesh aged between 5-17 years, 7.5 million were economically active, of which 3.18 million were considered child labourers-representing 7.5% of the entire child population in this group. The regional conference on child labour held at the beginning of 2001, informed the press that there were a total of 6.3 million child labourers in Bangladesh, employed in 300 sectors. Among the sectors, jobs in a total of 47 sectors are most hazardous. The Child Labour Act (2006) bans the employment of children below 14 in certain hazardous occupations.

In Bangladesh child labour has become more visible and acute in recent times. That's why international anxiety about on going situation is mounting. Labour is considered a matter of dignity, But child labour is considered a matter of disgrace for nation.² Because children are the future

of a nation, If children is wasted in manual labour and in shouldering the family need. If the children are deprived of their rights to education and other privileges, they will not be able to lead the nation in future. Child labour is a sad reality of modern urban and industrial society. It is a degradation of humanity, a mockery of our civilization and advancement. Children are like flowers. At this age they are to go to school and there will be books and pens in their hands. But the tough and cruel reality force many children to leave school or not go to school at all. Instead they take up hammer, baskets and handles of rickshaw or van in their hands, remain unfed, half-clad, and bare footed, thus, their sad and heart rending condition highlight only distress condition of the nations. The moment children are engaged in any physical or manual task, their innocence is lost forever. The abuse of childhood begins, child labour destroys the sweet period of childhood and face the children with the stark realities of life, Whenever children are employed either it is domestic work or factory work, either it is rickshaw pulling or working in a shop or hotel, they are abused, maltreated, paid low and deprived of their due rights by their employer. Children constitute the most important asset of any nation. Each child is an asset to society, and the future welfare of the society is closely related to the welfare of the child. Children are flowers of our national garden. It is our duty to protect these flowers of our garden.

Bangladesh is one of the disaster prone countries of the world. Almost every year Bangladesh falls a victim to natural disaster, and we all know that natural disaster causes a great havoc, people become totally helpless. The cyclones that occurred in Bangladesh in recent years, especially in 1960, '63, '66, '70, '91, and 2001 were indeed terrible. Thousands of families were

affected by natural disaster. The children of those families are bound to involve in child labour.

In 2001, Bangladesh became a signatory to the UN Children's rights agreement which ultimately lead to the formulation of the national child labour elimination policy 2010. Despite of such impressive strides made by way of legislation, the nation's children remain in harm's way. As revealed by a recent study by the BBS in 2008, significant numbers of children are part of the 'invisible' workforce both formal and non-formal sectors, often working in challenging environments that pose physical, mental and moral risks. Although precise numbers of underage children working in various sectors of the economy are not available, different studies and surveys estimate the figure to be one lakh or more. Viewed from another perspective, more than one lakh school age children are actually not in the education system but engaged in various hazardous jobs because of purely economic reasons. This puts the government in an awkward situation, particularly in light of the fact that the state hopes to eradicate child labour have been too slow to take hold and hence achieving the target within the stipulated period is most likely to fail. The ground reality is that the bulk of these children will have to be rehabilitated through alternative income generating activities for abject poverty is one of the prime reason why so many of them end up working in the first place. Though the government and private organizations have set up vocational school and shelters, the sheer number of children flooding into the city due extreme rural poverty, as a climate refugee, severe parental illiteracy and overall general social ignorance overwhelm the insignificant services that are available, While government has formulated

requisite child labour elimination policy, it lags behind in formulating a code of conduct for the informal sector.

1.2 Meaning Child Labour vs. Child Worker)

The word 'child' usually refers to the human being that is an innocent, protected and dependent one. He or she does not realize what is problem to him or her and how it should be solved. They are protected by the elders, especially by the parents. According to International Labour Organization (ILO) and United Nations Convention of Rights of Child, child labour are children under the age of 18 who engaged in economic activities and prevented from going to school. Child labour is a work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and that is harmful to physical and mental development. Child labour differs from child work, as convention 138 of International Labour Organization (ILO) states, Child labour means any type of works that is harmful to children. On the other hand child work may be encouraged for a child. Children's or adolescents participation in work that does not affect their health and personal development or interfere with their schooling is generally considered as being something positive. This includes works such as helping their parents, caring for the home and family, assisting in a family business or earning pocket money outside school hours and during holidays. It helps to children's development and to the welfare of their families; it provides the children skill, attitudes and experience and helps to prepare them to be useful and worthy members of society during their adult life.

1.3 Concept of Child Labour

The first general laws against child labour, the Factory Acts, were passed in Britain in the first half of the 19th century. The Encyclopedia of Social Science defines Child Labour as-“When the business of wage earning or of participation in itself or family support conflicts directly with the business of growth and education the result is child labour”

According to Amartya Sen, “Child Labour is intimately connect with non schooling of children” According to International Labour Organization- “Child Labour includes children prematurely leading adult lives, working long hours for low wages, under conditions damaging to their health and to their physical and mental development sometimes separated from their families, frequently deprived of meaningful educational and training opportunities that could open up for them better future” Though another project ILO defines that “Child Labour refers to the work that deprive children of their childhood, their potentials and their dignity and that is harmful to their physical and mental development”. International Labour Organization’s (2006) definition of child labour refers to work that is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful to children, interferes with their schooling by depriving them of opportunity to attend school; by obliging them to leave school prematurely or by requiring them to attempt to combine school attendance with excessively long and heavy work.

The full-time employment of children who are under a minimum legal age, Child Labour the employment of children under an age determined by law or custom, this practice is considered exploitative by many countries and

international organization.³ Child Labour was utilized to varying extents through most of history, but entered public disputes with the beginning of universal schooling, with changes in working conditions during industrialization, and with the emergence of the concept of workers and children rights.

The definition of child varies from laws to laws. This inconsistency in defining the child is one of the vital reasons for poor implementation of the initiatives taken by government as well as non-governmental organizations. Different laws define children from different perspective. For example, the age for admission to employment under different existing laws varies from 14 to 18 years under the new labour law, enacted in 2006. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child or CRC defines a child as an individual less than 18 years old, where The Children Act of 1974 defines children as less than 16 years old individuals. The Anti-women and Children Oppression (Amendment) Act, 2003 regards a person not over 16 years of age as a child. As per the Court of Wards (Amendment) Act, 2006, any orphaned child who has reached 18 years has now the right to claim the property or sell it which he/she is supposed to be legally inheriting. This act, again signifies age 18 as the cutoff point where person gain adulthood i.e. is not considered as a child anymore.

There are 36 laws related to children. None provide a consistent definition of a child. The lack of uniform definition seriously hampers the rights of the child.

¹ILO (1998), Child Labour: Targeting the Intolerable, Geneva.

²ILO report(2010), Geneva.

³ UNICEF Report (2011).

CHAPTER-2: Rationale, Objectives and Methodology

2.1 Rationale of the study

2.2 Objectives

2.3 Methodology

2.1 Rationale of the Study:

Child labour is not a new phenomenon in Bangladesh. At present, child labour in Bangladesh is a critical issue. Day by day child labour is growing in different sectors. Scarcity of one's income to maintain his/her family and high density of population are the two main causes of child labour in our country. Bangladesh has the largest child labour work force in the world. The perpetuation of child labour has far reaching consequences. It has its evil effects on the physical and mental development of a child as well as on the progress of the whole society. In this connection this subjects bears great importance. This study focuses on the activities of child labor in Bangladesh. The study concentrate on the causes of child labour in Bangladesh and examine the different factors are relating to child labour. Research aim is to mainly focus on the relationship between child labor and child education and evaluate the major causes of being child labour in Bangladesh and finally give some policy statements against child labor in Bangladesh. This research will help to formulate policies needed to arbitrate.

2.2 Objectives:

The objectives of this research are:

- To trace the background of child labour in Bangladesh,
- To examine the child labour policy of Bangladesh.
- To identify the role of government and NGOs to eradicate child labour from the society of Bangladesh.
- To focus on the challenges to implement the child labour policy.
- To find out the options to face the challenges by society.
- To find out the consequences of child labour in Bangladesh.

2.3 Methodology:

This study is exploratory in nature. Both primary and secondary data is used for the collection of data. Primary data is collected on the basis of field survey from Dhaka city. The considerations behind the selection of the above study area are:

1. Better awareness about child labour programmes of the people of Dhaka city.
2. Researcher is familiar with the area and so the collection of primary data became easier, more reliable.
3. Available of child labour in Dhaka city.

The selection sample size is considered appropriate for the purpose. Selected sample sizes in the study are shown in Table 1, Though sample is not fully representative in view of the nature of the study, their views on different aspects would be fairly representative.

Table-1: Selected sample sizes in the study

Plant/factory size	Number of working children	%
Large	77	13.75
Medium	133	23.75
Small	350	62.50
Total	560	100

Note: Large Plants: factories employed more than 100 workers.(Leather Tanneries)

Medium Plants: factories employed between 51 and 100 workers.(Garments Factories)

Small plants: factories employed between 1 and 50 workers.(Vehicles as a helper)

Primary data:

The people and institutions involved to eradicate child labour of Bangladesh are studied. Apart from child labourers and the employers of child labour also has studied.

Secondary data:

This study is also based on secondary data. The main data sources are Bangladesh Labour Force, Primary Education Statistics in Bangladesh, National Child Labor Survey, BANBAIS (Ministry of Education), different articles of Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, UNICEF, ILO, BGMEA (Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers & Exporters Association) etc. These data are helpful to know the patterns and consequences of child labour and child education in Bangladesh and make a room to analyze the research objectives. Here, secondary data compiled by MS-Excel and MS- word computer software are applied.

Different books and materials regarding the areas of Child labour in Bangladesh are studied. Some case studies also have made. As part of the study plan, an extensive visit around factories have done by researcher, Besides, informal discussion with the workers, employers and community people has included. It was often difficult to secure a list of child workers from the factories. The factory management was reluctant to provide the actual number of workers they employed. However, the list of workers was tactfully obtained from different sources such as the Leather Tannery Trade Union, School children and people living in neighborhood area.

2.4 Chapter Scheme:

This thesis is divided into nine chapters. Chapter-1 gives a brief overview of the Theoretical Viewpoint on Child Labour. Chapter-2 presents Rationale, Objectives and Methodology of the study. Chapter-3 brings out the Child Labour situation in Bangladesh. Chapter-4 presents the World Wide child labour incidents. Chapter-5 concentrates on the Legislation on Child Labour action programmes. Chapter-6 presents the causes of Child Labour in Bangladesh. Chapter-7 concentrates on the Evil Consequences of child labour. Chapter-8 presents the Eradication of child labour Chapter-9 presents the empirical findings from the study area. Chapter-10 is the concluding one and presents a brief summary of findings and recommendations.

2.5 Limitations of the study

Every research project has some limitations and one has to consider the limitations of the investigation. So, evaluation of the study becomes perfect subject to consideration of all the limitations. It is usually very difficult to collect data from various people. Besides, lack of people's spontaneity to give any official information caused great difficulties in data collection. However, appropriate steps were taken to overcome these obstacles.

Chapter 3: Child Labour in Bangladesh

- 3.1 Child Labour Situation in Bangladesh
- 3.2 Extent of Child Labour
- 3.3 Historical Background of Child Labour
- 3.4 Different Sectors of Child Labour
 - 3.4.1 Agricultural Sector
 - 3.4.2 Construction Sector
 - 3.4.3 Street Hawker
 - 3.4.4 Transports Sector
 - 3.4.5 Domestic Worker
 - 3.4.6 Child Labour in Leather Tannery Industries
 - 3.4.7 Child Labour in Garments Sector
 - 3.4.8 Child begger
- 3.5 Child in Hazardous work

3.1 Child Labour Situation in Bangladesh

According to UNICEF's Asian Child Labour-Report (2012), there are about 40 industries in Bangladesh which use child labour, often under hazardous conditions and with little regard for health and safety. Again, The ILO reports that children in Bangladesh are engaged in between 300 and 400 types of economic activities'. Seventy-one percent in agriculture, forestry, and fishery, while less than 15 percent are sales and service workers. Large numbers of children work as domestic servants, as prostitutes, in the shrimp, apparel and leather tanning industries, restaurants, workshops and tea and tobacco plantations. They also work as carpenters, in construction industries, at hotels and small retail shops. Children also work as porters, transport workers and street vendors. Approximately 65 percent of the child labours work between 9 and 14 hours per day¹. Children are laboring as maids and servants, in garment factories, engineering workshops, construction sector, as bus or tempo (three-wheeler transport) helpers, in the beedi (a kind of hand-made cigarette) factories, as roadside restaurant workers and street vendors, in tea plantations and other agricultural sectors. Official statistics of child workers aged 5 to 14 years was estimated to be 6.3 million (Haq, Khadiza et al. 2003). Eighty three percent of all working children are at rural areas (ILO 2003). Anthony. L. Josheph (2002) mentioned the following statistics regarding child employment of Bangladesh.

Table: 2 Child Employment Scenario in Bangladesh

Child Employment	Total	Male	Female
Child Workers by Major Industries (%)			
- Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
- Agriculture	65.4	67.1	63.0
- Manufacture	8.2	9.7	7.0
- Transportation	1.8	3.0	0.1
- Other services	10.3	14.4	4.2
- Others including household	14.1	6.8	25.7
	~		
Child Workers by type and sector of employment (%)	100.0	100.0	100.0
- Total	6.0	6.9	4.5
- Private (formal)	94.0	93.1	95.5
- Private (informal)			
Employment status of child workers (%)			
- Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
- Employee	16.3	14.8	18.6
- Self-employed	4.7	6.1	2.5
- Unpaid family workers	63.5	58.4	71.2
- Apprentices	2.0	2.9	0.5
- Day Labour/casual labour	13.5	17.8	7.2

Source: Anthony. L. Josheph (20[P.]. " Strengthening the Role of Labour Saadanfc in Selected Developing Member Countries - Regional Review of Child Labour". ADB/ILO RETA Project No. 5SS7. Final Draft. September.]

According to second National Child Labor Survey (NCLS) conducted by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics ('BBS) in 2002/03. the child labour situation in Bangladesh is as follows–

- ◆ There are 4.9 million working children in Bangladesh and the total working child population is between 5 and 17 years old and the estimated number is 7.9 million:
- ◆ The total number of working children aged 5-17 years in rural areas is estimated at 6.4 million as against 1.5 million in urban areas;
- ◆ The proportion of boy and girl child workers, in the age group of 5-17 years, is 73.5 per cent and 26.5 per cent, respectively:
- ◆ As many as 93.3 per cent of all working children in the age group of 5-17 years operate in the informal sector. Agriculture engages 4.5 million (56.4 per cent children), while the services sector engages 2 million (25.9 per cent), and industry. 1.4 million (17.7 per cent);

Thus it is evident from the above table and discussion that child labor is more pervasive in rural areas of Bangladesh as rural areas constitute almost three times more child labor than that of urban areas. Consequently, agricultural sector comprises the highest number of child labor followed by household sector, service sector and manufacturing sector. The ratio of boy and girl child worker is almost 3:1 and most of the child labor (more than 90 percent) are engaged in private different informal activities.

Bangladesh is one of the developing countries of the world. It has a large population. It has many social problems. Child labour is one of them. Despite of a worldwide decline in child labour in the last years [ILO 2013], the child labour incidence in Bangladesh is still among the highest in Asia [Chaudri et al. 2004: 74]. Bangladesh has ratified ILO Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour, and several governmental and non governmental institutes have been working on improving the situation of child labour. This chapter gives an overview of the most recent developments in the field.

Bangladesh, with 153.3 million people is one of the most densely populated countries in the world [UNDP 2008]. The majority of the people are very poor and 35% of the total population lives on less than one US dollar a day [Islam F. et al. 2007]. The absolute and relative size of the child population is quit big. UCW-project estimates reveal that Bangladesh had about 37 million children between 5 and 14 years old in 2006; they made up 24% of the total population [SIMPOC 2006]. The widespread poverty causes a situation in which many children are deprived of their basic rights, both in urban as well as in rural areas. Infant mortality in the countryside is particularly high, mostly due to malnutrition and a lack of health care, such as knowledge of immunization and safe birthing practices. Education is generally in a poor state [Khundher 2005].

The “Declaration of Compulsory Primary Education” in 1993 increased the proportion of children enrolled in primary education [Taher 2006: 204]; the Primary and Mass Education Division (PMED) statistics show that primary school enrolment increased from 12 million in 1990 to 17.6 million in 2000.

Gross enrolment was 96% in 2000 [Khanam 2005: 16]. Yet, according to the latest UCW survey only 76.9% of the children in the age category 5-14 attends school [SIMPOC 2006]. There is ambiguity in the estimation of child labour in Bangladesh; they vary from 6 to 20 million [Islam F. et al. 2007: 3]. According to the National Child Labour Survey (NSCL 2002-03) conducted by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) in 2002 and 2003, the number of working children in the age 5-17 years old was 7.9 million¹, referring to children who did at least one hour per week in paid or unpaid work (17% of the child population in this age category). Among them were 3.4 million child labourers², i.e. they were younger than the minimum age required for the work they performed.

The majority of the child labourers are boys [Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics 2003; ILO/IPEC 2004]. However, a Save the Children study claims that National statistics by BBS heavily underestimate the actual numbers, mainly because the survey did not include figures from several parts of the informal sector, which has a large number of child labourers [Islam F. et al. 2007: 3]. The negative relation with education is among the most unfortunate consequences of child labour. Child labourers have little time to attend school or to study. About 70% of the child labourers do not attend school, and 30% combine work and education. One out of two children not enrolled. In some documents one speaks of 7.4 million working children. The BBS explains the distinction by setting the total number of economically active children at 7.9 million (usual status), against 7.4 million by current activity status. The BBS speaks of 3.4 million child labourers under the usual status, and 3.2 under the current activity status. mentioned economic restrictions as the principal reason for not attending school [Islam

F. et al. 2007]. Of the total child population, 5.1% only works, and doesn't go to school ILO-IPEC states that almost 50% of children in primary school drop out before they complete grade 5, and then are pulled towards work, continuously increasing the number of child labourers [ILO/IPEC 2004].

Comparing the National Child Labour Survey in 2002-03 with the one conducted in 1995-96, statistics show a decline in child labour in Bangladesh. The proportion of working children in the total child population aged 5-14 years came down from 18.3% in 1995-96 to 14.2% in 2002-03. The decline was more rapid in rural areas than in urban areas, and faster among girls than boys [Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics 1997, 2003]. However, the two surveys have used different data collection methods and different definitions, reasons for which a realistic comparison between the two surveys is not possible. In fact, the declining trend in child labour has been contradicted by other studies, which claim that in contrast to other countries in South Asia and in the world, child labour has been increasing in Bangladesh. Khanam argues that labour force participation rate of children aged 10 to 14 years increased from 21% in 1981 to 39% in 2000 [Khanam 2005: 2]. Statistics by SIMPOC confirm the increasing trend in recent years; these reveal a slight augmentation in children's involvement in economic activity³ from 13.4% in 2002-2003 to 13.6% in 2006 [SIMPOC 2003, 2006].

Another important observation is a shift of the working children from the agricultural sector to other sectors, such as the production and transport sector and the sales sector [Islam F. et al. 2007]. Still, most working children live in rural areas. The rural informal sector accounts for 93% of the

working children in Bangladesh [Khundher 2005] and 57% of the child labourers work in the agricultural sector [Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics 2003]. However, according to various studies, most of the vulnerable working children are currently living and working in urban areas. They work in informal work sectors, where neither the family nor the law provide protection [Islam F. et al.2007]. Approximately 1.3 million children in Bangladesh, or 41% of the child labourers, are working in hazardous forms of child labour [Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics 2003]. The hazardous conditions apply especially to boys [Khundher 2005] and the older the child, the more likely he is to be exposed to hazards at the workplace. Children between 12 and 14 years old make up 33% of this group, while the other 67% of the children in hazardous conditions are between 15 and 17 years old [ILO/IPEC 2004]. It is important to keep in mind, however, that the government of Bangladesh has, despite the ratification of Convention 182 in 2001, not yet prepared a national list of hazardous Economic activity is a broad concept that encompasses most productive activities by children, including unpaid and illegal work, work in the informal sector, and production of goods for own use. “Working” does not include helping in the home, which is a noneconomic activity. Not all children’s work is equivalent to child labour [SIMPOC 2006]. sectors or activities for children. The definition of hazardous work is therefore not very clear and statistics can vary between different sources. Legislation on child labour and action programmes Bangladesh joined the ILO in 1972 and ratified several conventions. Convention No. 138 concerning the minimum age for employment has not yet been ratified. However, Bangladesh ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1989, and Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour in 2001, demonstrating its commitment to

the compliance with child rights and the elimination of hazardous child labour. Other significant conventions ratified by Bangladesh include the ILO Convention No. 29 on Forced Labour and Convention No. 105 on Abolition of Forced Labour [ILO/IPEC 2004].

Convention 182 states that ratifying countries should take immediate action to secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour and determine the hazardous activities by national laws or regulations. In December 2001, the Bangladeshi government with support of ILO and other organisations started developing a national policy on child labour titled “elimination of child labour policy”, but as of yet, the policy has not been launched. The Constitution of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh ensures through different articles the basic needs and rights of children. Of special interest are Article 17 referring to the provision of free and compulsory education to all children, and Article 24 that prohibits all forms of forced labour [Taher 2006]. Compulsory labour is also an offence under the Penal Code 1860 [ILO/IPEC 2004]. Furthermore, the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs developed the National Plan of Action for Children, which is based on the UNCRC [Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh 2005]. A few national labour laws deal with the issue of child labour. They refer to minimum ages required for employment in specific sectors.

According to these laws children below 14 years old are not allowed to work in factories, and adolescents’ work is regulated. Generally, the laws require that work by adolescents in factories is carried out during day hours and for a limited amount of hours [ILO/IPEC 2004; Taher 2006]. The Bangladesh

Labour Code (2006) stipulates that no child (i.e. a person under 14 years of age) is allowed to be employed in any work and that no adolescent (i.e. a person between 15 and 17 years old) is allowed to be employed in hazardous work; a child between 12 and 14 years old may be employed in “light work” only [Government of Bangladesh 2006]. Additionally, the Employment of Children Act, 1938, prohibits children under 12 years to work in workshops where hazardous activities take place. The 18 specified activities include weaving, tanning and the manufacture of bidis, soap, carpets, matches, explosives and fireworks. Employers who repeatedly violate these restrictions face prison terms of up to 6 months. An exception is made in the case of family owned and family run workshops, which do not use outside hired labour [ILO/IPEC 2004]. Although the existence of the laws demonstrates a concern, they have some limitations that need to be addressed. In the first place, there is confusion about the exact meaning of the concept “child”. Several laws define children as persons under 12, 14, 15 or 16 years old. In general though, the government of Bangladesh and its relevant agencies define working children between 5 and 14 years old as child labourers [Ksfi & Jesmin 2002]. Secondly, the laws don’t cover all sectors of employment, especially not the informal sectors, although a vast majority of the child labourers are engaged in these sectors, even in hazardous working conditions [Taher 2006]. There is no single code or law dealing with this informal area [ILO/IPEC 2004]. Thirdly, age restrictions are not sufficiently adhered to due to a lack of a well-functioning birth registration system in the country. The information is based on an interview with ILO-IPEC functionaries in Dhaka, August 2008. [Taher 2006]. Finally, the law requires children to attend school only up to age 10, leaving a gap between the end of compulsory schooling and the minimum working age

that may result in children entering employment illegally [ILO/IPEC 2004]. Several programmes have been carried out to combat the problem of child labour, often in combination with the promotion of education. In the 1990s, the Primary and Mass Education Division and the Directorate of Non-Formal Education were set up. In 1993, the government and the World Food Program (WFP) initiated the Food for Education programme, to make primary education more attractive for poor children. These developments had, according to ILO/IPEC, a positive impact on education and child labour [ILO/IPEC 2004].

In 2000, the IPEC started its four year project “Preventing and Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Selected Formal and Informal Sectors”. The project focussed on hazardous forms of child labour in five different informal sectors. Subsequently, in March 2001, ILO-IPEC started working on “Worst Forms of Child Labour in the Urban Informal Economy of Dhaka City”, a project resulting in a baseline survey on the topic. The preparatory phase of the National Time Bound Project was launched in 2004 and the actual project started in 2006. It is directed at technical support to the Government of Bangladesh in order to generate a framework for policy and direct action on child labour. The second phase of the project on the Informal Economy will be included as a component, focusing on regulation, monitoring and direct action. The Ministry of Labour and Employment started, in 2004, the project “Eradication of Hazardous Child Labour in Bangladesh”, which is now in its second phase and technically supported by ILO. The project covers Dhaka and Chittagong Municipal Corporations and focuses on non-formal education and skills training for working children [ILO/IPEC 2004]. Similarly, the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education is,

with UNICEF support, implementing the project “Basic Education for Hard To Reach Urban Working Children”, which will continue through 2011. Also here interventions include no formal education and skills training for working children.

BANGLADESH (Socio-economic Indicators)

Demography:

- Total population (millions), 2013: 153 (i)
- Annual population growth rate(%), 2005 - 15:1.6 (i)
- Population under age 15 (% of total), 2005:35.2 (i)
- Urban population (% of total), 2005:25.1 (i)
- Infant mortality rate(per 1,000 live births), 2005:73
- (i) 45-% of children aged 5 - 14 that are working: 13.4% (iii)

Education:

- Youth literacy rate (% , age 15-24), 2005: 63.6 (i)
- Female youth literacy rate (% , age 15-24), 2005: 60.3 (i)
- Primary school enrolment ratio (gross), 2000 - 07: Male 87/Female 91 (ii)
- Secondary school enrolment ration (gross), 2000 - 07: Male 43/Female 45 (ii)
- Net primary school attendance, 2000 - 07 (%): Male 79/Female 84 (ii)

Economy:

- GDP/capita (PPP US\$), 2005:2,053 (i)
- Unemployment rate (% of labour force), 1996-2005: 4.3 (i)
- Population living below \$2 a day (%), 2005:84.0 (ii) GDP/capita (PPP US\$), 2005:2,053 (i)
- Unemployment rate (% of labour force), 1996-2005: 4.3 (i)
- Population living below \$2 a day (%), 2005:84.0 (ii)

Source:

(i) Human Development Report 2007-08

(ii) UNICEF: The State of the World’s Children 2009

(iii) ILO:SIMPOC: Bangladesh Child Labour Country Brief

3.2 The extent of child labour

At present in Bangladesh, the total children (under 18) is 6 crore 30 lakh, 45% of total population(Child Rights Governance Assembly, CRGA-2013). In 2013, *Report on the State of the World's Children*, the UNICEF estimated that of the one billion children in the age group 5-14 years in the less developed countries, 190 million, or about 20%, were working (UNICEF, 1997,25). Three quarters of these working children, or about 143 million, worked six days a week or more and one half worked nine hours a day or more. The latest calculations of the International Labour Organization (ILO) estimate that 250 million children in the age group 5-14 years are employed, half of them full time. Over 95% of these children are in the less developed countries. Out of these, 153 million are working in Asia, 80 million in Africa and 17.5 million in Latin America. Thus Asia has over 60% of the child labourers, with Africa having the highest percentage of its children working, that is, every one in three children is working there. In Latin America, 15-20% of children work. Though these figures are based on improved methodologies and surveys, no survey can accurately portray the actual extent of the children working in the informal sector. Nevertheless, considering the fact that the latest ILO calculations for less developed countries are based on in-depth surveys and interviews in numerous countries, and not solely on official statistics, it can be considered to be a reliable estimate. This is an improvement from ILO's earlier estimate of 73 million working children.

These large numbers indicate that children constitute a substantial part of the work force of these countries. For example, the million of working children under the age of 14 in Egypt constitute seven percent of the country's work force (Mekay, 1997,38). Several surveys have also made attempts to assess the extent of child labour in Bangladesh. According to ILO, 30% of Bangladesh's children are economically active, suggesting a figure of 11-12 million working children out of its 38.5 million children. But according to the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), there are about 31.7 million children between the ages 5 and 14 in Bangladesh, of whom about 13.7 million receive education . The remaining 18 million do not go to school. A small percentage of these children roam about aimlessly or stay idle at home, but the remaining are engaged in some sort of employment to earn income for their families (BGMEA, 1994). This would indicate a number in the range of 15 million working children. The Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) labour force survey of 1990 reported 5.7 million working children in the age group 10-14 years. Other estimates suggest about 15 million child workers of the same age group.

The BBS report also says that in 1990- 91, the national labour force participation rate for children aged 10-14 was estimated at 46% for boys and 36% for girls. Child labour is much more prevalent in the rural areas where the participation rate for boys is 50% and for girls it is 42%; in the urban areas, the rate for boys is 28% and for girls is 16%. All of these figures were 6 to 8 percentage points higher than reported in the previous labour force survey of 1984. A calculation based on the survey found that the majority of these children were actually unpaid family helpers - 64% of boys and 85%

of girls (Wahid, 1997,5). The UNICEF Multiple Indicator Survey for Bangladesh finds that of the children between 6-17 years, 21% of boys are working and only 4% of girls. This is a much lower estimate than the labour force survey. The proportion of children working increases with age, but even in the roughly comparable 11-14 age group, the proportion is much lower than that of the labour force survey. The very low proportion of girls is attributed to the fact that most work on domestic chores, which is usually a hidden form of child labour (Stalker, 1996,9). In contrast, according to village studies, the participation rate of children aged 6-14 year, either inside or outside the house, averaged 34% (Ahmed and Quasem, 1991), but the rate varied considerably from one village to another- 16% in the most developed village to 64% in the least. Thus the national proportion of children working in Bangladesh varies from about 10% to 44%, depending on the definitions and the type of sampling.

3.3 Historical Background of Child Labour

Child labour is not a new phenomenon. It is exist in everywhere of the world. The Victorian era became notorious for employing child labour. During the Industrial Revolution, children as young as four were employed in production factories with dangerous, and often fatal, working conditions. Based on this understanding of the use of children as labourers, it is now considered by wealthy countries young children in factories and mines and as chimney sweeps. Child labour played an important role in the Industrial Revolution from its outset, often brought about by economic hardship, Charles Dickens for example worked at the age of 12 in a blacking factory, with his family in debtor's prisons. The children of the poor were expected

to help towards the family budget, often working long hours in dangerous jobs and low wages.

Agile boys were employed by the chimney sweeps; small children were employed to scramble under machinery to retrieve cotton bobbins; and children were also employed to work in coal mines to crawl through tunnels too narrow and low for adults. Children also worked as errand boys, crossing sweepers, shoe blacks, or selling matches, flowers and other cheap goods. Some children undertook work as apprentices to respectable trades, such as building or as home servant (there were over 120,000 domestic servants in London in the mid 18th Century). Working hours were long: builders worked 64 hours a week in summer and 52 in winter, while domestic servants worked 80 hour weeks.

The industrial revolution caused unspeakable misery both on England and in America. In the Lancashire cotton mills (from which Marx and Engels derived their livelihood), children worked from 12 to 16 hours a day; they often began working at the age of six or seven. Children had to be beaten to keep them from falling asleep while at work; in spite of this, many failed to keep awake and were mutilated or killed. Parents had to submit to the infliction of these atrocities upon their children, because they themselves were in a desperate plight. Craftsmen had been thrown out of work by the machines; rural labourers were compelled to migrate to the towns which used Parliament to make landowners richer by making peasants destitute; trade unions were illegal until 1824; the government employed agent's provocateurs to try to get revolutionary sentiments out of wage-earners, who were then deported or hanged. Such was the first effect of machinery in England.

A high number of children also worked as prostitutes. Children as young as three were put to work. In coal mines children began work at the age of five and generally died before the age of 25. Many children (and adults) worked 16 hour days. As early as 1802 and 1819 Factory Acts were passed to regulate the working hours of workhouse children in factories and cotton mills to 12 hours per day. These acts were largely ineffective and after radical agitation, by for example the "Short Time Committees" in 1831, a Royal Commission recommended in 1833 that children aged 11–18 should work a maximum of 12 hours per day, children aged 9–11 a maximum of eight hours, and children under the age of nine were no longer permitted to work. This act however only applied to the textile industry, and further agitation led to another act in 1847 limiting both adults and children to 10 hour working days.

By 1900, there were 1.7 million child labourers reported in American industry under the age of fifteen. The number of children under the age of 15 who worked in industrial jobs for wages climbed to 2 million in 1910. The study gives an overview of what child labor is and how it is a prevailing practice in a third world country like Bangladesh. The causes and effects of child labour have been talked about too in this very informative and serious case. This case helps us to have an in depth understanding the problem of child labor in the country from a different angle.

Child labour refers to the employment of children at regular and sustained labour. This practice is considered exploitative by many international organizations and is illegal in many countries. Child labor was utilized to varying extents through most of history, but entered public dispute with the

advent of universal schooling, with changes in working conditions during the industrial revolution, and with the emergence of the concepts of workers' and children's rights. In many developed countries, it is considered inappropriate or exploitative if a child below a certain age works. An employer is usually not permitted to hire a child below a certain minimum age. This minimum age depends on the country and the type of work involved. The incidence of child labor in the world decreased from 25 to 10 percent between 1960 and 2003, according to the World Bank.

In Bangladesh, child labour is a severe form of child exploitation. The overwhelming majority of working children is found in developing countries such as in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Child labour also exists in several industrialized countries and is rising in a number of East European countries that are now in transition to a free market economy. Although Bangladesh accounts for less than 2 percent of the world population, it is the home of 6.6million working children, accounting for more than 5 percent of the world's working child population numbering 120 million. In Bangladesh children are found working in almost all the sectors of the economy except mining, quarrying, electricity, gas and water.

3.4 Different sectors of Child Labour

In Bangladesh the child labour's common duty places are -Agriculture sector, Construction sector, Industrial sector, Street hawkers, Transports sector, Home worker, Shop worker, Ship building, Hotel boy. Individually help a child or give some sympathy but cannot solve the problems. The

government should realize the gravity of the situation and ban the child labour, making it an offence under law. But no ban can work unless we can ensure that the children are provided with food, shelter and education. This would not only bring back their childhood but also secure the future of the nation.. According to National Child Labour Survey 2003, the number of child population (aged 5-17 years) is 42 million, of which 7.4 million (17.61 percent of children) are economically active.

3.4.1 Agriculture sector:

Agriculture is the main profession of the maximum people of Bangladesh. About 80% people directly or indirectly dependent on agriculture. Bangladesh is primarily an agrarian economy. Agriculture is the single largest producing sector of economy since it comprises about 30% of the country's GDP and employing around 60% of the total labour force. The performance of this sector has an overwhelming impact on major macroeconomic objectives like employment generation, poverty alleviation, human resources development and food security. Meeting the nation's food requirements remains the key-objective of the government and in recent years there has been substantial increase in grain production. However, due to calamities like flood, loss of food and cash crops is a recurring phenomenon which disrupts the continuing progress of the entire economy.

Agricultural holdings in Bangladesh are generally small. Through Cooperatives the use of modern machinery is gradually gaining popularity. Rice, Jute, Sugarcane, Potato, Pulses, Wheat, Tea and Tobacco are the

principal crops. The crop sub-sector dominates the agriculture sector contributing about 72% of total production. Fisheries, livestock and forestry sub-sectors are 10.33%, 10.11% and 7.33% respectively. Bangladesh is one of the largest producer of world best jute. Rice being the staple food, its production is of major importance. Rice production stood at 20.3 million tons in 1996-97 fiscal years. Crop diversification program, credit, extension and research, and input distribution policies pursued by the government are yielding positive results. The country is now on the threshold of attaining self-sufficiency in food grain production.

Child labour has become a burning issue throughout the world in this day especially in developing countries like Bangladesh. Bangladesh is predominantly an agrarian society. The frequent occurrence of natural disasters compounded by political upheavals and mal-governance has contributed to slow economic growth and prevailing poverty. The situation of child labour in Bangladesh has become increasingly complex. According to UNICEF (2008), an estimated 218 millions children aged 5 - 17 are engaged in child labour, excluding child domestic labour all over the world. About 126 millions of these children are believed to be engaged in hazardous situations or conditions. Working with chemicals and pesticides in agriculture or working with dangerous machinery. They are everywhere but invisible, toiling as domestic servants in homes, laboring behind the wall of workshops, hidden from view of the population. The majority of the world's working children, according to ILO are found in Asia (61%), followed by Africa (32%) and Latin America and the Caribbean (7%). Of these working children, 95% are found in developing countries live in rural areas and three quarters of them are engaged in agriculture and related

activities (ILO, 1997a and 1997b). Bangladesh has also experienced high incidence of child labour. According to the Child Labour Survey of Bangladesh, the child labour force in Bangladesh is 7.9 million out of the 42.39 million children in the age group of 5 - 14 years, that is, 18.64% of total child population is found to be economically active. Thus, child labour constitutes about 12% of the total labour force of Bangladesh. The highest proportion of child labour is found in agriculture (65%), followed by the service sector (10.3%), manufacturing (8.2%) and transport and communication (1.8%) (BBS, 2004). Generally, the greater the extent of poverty in a country, the greater the amount of child labour. Child labour is deeply rooted in poverty and social customs (Rahman et al., 1999). One reason for such high labour force participation is that working children are from impoverished families (Basu and Van, 1998; Basu, 1999). Most of the children are engaged in household work in rural areas whereas agricultural work is performed mainly by the male children and household work is mainly performed by the female children (Levison et al., 2001). Several studies reveal that there exists a close relationship between child labour and fertility, as a result high fertility in the developing countries may be due to high demand for child labour (Lindert, 1983; Vlassoff, 1979; Aghajanian, 1978; Nag et al., 1978; Cain, 1977; Ajami, 1976). Probably the answer of a crucial question “why farmers employ child labour” lies either on peak season shortage of adult labour (Nadkarni, 1976) or, on subsistence agricultural and economic underdevelopment (Khuda, 1991) or, due to application of labour intensive technology (Shariff, 1991). It can be said that most of the farmers in the developing countries are not capital rich and therefore they are unable to adopt modern technology which have prevented them from more production at smaller cost per unit. Actually the farmers

in the developing countries adopt a technology which is neither a fully modern one or nor a traditional one but a mixture of both. Thus, generally they combine various inputs sub optimally. In such a situation, of course, the farmers are not in a position to produce crops at sufficiently low cost for survival in the face of steep and strong competition in the crop markets. That is why they need to reduce cost by employing children, which is the ultimate alternative open to them (Majumdar et al., 2001a), (George, 1990) wrote; Thus the only option opens to them is to employ cheap labour for reducing cost which is often done through employing a child labour which costs more or less one third of the wage of an adult labour. Child labour remains a widespread problem in the world today. It is also pervasive in poor setting Bangladesh. In many families, child labour makes up about one third of their family income. In addition, poverty and economic deprivation leads to child labour (Alam et al., 2008). Thus, this work is an attempt to study the existence and influencing factors of child labour in agricultural sector in Bangladesh.

3.4.2 Construction Sector:

‘Ship breaking child labour’

Ship breaking is considered one of the dangerous sectors of child labour. Ship breaking carries a very real risk to life. It is a dirty and dangerous occupation. It is a very hard and difficult works for every kind of age’s people. children also work in this occupation. The children work mainly as gas cutters assistants and move small iron pieces from one place to another. They also do the night shift. On average they got 50-60 taka per day for their

efforts. There are no educational facilities. In 20 years about 400 workers have been killed and seriously injured 6000 people according to Bangladeshi media. On average, one worker dies in the yards a week and everyday a worker is injured. It is a replaceable works. If any one lost his job in this site, six is waiting to replace him due to the lack of work. Ship breaking is in two categories. One is intoxication by dangerous substances and accidents on the plots. Explosions of leftover and fumes in the tanks are the prime cause of accidents of the yards. Another accident is falling from the ship. Other accidents are crushed by falling steel beams and plates and electric shocks. In this job workers do not get money properly, use of child labour, less than minimum wages, lack of job security etc. The construction sector has been growing fast in Bangladesh. In terms of employment, it has been growing at 7.3 percent during 1991-2006 periods. The growth rate in terms of GDP has been 6.7 percent during 1995-96 to 2008-2009. Most of the construction sites, particularly of the real estate or housing sector, are however located in three divisional headquarters of Dhaka (also the capital city), Chittagong and Khulna. In regulating the construction sector five agencies have central role. These are RAJUK

Capital Development Authority) for Dhaka, Chittagong Development Authority (CDA) for Chittagong and Khulna Development Authority (KDA) for Khulna. The Public Works Department (PWD) and Housing and Settlements Directorate (HSD) are the national level government agencies responsible for regulating the construction activities in the country. In 2008-2009, total construction sector employment stood at 2.024 million. Even at the current growth rate, the total employment in the construction sector will increase to 2.88 million by 2014 and 3.32 million by 2020. It is to be noted that construction activities are conducted by informal child labour.

3.4.3 Street hawker:

In urban areas of Bangladesh specially in Dhaka city we see many street hawkers. In Bangladesh, we see different kind of boys, who are collect different kinds of garbage in their sack and they sell it vangari shops (shop that buy any kind of waste product). They are so poor and are called “Tokai”, is one kind of child labour. Majority of the tokai’s belong to the age group 7-15 years but aged tokai also found. Basically tokai’s workplace is mainly public places, bus, train launch terminals, shopping area, streets, residential areas, dustbin etc. They work daily 8-10 hours and also average income per day less 70 taka. They have no skills. Sometimes, they work under a group or independently. NGOs have taken different programmes for the welfare of the tokai. They are hopeless. they have no identity. some are houseless.

3.4.4 Transports sector:

Child Transport service is a common practice in Bangladesh. The majority of child transports 9 and 17 years old. The majority of children work throughout the day. Although child labour is legally restricted in Bangladesh. Transports sector in Bangladesh is one the formal sectors, which generates considerable number of employment. Most of the regular working children in this sector are extremely poor. Extreme poverty and vulnerability push the target children into transports sector. Social disasters including disparity and exploitation, no access to land, resources, education and power structure, population boom resulting in unemployment, inadequate subsistence earning as well as natural disasters like flood, river erosion, cyclone, drought, etc. compel the families to send their children

from rural areas to urban areas searching for employment. On the other hand, wide scope for employment in urban centers, favorable nature of work including simple work requiring no skills act as pull factors behind their involvement in this sector.

Children work in transports sectors on regular basis as well as on casual basis. The number on casual basis is higher. The work assigned to children includes calling passengers, collecting money etc. They also work as helpers for the drivers.

3.4.5 Child Domestic Workers

In Bangladesh, both rural and urban area child domestic workers engaged in various activities. Child Domestic service is a widespread practice in Bangladesh. The majority of child domestics tend to be 12 and 17 years old. But children as young as 5 or 6 years old are also found working. A survey of child domestic workers found that 38 percent were 11 to 13 years old and nearly 24 percent were 5 to 10 years old. Child domestics work long hours, getting up well before their employers and going to bed long after them. 50 percent domestic workers work 12- 14 hours a day. Irrespective of their gender, Child domestic carry out all sorts of household work. Boys often perform tasks like going to the grocery, cleaning the drain, taking the garbage to roadside bins, washing the car and sell nuts etc. On the other hand, a girl has to iron the cloths, attend phone calls and serves the guests. The child domestic workers are often the least paid in the society, their remuneration ranging from 80 taka to 400 taka per month. In most of the

cases, they hand over all their earnings to their parents, leaving nothing for themselves. The Rapid Assessment of Child Labour Situation in Bangladesh” (2003) estimated that in the city of Dhaka alone there were about 120,000 child domestics. Especially the city employers in the urban areas usually recruit children from their village homes through family, friends or contacts. Most of the child domestic workers come from the most vulnerable families, many of them being orphans or abandoned children.

Sources: The Bangladesh Labour Code 2006 by Nirmal Chandra Paul

3.4.6 Child Labour in Leather Tannery sectors:

After the independent of Bangladesh Leather sector has revived largely. Leather sector is one of the industries in Bangladesh in which the incidence of child labour has remain high since the nineteenth century.

Although most child labour takes place in the informal sector, the leather sector forms an interesting exception as it belongs for a great part to the formal sector. Child labour is a sensitive topic, considering the importance of leather for the national economy. This research focuses on the leather sector in Dhaka. Despite the efforts of the government to declare the leather sector child labour free, still many children are found working in different parts of the production chain.

Leather sector in Bangladesh, the context

Although In Bangladesh Leather Sector is one of the important earning sectors but it has many problems. At the end of the 1980s, Bangladesh, in line with the global trade liberalisation promoted by international financial institutions, started the implementation of various market-oriented reforms. Export promotion schemes were an important part of these reforms, as was the privatisation of state-owned enterprises [Chowdhury Khan 2000]. Also the leather sector, which had been developed since the 1970s, was reformed and promoted as an export sector.

Nowadays, leather and leather products are principal export products of Bangladesh and the sector provides a significant portion of employment in the country. It is estimated that around 700.000 people are directly or indirectly employed in leather and its sub-sectors [ILO-IPEC 2007]. The sector accounts for 3-4% of the total export earnings and, in 2005, 0.32% of the GDP [ILO-IPEC 2007]. The Government of Bangladesh has identified the leather industry as one of the “highest priority sectors” for its growth potential and its contribution to export diversification and employment generation [Rahman 2008]. The public attention to child labour is feared to have a negative impact on the industry. Tannery and factory owners, government, labourers and even NGOs are aware of this and treat the subject with care in order not to cause adverse publicity effects. The production of leather takes place in tanneries, most of which are concentrated in Hazaribagh, an area in the south west of Dhaka city. The first tanneries were established in that area in 1947. The tanneries initially produced only leather for the local market. In 1965 Hazaribagh counted 30 tanneries; most were owned by businessmen from West Pakistan. After the liberation of

Bangladesh in 1971, all tanneries were nationalised and the government formed the Bangladesh Tanneries Corporation (BTC), which owned 24 tanneries in 1972. Due to mismanagement and ensuing losses, the government decided to privatise the tanneries again in 1982 [Banglapedia; Gain 1998]. Today, Hazaribagh is still the major area for leather production. Out of more than 200 tanneries in Bangladesh, the great majority is located in the Hazaribagh area. In 2007, the Hazaribagh area processed 84% of the total supply of hides and skins. The tanning industry employs around 50,000 persons [UCIL 2004; ILO-IPEC 2007].

A World Bank survey carried out in 1993 revealed that 4% of the tanneries surveyed were large-scale tanneries with an annual production capacity of more than 5 million square feet each; 10% were medium size; 8% were light-medium size and 41% small size with an annual production capacity of 0.5 million square feet each or less. The remaining 37% consisted of “cottage based tanneries”, i.e. small-scaled without good machineries [Gain 1998:2]. Currently there are no such detailed numbers available, but the division between small and large-scale tanneries may not have changed. According to the Bangladesh Finished Leather, Leather Goods and Footwear Exporters’ Association (BFLLGFEA), more than 50 tanneries in Hazaribagh export their products, which implies they are relatively large-scale and well equipped. The remaining tanneries are rather small-scale or cottage based; these produce leather primarily for the domestic market. According to a census realised for the German international cooperation enterprise GTZ in 2004, it appeared that more than 76% of the tanneries is solely export oriented. Around one fifth supplies to both local and foreign market. Only a very small percentage (4%) sells the entire production to the local

manufacturers or markets [UCIL 2004]. However, only units with more than 15 people were included in the census. Since most leather for the domestic market comes from the small-scale and informal tanning businesses, the real number of small tanneries producing for the local market can be expected to be higher. The leather manufacturing enterprises produce leather items varying from different types of footwear to belts, bags and wallets [Gain 1998]. Regarding footwear, there are currently about 25 mechanised and export oriented footwear enterprises in the country, mostly in and around Dhaka.

At the same time, hundreds of small-scale and cottage-based units spread all over the country produce footwear. The leather goods (or non-footwear) manufacturing industry is less developed and operates mainly at the cottage level. There are 5 large and medium scaled leather goods manufacturing units in Bangladesh, compared to hundreds of cottage-based units⁵. Leather goods and footwear factories are found in several places in Dhaka, also in Hazaribagh. Some leather factories are part of a tannery, whereas others operate independently. There are two principal associations for tannery owners: Bangladesh Tanners Association (BTA), established in 1964, and the Bangladesh Finished Leather, Leather Goods and Footwear Exporters' Association (BFLLGFEA) since 1991. The goal of these associations is basically to represent its members and to promote, protect and safeguard their interests; they have more than 100 members each. Most of the large-scaled and export oriented manufacturers of footwear and leather goods are represented by the Leather Goods & Footwear Manufacturers & Exporters Association of Bangladesh (LFMEAB). This association split away from the BFLLGFEA in 2003 and focuses especially on promoting relationships

between local manufacturers and foreign buyers; it has 44 members. Furthermore, approximately 1500 tanners without their own tannery are united in the Bangladesh Leather and Leather Goods Manufacturer Cooperative Society Ltd. Corporation in Dhaka. These tanners use other people's tanneries and machineries to produce leather, mainly for the domestic market. Many small-scale manufacturers of footwear and leather goods in Dhaka belong to the Bangladesh Leather and Rexin Goods and Shoe Manufacturer Association. For the labourers of tanneries, a labour union was established in 1965 with the aim to protect the rights of tannery workers. The union claims to represent 20.000 to 25.000 members who work in Hazaribagh's tanneries. The wholesale market for leather is located at the Bangshall market, located in Old Dhaka. Locally produced footwear and leather goods are transported to most parts of the country. The purchasing power of people in Bangladesh, however, is low and the climate is not appropriate for leather garments, except for footwear. Consequently, the domestic market for leather and products in Bangladesh is relatively low: it accounts for only 20% of the total leather production [ILO-IPEC 2007].

The remaining 80% of the leather production is exported in the form of crust leather, finished leather, and a small share of footwear and leather goods [UCIL 2004; ILO-IPEC 2007]. According to official figures of the Export Promotion Bureau (EPB) the export volume of Bangladeshi leather has been increasing, but the sector also faces difficulties. During the 1980s, export credits were widely 5 Numbers of factories are taken from the Bangladesh Finished Leather, Leather Goods\Manufacturers' and Exporters' Association, Dhaka, Bangladesh. When in the 1990s the government stopped providing export subsidies for the production of wet blue leather, and

prohibited the export of raw and wet blue leather, these firms started losing money. At present, the majority exports are of finished leather. These producers have suffered price fluctuations in the world market, so much so that the price of finished leather was at times lower than the prices they had paid for the raw materials. In general, a lack of technical expertise results in difficulties to respond to international conditions [Chowdhury Khan 2000]. Recently, important increases have taken place in the footwear exports, to mainly Italy, Japan, Hong Kong, Spain, Germany, UK and USA. Leading exporters in this field are the multinational company BATA and the national APEX [UCIL 2004]. The production of leather is unfortunately accompanied by serious pollution of air, water and soil, which gravely affects the surrounding area as well as its inhabitants. None of the tanneries in Hazaribagh employ waste treatment. Plans are being made to shift the entire tannery industry to Savar, about 20 kilometers from Dhaka city, where a new leather industrial area including a communal waste treatment plant, will be developed [ILO-IPEC 2007]. Such plans, however, have been discussed for the past 10 years and the negotiation process between tannery owners and the Ministry of Industry is still ongoing. The goal to move the industry in 2010 has been put into doubt by several actors.

Child labour in the Bangladeshi leather sector

Leather sector is also considered one of the dangerous sectors of child labour. Since the leather industry has been identified by the government as a priority sector for the country's economy, the eradication of child labour has been put high on the agenda. The three main associations of leather and leather products producers declare that "no child labour is employed in the leather sector". It furthermore states that this child labour is "actively

monitored by ILO” and that “BFLFFEA coordinates and supervises the compliance issues” [BFLFFEA et al. 2008]. High-level officials involved in the sector are eager to declare that the leather industry is almost child labour free. The IPEC office in Dhaka, the Ministry of Labour, and several NGOs have been working in an attempt to eradicate child labour in the leather sector with a wide variety of projects. Although Bangladesh does not have an official list of hazardous activities and sectors for children, several surveys include leather related activities on their list of hazardous work. In one of the latest surveys carried out by ILO about the urban informal sector, work in shoe factories and manufacturing leather products has been identified as hazardous [ILO/IPEC 2002]. An IPEC program starting in 2000 focusing on children working in the most intolerable conditions included leather tanneries as one of the five identified sectors [Karim 2005]. The Department of Labour, as part of its program on Eradicating Hazardous Child Labour, conducted a survey in 1995 and classified The export of raw hides and wet blue leather was prohibited on the basis of Bangladesh’ Export Policies 1995-97 and 1997-2002. According to Bangladeshi authorities, the ban is established to keep up adequate domestic supply and to assist the development of the domestic leather industry [OECD 2005].

Especially the agreement on costs of the establishment of a waste treatment plant, and compensation for the tannery owners are issues of discussion. Several environmental groups have been actively involved in advocating against the pollution, but, as the activists argued “as soon as the tannery owners come up, the government stops pressuring them” (interview with Syeda Rizwana Hasan, director BELA, June 2008). On November 30, 2008,

the newspaper Daily Star in Bangladesh reported that: “European countries are set to pass new policies that will bar import of products from industries that pollute environment with harmful chemical agents and do not have individual or central effluent plant” [Parveen 2008]. The project was titled: “Preventing and Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Selected Formal and Informal Sectors” tannery work as hazardous for children [Massum 2002]. Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum (BSAF) identified, during a survey in 2000, 67 hazardous activities, among which the work in tanneries. Work in shoe factories or other leather related activities were not included [BSAF 2002]. No clear data on the current extent of child labour in the complete leather industry is available. Some studies on different sub-sectors related to leather do, however, give an idea about the scope of the problem, but also indicate the need for more information on the subject. In 2000 the Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies (BILS) estimated that around 1000 children between 7 and 14 years old were engaged in various jobs in tanneries [BILS 2000: 20]. The ILO-IPEC, in 2007, specified that approximately 260 children work in leather tanneries, 3040 children work in shoe factories and 320 children were working with leather products [ILO-IPEC 2007]. In 2001, the baseline study of the ILO project in the tanneries included 63 tanneries and found a total of 560 children working (all boys) [Karim 2005]. According to another survey by the ILO/IPEC on the Urban Informal Sectors of Dhaka City, not including tanneries, a total of 46 children were found to be manufacturing leather products, and 328 children working in shoe factories. The Hazaribagh area counted for a total of 243 children working in hazardous sectors [ILO/IPEC 2002]. According to the National Child Labour Survey (NCLS 2003) the numbers are even higher: 13,702 children between 5 and 17 years old are working in tanning and the

dressings of leather, manufacturing footwear and leather goods [Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics 2003]. The present research shows that, despite the interventions, still many children are working in the production of leather and leather products. Many of them are not reached by any type of intervention. During the fieldwork, which covered only a small part of the sector, children were observed working in tanneries, shoe factories, the manufacturing of leather items or in other activities that are directly related to leather. However, we have not attempted to estimate the numbers. This study focuses on the qualitative data regarding child labour. It attempts to shed more light on the complete picture of the leather sector, the work of children, the consequences of their work, the views of the children, their families, the employers and other important factors involved.'

3.4.7 Child Labour in Garments Sector:

The garments production of Bangladesh is popular to over the world. Child work is a crime. But for poverty and different reasons, children are working in garments. They are not allowed to work in garments. But some of few garments owner give them works to do, because they are hard worker. Many workers are woman. When foreign buyers enter the factory, many small age child are scared and hidden under the table, been locked up in the toilet for few hours. Also, in garments sector they have physical, social, job safety, not clear in self identity, not access information, life option and planning. They are hopeless. I talked one of children workers. She said, she works for her family. They are so poor. She stays with her aunty. She earns 2500 taka in a month. After taking her salary, at first she give some money to the aunty

for the house rent and fooding cost. Then, she saved few for her and send very few money to her family. Then she said, it's not sufficient money for her living. But she working for her living. In garments sector minimum wages is fixed around 950 taka. Sometimes, many garments owner give not their salary on time. For this reasons they faces money problem. In garments, many people of ages and uneducated people works. They use many bad languages. After hearing this, many children learned and sometimes they do crime. Also, in garments sector many girls are not comfort for their work. Because many bad people tease them.

Child Labour in Export Garments Industries

Bangladesh earns a lot of foreign currency from garments sector. The garment industry, including those enterprises producing accessories for finished garments, is without doubt the most significant industry in Bangladesh which utilizes child labor and exports to the United States. It is also a relatively young industry, established in 1977 and developed rapidly after 1983. In 1993, Bangladesh exported nearly \$750 million in apparel to the United States. The garment industry's main products include shirts, trousers, jackets, T- shirts, shorts, and briefs. Garment workers make sports caps and sweat suits for export to the United States.

Estimates vary on the total number of factories and workers in the garment industry. One estimate puts the figures at 1,500 factories and over 700,000 workers, of whom 75 to 90 percent are women. Representatives of the garment factories located in and around Dhaka frequently cite the figure of

1,800 factories registered with the BGMEA, with 1,000 actively producing garments. However, these figures do not include a growing sub-contracting sector, which frequently goes unnoticed and unregulated.

Children ranging in ages from eight to fourteen work in the garment industry. It is reported that most of the children are girls with an average age of just over 13 years 10 percent of whom are already married. Reported figures on the incidence of child labour in the garment industry vary from source to source. On the one hand, Dr. Farida Akhtar, Executive Director of the Srama Bikesh Kendra, claims that one-fourth of the workers in the garment industry are children. On the other hand, in May 1994 the President of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) stated that one percent of the total work force are children, numbering an estimated 8,000 - 10,000. A recent study by the Asian-American Free Labor Institute (AAFLI) estimates that 25-30,000 children work in the industry, mostly in subcontracting industries. Still others maintain that child labor does not exist in the garment industry. Some estimates suggest that the number of child garment workers may be near 55,000. A June 1994 report of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions lists the percentage as ranging from 20 to 40 percent. Recent observations made during site visits by U.S. Departments of Labor and State officials suggests that anywhere from 5 to 20 percent of the work force are under age 14. In short, children are working in the garment industry, even though various observers differ as to the precise numbers.

As a result of international attention paid to child labor in the garment industry in the recent past, both the Government and the BGMEA have made efforts to encourage manufacturers to abide by the law which prohibits

the employment of children under the age of 14. Fearing the imminent passage of the Child Labour Deterrence Act (otherwise known as the Harkin Bill), garment employers dismissed an estimated 50,000 children from the factories in the fall of 1993, approximately 75 percent of all children in the industry. No follow-up study has been undertaken to determine where the children went, but it is widely thought that most of them have found employment in other garment factories, in smaller, unregistered subcontracting garment workshops, or in other sectors. Observers estimate that approximately 75 percent of all child workers in the garment industry were dismissed following governmental and industry warnings. International organizations and NGOs pressured the industry to retain the remaining children in order to have an opportunity to establish "safety nets" for them.

In its written testimony to the U.S. Department of Labor's International Child Labor Hearing, the Embassy of Bangladesh noted operations are simple and technology is uncomplicated in the garment industry. Most of the work is performed by women. These women, in the absence of any guardian at home, bring along their children, particularly female ones, for security and day-care, to their places of work. U.S. Departments of Labor and State officials, AAFLI representatives, and other non-governmental organizations, however, have witnessed children on their way to work in the morning, without parents, carrying their tiffins (tin lunch boxes) and holding their time-cards. AAFLI's study found that very few children interviewed had an immediate family member (father, mother, brother, or sister) working in the same factory, but most had a friend or some distant relative who arranged for them to get the job.

Garment factories are located in multi-storied buildings throughout Dhaka including Mirpur, Malibagh and Rampura districts (allegedly one of the worst areas), and the Free School District area. Working conditions in general in Bangladesh are far below western standards. On a par with other factory settings, garment factories are often dimly lit, with poor ventilation, and open for very long hours. However, some factories operate with good lighting and are not overly hot or crowded. The workers, mostly female, work without a break during their shift. Too often the factory doors are locked. Sometimes guards with keys stand by the locked gate; other times no one able to unlock the iron grating is near. Many times the locked gate is the only entrance or exit to a factory. The workers, including children, are frequently locked into their work place at the beginning of the morning shift and not let out until the end of the workday, and in some cases not until the next day. Overtime hours occur during peak periods in the production cycle when manufacturers are rushing to fulfill their export quotas. AAFLI's 1994 survey of garment factories found that, like adult workers, children typically work 10 to 14 hours a day, with a half-day off on Friday.

Children generally are given the less skilled tasks; adults are normally found operating the sewing machines and cutting fabric. Children are confined to cutting and trimming loose threads from completed garments, serving as "helpers" to the sewing machine operators and ironers, as stockers, transporters of garments from one station to another, and finishers who pack the products.

In contrast to some other industries in the Indian sub-continent, children in the garment industry are indeed paid, albeit very little and many times late. Each factory worker must carry an employment identification card which

gives the person's name, hours worked per day, and the daily signature of a supervisor. It is only by presenting this card that an employee can receive his or her monthly wage. In some cases, the employer withholds issuance of the card for the first month or two of employment, and the child is not paid during this period. Interviews with child workers found that supervisors regularly punish misbehavior such as talking while working by docking a day's pay. Eventually the child will earn a wage. Children in some factories do not receive time cards, and often are unaware of their compulsory working hours, monthly salary, or hours of overtime work. Since there are no trade unions for the child workers, they have no bargaining power or recourse to a grievance system.

In its study of 143 garment factories in Bangladesh, the Asian-American Free Labor Institute (AAFLI) reported the salary range is 300 to 500 taka per month (about \$7.69-\$12.82), except for the case of sewing machine operators or ironers who were reportedly paid 750-1,800 taka per month (\$19.23-\$46.15), and that the children are generally paid less than adults. In a recent visit to Bangladesh, a Department of Labor official spoke with children who reported receiving anywhere from 250 to 700 taka per month. Children also reported that, like adult workers, they are often paid two to four weeks late, and rarely paid extra for overtime. There is no paid leave for holidays, and salary is deducted if the child is absent, or for unproductive periods when the electricity in the factory temporarily goes out. Girls under 15 years of age are preferred in these factories, as they work for less, are more likely to be married with no children or domestic responsibilities, and cause no labour problems.

3.4.8 Child beggar:

Both in rural and urban areas child beggar is found. Child labour is a crime. But in Bangladesh, peoples are so poor. They cannot live easily. For this reason, poor people's children do begging on the street. These children work on the streets every day and their number is increasing. They collect money from the people. Also, they sell stuff like books, flowers, newspaper, water etc. Sometimes, the adult beggar rent for begging like infant or children with different kind of diseases. Also, they search food from door to door. They think, it's better for their to beg. Now, children beggars are found in villages, towns and cities. Some children's starts begging, when their mothers go to work outside. Street children cannot get food properly. They earn money 50 taka in a day. Actually the little street children struggle to live being a child.

Now a day, child baggers are doing different kinds of crime. In some area street beggars are proved cheaters. Some able bodies are found pretending lame, dumb or blind. Some, of these children do crime in a day or night. They steal different things or hijack people. Some are addicted in drugs like heroine, cigarette, ganja etc.

3.5: Child in 'Hazardous work'

In Bangladesh, child is working in various hazardous work. What the children considered to be hazardous varied. Some activities like wiping floor, fetching water, hawking. For most it meant where they could hurt themselves such as working near a fire, working with sharp objects, grating

spices, breaking bricks etc. There is also hard work like carrying weights, pulling carts and welding. Generally children feel that, it is up to them to avoid getting hurt or injured. The protection measures that they mentioned were mainly being more careful and attentive, so as not get hurt. Some of the children seemed to have knowledge about protective measures such as gloves or protective goggles. Girls who are brick chipping, they feel this work is hazardous for their health and well being. they were exposed to people on the street and mastans. This type of girls said, they do not talk when they are working.

‘Slavery’

At present, world slavery is totally prohibited. Slavery is social and legal system permitting human beings to be bought and sold in the formal market and forced to work for the purchasers as their private property. The rise of free labour, gradual industrialization and humanist movements from the second half of the nineteenth century made slavery gradually unpopular and socially unacceptable. Bengal is free from slavery from the early twentieth century. As free labor was not available in the market, socially and economically weaker elements in the society were reduced to slave in order to sustain production and maintain their dominance. To continue and sustain public works like constructions and maintenance of public buildings, dams, bridges, highways, the city needed big labor force. People marginalized by famines, wars and caste system were the main victims of slavery. Many of the orphans, paupers, widows also end up on the market. Thugs and other criminal elements kidnapped children for selling them. There were two dominant categories of slaves: Domestic slave and Agrestic slave. Most agrestic slavery was a common feature in Bengal from ancient times the end of nineteenth century. Today, we can not see slavery, but still many people and children work like slavery.

Child workers at poultry firms

The poultry sectors have expanded in Bangladesh. The figures are troubling and child labour is steadily become a unifying social economic problem amongst developed and developing countries. The International Labour Organisation (ILO), reports that based on a nation-wide survey of child trafficking, approximately 19 percent (%) of school children and 40 percent (%) of street children have been forced into child labour. In our country large quantity of child labour include different types of activities like poultry firms to early age due to scarcity. However, they do not get profit continuously due to unhealthy condition. Bird flue is one kind of fever of chicken which some times destroyed our poultry firms. It becomes especially in winter season. Therefore, I think remove the problem should be give them training and development. A large number of child are work in this sector.

Child workers at the city corporation of Dhaka

Child labour is engaged in collecting garbage. They are working under City Corporation. Child labour is common sign in developing countries like Bangladesh. Most of the children are doing their jobs with unhealthy condition to earn. He is supposed goes to the school at this time. But they could not do it due to poverty. In Dhaka city, large number of children is working to clean the city under the city corporation of Dhaka. Most of the children come from slums areas. For their responsibility, they get 750-800 taka per month. However, labour law prevails in Bangladesh, here the minimum wage is per month 1550tk. But they do not follow the government rules.

Sources: The Bangladesh Labour Code 2006 by Nirmal Chandra Paul

Child workers at clay-modeling

Clay-modeling is one of the traditional sectors of Bangladesh. Currently, child labour in Bangladesh is a critical issue. Day by day child labor is growing in different sectors. Scarcity of one's income to maintain his/her family and high density of population are the two main causes of child labour in our country. Different children are involved in different activities to earn. Some children are involved their traditional family jobs like clay modeling. Clay modeling was a tradition of our country earlier. Now this sector is in a bad position in Bangladesh. However, till now parents are sending their little children at hard work to save their family tradition. They do not get minimum facilities from the government and any private organization. As a result, unemployment and illiteracy is continuously increasing. Those families should be given interest free loan facility. In addition, parents should be encouraged to send their children to school.

Child workers at small stores

In Bangladesh, a large number of children are working at small stores. A concern of child labour exists from poverty. Why children go to work? Why poor parents feel children as their assets who will earn money for their home? Are they forced by their parents to go to work? If yes why? Nearly 30% of population in poor countries is poorest of poor who are not even able to earn enough for one day food with big family have to largely depend on children to earn and feed. Dream of education to children is impossible unless suitable employment opportunities made available to at least one person in the family. Simply by opening schools and providing books are not sufficient measures. The reason behind child labour is that poverty and

unemployment. Minimizing poverty and creation of more and more suitable jobs to parents are the only solution of eradication of majority of child labour problem. Our understanding should be little more practical as no parents want their children work at the age when children are to study and play. System of child labour prevails in the countries, which are poor or underdeveloped. Nearly 70% of world's poor live in Asia alone and major contribution made by China, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Afghanistan and Bangladesh.

Child workers at service oriented sector

Child labour is also engaged at various types of service oriented sector. Bangladesh is a developing country and most of the peoples live in under the poverty. As a result large number of child working at difference sectors to income. According to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics Labour Force Survey (1990), there are 5.7 million 10 to 14 year old children working in Bangladesh. Another estimate puts the number at 15 million. Where they go to the school but they cannot go to the school due to poverty. Although Bangladesh government's has creates a law to reduce the child labour. Under Bangladesh law, children must attend school through the fifth grade. Primary education is free and compulsory. The implementation of compulsory education has fallen short in part because parents keep their children out of school, finding school accessories too expensive or preferring their children to be working for money or helping with household chores. Therefore, they ultimately become uneducated peoples and they increase unemployment rate in Bangladesh.

Trafficking in Bangladesh

Every year a large number of children and women are victim of trafficking. Trafficking in woman and children within the territory of Bangladesh is also a common phenomenon. Uneducated and vulnerable woman and children deprived of financial, legal, social support and opportunities easily become victims of internal and cross border trafficking. Most of the children and girls are sold in the brothels engaged in prostitution or in cage brothels in the receiving countries like India, Pakistan and Middle-Eastern countries. The victims are in the being high risk HIV positives. There are two types of trafficking in Bangladesh. One is internal and other is cross border trafficking. In the case of internal trafficking girls and children's are often take away from their homes through abduction, on false promise of better life in good employment. On the other hand, cross border level, they are smuggled by the gang of traffickers to place them further destinations such as India, Pakistan and other Middle Eastern countries where their ultimate fate is a life of sexual exploitation, abuse and other forms of bounded labour. Tiny boys who are trafficked to the Middle East become camel jockeys, which is very risky and hazardous job. The net work of traffickers in Bangladesh are well organized with different of people like local political leaders, smugglers, anti-social activists and some low enforcement personnel also.

Trafficking and Child Prostitution

In the eye of law human trafficking is strictly prohibited. "Trafficking is the illicit and clandestine movements of persons across national borders. with the end goal of forcing women and girl children into sexually or oppressive and exploitative situations for profit of recruiters, traffickers and crime syndicates as well as other illegal activities related to trafficking such as forced domestic labour, false marriage, clandestine employment and false adoption"

The city streets of Bangladesh are undoubtedly where most child prostitutes begin, but it is hardly the end of their story. Among the major causes of child prostitution is the trafficking of girl children across the country's borders to neighbouring regions like India, Pakistan, Nepal.

The human rights activists and agencies estimate that 200-400 young women and children are smuggled out of Bangladesh every month, mostly to Pakistan, while another source reports that approximately 200,000 women and children have been trafficked to the Middle East in the last 20 years. There is also evidence of trafficking to India. Whatever the precise numbers are, it is clear that this illegal activity is on the increase. Girls are mostly sold for prostitution, although some are bought as wives. Children are also sold into bonded labor. Some young boys are sent to the Middle East for use as camel jockeys or for begging.

In a global conference held in Dhaka early in 1999 (27-29 January), Coalition Against Trafficking in Women (CATW) revealed in its Bangladesh Chapter that about 200,000 Bangladeshi women and girls had

been trafficked to Pakistan alone during the past decade. The deliberations in the Conference further revealed quoting reports of UNICEF and SAARC that an average of 4,500 women and children from Bangladesh are annually trafficked across the border while around 14% of the sex workers in Calcutta are Bangladeshi women who have been trafficked at some point of time.

Causes:

The geographic location of Bangladesh is advantageous for the illegal trade of trafficking. It has a long and porous border with India and Myanmar. This makes it convenient procurers or middlemen to traffic children and women across to the neighboring countries.

Poverty, unemployment, lack of opportunities, displacement, illiteracy, lack of awareness, globalization, sex tourism, peculiar social conditions, use of internet for sex trade, increasing migration of labour are the often cited as the main causes of rising incidences of trafficking and sexual exploitations of women and children. About one million people have been displaced during the past decade due to river erosion alone besides development and natural disaster induced displacements. They form the core target group of trafficking as they easily fall prey to the allurements of better job abroad, good living conditions, and for the women, a happy, 'married' life. . The large number of internally displaced persons due to river erosion every year, coupled with victims of natural calamities like floods, cyclones and development induced displaced people create a new section of society who suddenly become landless, homeless and asset less. They migrate to the urban areas in search of jobs and take shelter in slums, sidewalks or any vacant places. The slums and impoverished homesteads are the potential sources of procurement of young girls and minor boys for prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation. Some of the agents pretend to marry the young girls without dowry and the poor parents gladly consent to this so-called arranged marriage.

Nature of victimization of women and children in trafficking:

- Children used as jockey in camel race.
- Young maids forced to provide sexual services to the male members of the household
- Unpaid child labour for domestic work
- Girls forced to entertain foreign guests and high officials
- Girls forced to work in massage parlors and exclusive night clubs
- Sex tourism
- Children and young women used in pornography industry
- Dead bodies of trafficked women and children for organ transplants, use of skeleton, anatomy. Women and children are taken from Bangladesh to India for medical students as there is a scarcity of skeletons in the neighboring country due to ritual of burning dead bodies.
- Living and dead bodies are both used for research.
- Unauthorized adoption of children by foreign couples/families.
- Selling of women and children to brothel owners and forced into prostitution.

Chapter 4: Child Labour: A Global Concern

4.1 World Wide child labour incidents

4.2 Child bonded labour

4.3 Military use of children

4.4 Prostitution of Children

4.5 Trafficking of children

4.6 Cocoa production

4.7 Mining in Africa

4.8 Child Jockeys

4.9 Child Labour in South Asia

In International Arena

Majority of the child labourer live in the developing countries of Latin America, Asia and Africa, but there are also pockets of child labour in many -industrialized countries (Parker, 1997). Globally about 211 million children of 5 to 14 years of age were economically active in the year 2000 (ILO 2002), 60% of whom were in Asia and the Pacific region, including South Asia, and over half of these were engaged in hazardous job. In addition, in the age group of 15 to 17 years 59 million were child labourers (ILO 2002). Some of these children work in factories and other workplaces in the formal economy, but the vast majority work in informal enterprises, agriculture and in homes. Almost all of them exist in the developing countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America. Region-wise details are as under:

Table: 3 Region-Wise Existence of Child Labor

Name of Region	Percentage
Asia	61%
Africa	31.4%
America	07%
Europe	0.6%

Source: CHILD LABOUR: Targeting the intolerable (1996). International Labour Office. Geneva. Switzerland (page 3)

It is evident from Table 1 that Asia comprises major portion of the child labor of the world followed by Africa, America and Europe. Noticeable fact is that in Europe the Child Labor is at negligible extent though it was in a big scale in Europe during industrial revolution. Again, according to UNICEF (2004), 246 million children are engaged in child labor. Of those, almost three-quarters (171 million) work in hazardous situations or

conditions, such as working in mines, working with chemicals and pesticides in agriculture or working with dangerous machinery. Millions of girls work as domestic servants and unpaid household help and are especially vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. Millions of others work under horrific circumstances. They may be trafficked (1.2 million), forced into debt bondage or other forms of slavery (5.7 million), into prostitution and pornography (1.8 million), into participating in armed conflict (0.3 million) or other illicit activities (0.6 million). However, the vast majority of child laborers - 70 per cent or more - work in agriculture. The Regional estimates of UNICEF (2004) indicate that:

- ◆ The Asian and Pacific regions comprise the largest number of child workers in the 5 to 14 age group, 127.3 million in total (19 per cent of children work in the region)
- ◆ Sub-Saharan Africa has an estimated 48 million child workers. Almost one child in three (29 per cent) below the age of 15 works.
- ◆ Latin America and the Caribbean have approximately 17.4 million child workers (16 per cent of children work in the region).
- ◆ Fifteen per cent of children work in the Middle East and North Africa.
- ◆ Approximately 2.5 million children are working in industrialized and transition economies.

The child labor scenario in South Asia has been improved over the last two decades. The data regarding this has been shown in Table 2 below.

Table 4: Children aged 10-14 in the South Asian labor force (% of age group)

Countries	1980	2000
India	21	12
Pakistan	23	15
Bangladesh	15	27
Nepal	56	41
Sri Lanka	04	02

Source: World Bank, 2003

4.1 World Wide child labour incidents

BBC recently reported on Primark using child labour in the manufacture of clothing. In particular a £4.00 hand embroidered shirt was the starting point of a documentary produced by BBC's Panorama (TV series) programme. The programme asks consumers to ask themselves, "Why am I only paying £4 for a hand embroidered top? This item looks handmade. Who made it for such little cost?", in addition to exposing the violent side of the child labour industry in countries where child exploitation is prevalent. As a result of the programme, Primark took action and sacked the relevant companies, and reviewed their supplier procedures.

The Firestone Tire and Rubber Company operate a metal plantation in Liberia which is the focus of a global campaign called Stop Firestone. Workers on the plantation are expected to fulfill a high production quota or their wages will be halved, so many workers brought children to work. The International Labour force organization filed a lawsuit against Firestone (The International Labor Fund vs. The Firestone Tire and Rubber Company) in November 2005 on behalf of current child labourers and their parents who had also been child labourers on the plantation. On June 26, 2007, the judge in this lawsuit in Indianapolis, Indiana denied Firestone's motion to dismiss the case and allowed the lawsuit to proceed on child labour claims.

On November 21, 2005, an Indian NGO activist Junned Khan, with the help of the Labour Department and NGO Pratham mounted the country's biggest ever raid for child labour rescue in the Eastern part of New Delhi, the capital of India. The process resulted in rescue of 480 children from over 100 illegal embroidery factories operating in the crowded slum area of Seelampur. For next few weeks, government, media and NGOs were in a frenzy over the exuberant numbers of young boys, as young as 5-6 year old, released from

bondage. This rescue operation opened the eyes of the world to the menace of child labour operating right under the nose of the largest democracy in the whole world.

Distraught and desperate that these collusions by the custodians of justice, founder of BBA Kailash Satyarthi, Chairperson of Global March Against Child Labour appealed to the Honourable Chief Justice of Delhi High Court through a letter at 11.00 pm. This order by the Honourable Chief Justice came when the government was taking an extremely retrogressive stance on the issue of child labour in sweatshops in India and threatening 'retaliatory measures' against child rights organisations.

In 1997, a research indicated that the number of child labourers in the silk-weaving industry in the district of Kanchipuram in India exceeded 40,000. This included children who were bonded labourers to loom owners. Rural Institute for Development Education undertook many activities to improve the situation of child labourers. Working collaboratively, RIDE brought down the number of child labourers to less than 4,000 by 2007.

In December 2009, campaigners in the UK called on two leading high street retailers to stop selling clothes made with cotton which might have been picked by children. Anti-Slavery International and the Environmental Justice Foundation (EJF) accused H and M and Zara of using cotton suppliers in Bangladesh. It was also suspected that many of their raw materials originated from Uzbekistan, where children aged 10 were forced to work in the fields. The activists were calling to ban the use of Uzbek cotton and implement a "track and trace" systems to guarantee an ethical responsible source of the material.

Concerns have often been raised over the buying public's moral complicity in purchasing products assembled or otherwise manufactured in developing

countries with child labour. However, others have raised concerns that boycotting products manufactured through child labour may force these children to turn to more dangerous or strenuous professions, such as prostitution or agriculture. For example, a UNICEF study found that after the Child Labor Deterrence Act was introduced in the US, an estimated 50,000 children were dismissed from their garment industry jobs in Bangladesh, leaving many to resort to jobs such as "stone-crushing, street hustling, and prostitution", jobs that are "more hazardous and exploitative than garment production". The study suggests that boycotts are "blunt instruments with long-term consequences, that can actually harm rather than help the children involved.

Thomas De Gregori, an economics professor at the University of Houston, in an article published by the Cato Institute, a libertarian think-tank operating in Washington D.C. observe "it is clear that technological and economic changes are vital ingredients in getting children out of the workplace and into schools. Then they can grow to become productive adults and live longer, healthier lives. However, in poor countries like Bangladesh, working children are essential for survival in many families, as they were in our own heritage until the late 19th century. So, while the struggle to end child labour is necessary, getting there often requires taking different routes—and, sadly, there are many political obstacles.

Lawrence Reed, president of the Foundation for Economic Education contends that the infamously brutal child labour conditions during the early industrial revolution were those of "apprentice children" (who were forced to work, even actually sold as slaves, by government-owned workhouse and not those of "free-work children" (those who worked voluntarily). So, the government and State-managed institutions, and not Laissez-faire capitalism,

is to blame. He further contends that, although work conditions of free-work children were far from ideal, those have been wildly exaggerated in such "authoritative" sources as the Sadler report, a fact that even the anti-capitalist Friedrich Engels acknowledged.

Child labour not exists in Bangladesh only, it is found all over the world. The root causes of child domestic labour are multiple and multi-faceted. Poverty and its feminisation, social exclusion, lack of education, gender and ethnic discrimination, domestic violence, displacement, rural-urban migration and loss of parents due to conflicts and diseases, are just some of the multiple "push factors" for child domestic workers worldwide. Throughout the world, thousands of children are working as domestic helpers, performing tasks such as cleaning, ironing, cooking, minding children and gardening. In many countries this phenomenon is not only socially and culturally accepted but might be regarded positively as a protected and non-stigmatized type of work, and therefore preferable to other forms of work, especially for the girl-child. The perpetuation of traditional female roles and responsibilities within and outside the household, and the perception of domestic service as part of a woman's apprenticeship for adulthood and marriage, also contribute to the low recognition of domestic work as a form of economic activity, and of child domestic labour as a form of child labour.

Ignorance of, or disregard for the risks children might be exposed to in this kind of work is an alarming reality in many parts of the world. It is also one of the reasons for the widespread institutional reluctance to address the issue with specific policies and laws and why the issue has only recently come to

the forefront of the international debate as potentially one of the most widespread “worst forms of child labour”.

Given its hidden nature, it is impossible to have reliable figures on how many children are globally exploited as domestic workers. According to the ILO, more girl-children under 16 are in domestic service than in any other category of child labour. Available statistics mostly based on local research and surveys, and certainly only the tip of the iceberg, provide for an alarming indication of the extent of the phenomenon worldwide. Recent IPEC rapid assessments conducted in Asia, Africa and Latin America confirm the overwhelming extent and gravity of this problem.

The hazards linked to this practice are a matter of serious concern. The ILO has identified a number of hazards to which domestic workers are particularly vulnerable and the reason it may be considered to be one of the worst forms of child labour. Some of the most common risks children face in domestic service are:

- long and tiring working days;
- use of toxic chemicals;
- carrying heavy loads;
- handling dangerous items, such as knives, axes and hot pans;
- insufficient or inadequate food and accommodation, and
- humiliating or degrading treatment, including physical and verbal violence, and sexual abuse.

These hazards need to be seen in association with the denial of fundamental rights of the children such as, for example, access to education and health care, the right to rest, leisure, play and recreation and the right to be cared for and to have regular contact with their parents and peers. These factors

can have an irreversible physical, psychological and moral impact on the development, health and well-being of the child.

Given the complexity of its root causes and impact, any effort to adequately and efficiently address child domestic labour must therefore be of a multidisciplinary, multi-faceted and integrated nature, and linked to the broader context of poverty reduction, elimination and prevention of the worst forms of child labour and promotion and enforcement of fundamental labour and human rights.

4.2 Child bonded labour

Child bonded labour is illegal in the eye of law. Despite legislation in place to abolish bonded labour in all South Asian countries, except Bangladesh, bonded labour still affects millions of the poorest and most vulnerable workers in the sub region. Very often, children are involved in bonded labour to repay loans taken by parents. Bonded labour is a critical concern because it perpetuates poverty and hampers economic growth by undermining labour productivity and human capital development and because it is a gross violation of fundamental human rights. Experience shows that extremely poor families, vulnerable to bondage, are caught in a web of social and economic obligations that prevent them from benefiting from development projects.

Forced labour, primarily in the form of debt bondage, is found amongst low castes, minorities, and migrants, who suffer additionally from discrimination and social exclusion. Although most prevalent in traditional agricultural production systems based on sharecropping and casual wage labour, bonded labour in South Asia also occurs in other sectors, including mining, brick kilns, rice mills, carpet weaving, commercial sexual exploitation, match factories, stone cutting, and quarries.

4.3 Military use of children

It is one of the hazardous sectors of the use of children. The military use of children takes three distinct forms: children can take direct part in hostilities (child soldiers), or they can be used in support roles such as porters, spies, messengers, look outs, and sexual slaves; or they can be used for political advantage either as human shields or in propaganda.

Throughout history and in many cultures, children have been extensively involved in military campaigns even when such practices were supposedly against cultural morals. Since the 1970s a number of international conventions have come into effect that try to limit the participation of children in armed conflicts, Nevertheless, the Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers reports that the use of children in military forces, and the active participation of children in armed conflicts is widespread.

The earliest mentions of minors being involved in wars come from antiquity. It was customary for youths in the Mediterranean basin to serve as aides, charioteers and armor bearers to adult warriors. Examples of this practice can be found in the Bible (such as David's service to King Saul), in Hittite and Egyptian art, and in Greek mythology (such as the story of Hercules and Hylas), philosophy and literature.

Also in a practice dating back to antiquity, children were routinely taken on campaign, together with the rest of a military man's family, as part of the baggage. This exposed them to harm from rearguard attacks, such as the one at the battle of Agincourt, where the retainers and children of the English army were massacred by the French.

The Romans also made use of youths in war, though it was understood that it was unwise and cruel to use children in war, and Plutarch implies that regulations required youths to be at least sixteen years of age.

In medieval Europe, young boys from about twelve years of age were used as military aides ("squires"), though in theory their role in actual combat was limited. The so-called Children's Crusade in 1212 recruited thousands of children as untrained soldiers under the assumption that divine power would enable them to conquer the enemy, although none of the children actually entered combat; according to the legend, they were instead sold into slavery. While most scholars no longer believe that the Children's Crusade consisted solely, or even mostly, of children, it nonetheless exemplifies an era in which the entire family took part in a war effort.

Young boys often took part in battles during early modern warfare. One of their more visible roles was as the ubiquitous "drummer boy" – the film *Waterloo* (based on the Battle of Waterloo) graphically depicts French drummer boys leading Napoleon's initial attack, only to be gunned down by Allied soldiers. During the age of sail, young boys formed part of the crew of British Royal Navy ships and were responsible for many important tasks including bringing powder and shot from the ship's magazine to the gun crews. These children were called "powder monkeys". During the Siege of Mafeking in the Second Boer War, Robert Baden-Powell recruited and trained 12-15 year old boys as scouts, thus freeing up the limited number of men for the actual fighting. The boys' success led indirectly to Baden-Powell founding the Boy Scouts, a youth organization originally run along military lines. At the outbreak of the First World War, boys as young as 13 were caught up in the overwhelming tide of patriotism and in huge numbers cheerfully enlisted for active service others to avoid the harsh and dreary lives they had working in British industry. Many were to serve in the bloodiest battles of the war, such as ex-miner Dick Trafford who took part in the Battle of Loos, and Frank Lindley who, seeking to avenge his dead

brother, went over the top on the first day of the Battle of the Somme. Both were just sixteen. Typically many were able to pass themselves off as older men, such as George Thomas Paget, who at 17 joined a Bantam battalion in the Welsh Regiment. George died of wounds in captivity just five weeks after landing in France. George Mahers who served briefly in France when he was just thirteen years and nine months old. He was sent back to England along with five other under-age boys.

Nations and groups involved in military use of children

Peter W. Singer of the Brookings Institution estimated in January 2003 that child soldiers participate in about three quarters of all the ongoing conflicts in the world. According to the website of Human Rights Watch as of July 2007:

Under the terms of Protocol I of the Geneva Conventions, children over the age of fifteen who have volunteered can be used as spotters, observers, and message-carriers. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) has stated that most children serving as soldiers are over fifteen, although many exist at far younger ages.

Africa

The Cape Town Principles and Best Practices, adopted by the NGO Working Group on the Convention on the Rights of Children and UNICEF at a symposium on the prevention of recruitment of children into the armed forces and on demobilization and social regeneration of child soldiers in Africa in April 1997, proposed that African Governments should adopt and ratify the Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict

raising the minimum age from 15 to 18, and that African Governments should ratify and implement other pertinent treaties and incorporate them into national law. The symposium defines a child soldier as any person under age 18 who is "part of any kind of regular or irregular armed force or group in any capacity, including but not limited to cooks, porters, messengers and those accompanying such groups, other than purely as family members. The definition includes girls recruited for sexual purposes and for forced marriage. It does not, therefore, only refer to a child who is carrying or has carried arms.

Burundi

In 2004, hundreds of child soldiers served in the *Forces Nationales pour la Liberation* (FNL), an armed rebel Hutu group. Children between the ages of 10 and 16 were also conscripted by the Burundi's military.

Chad

Child soldiers are fighting with the Chadian Military, integrated rebel forces - the United Front for Democratic Change (*Front Uni pour le Changement*, FUC), local self-defense forces known as *Tora Boro* militias, and two Sudanese rebel movements operating in Chad - the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) and the G-19 faction of the Sudanese Liberation Army (SLA).

Sierra Leone

In *Armies of the Young: Child Soldiers in War and Terrorism* anthropologist David M. Rosen discusses the murders, rapes, tortures, and the thousands of amputations committed by Small Boys Unit of the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) during Sierra Leone's civil war (1991-2001.)

Somalia

A report published by Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers in 2004, estimated that since 1991 200,000 children carried arms or had been recruited in the country's militias.

Sudan

"In March 2004, there were an estimated 17,000 children in government forces, allied militias and opposition armed groups in the north, east and south. Between 2,500 and 5,000 children served in the armed opposition group, the Sudan's People's Liberation Army (SPLA), in the south. Despite a widely publicized child demobilization program, in which it claimed to have demobilized over 16,000 children between 2001 and 2004, the SPLA continued to recruit and re-recruit child soldiers. In 2003 it was reported that armed groups were active in government armed forces, Janjaweed militias, and opposition groups. Former child soldiers were sentenced to death for crimes committed while they were soldiers.

Uganda

Over the past twenty years, the rebel Lord's Resistance Army has abducted more than 30,000 boys and girls as soldiers. Attacks against Uganda's Acholi people have resulted in severe trauma to civilians from extreme violence and abduction. Girls are often forced to be sex slaves. The Uganda People's Defence Force has recruited small numbers of children into its forces as young as 13, including Local Defense Units.

Zimbabwe

The ZANU-PF government of Robert Mugabe sponsors a "youth militia" -- the National Youth Service, members aged between 10-30 are known as the "Green Bombers".

Asia and the Middle East

In 2004, the Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers (CSUCS) reported that in Asia thousands of children are involved in fighting forces in active conflict and ceasefire situations in Afghanistan, Burma, Indonesia, Laos, Philippines, Nepal and Sri Lanka, although government refusal of access to conflict zones has made it impossible to document the numbers involved. In 2004, Burma was unique in the region as the only country where government armed forces forcibly recruit and use children between the ages of 12 and 16.

Australia

The Australian Defense Force allow personnel to be recruited from the age of sixteen and nine months, however they must be aged over seventeen before commencing their training and service. This includes almost all branches of the Army, Navy and Air Force. Parental consent is required, and soldiers under the age of 18 cannot be deployed overseas or used in direct combat unless in exceptional circumstances.

Afghanistan

Militias recruited thousands of child soldiers during the Afghan civil war during three decades. Many would still be fighting now, for the Taliban. Some of those taken from Islamic religious schools, or madrassas, allegedly are used as suicide bombers and gunmen. A propaganda video of boys marching in camouflage uniform and chanting slogans of martyrdom was issued in 2009 by the Afghan Taliban's leadership in Pakistan, the Quetta Shura, including a eulogy to a 14-year-old Taliban fighter who killed an American soldier.

Burma

State Peace and Development Council has stated that controls the government has stated that all of its soldiers volunteered and that all of those accepted are 18 or over. According to Human Rights Watch, as many as 70,000 boys serve in Burma's national army, with children as young as 11 forcibly recruited off the streets. Desertion, the group reported, leads to punishment by three to five years in prison or even execution in some cases. The group has also stated that about 5,000-7,000 children serve with a range of different armed ethnic opposition groups, most notably in the

United State Army. U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon released a report in June 2009 mentioning "grave violations" against children in the country by both the rebels and the government. The administration announced on August 4 that they would send a team into Burma to press for more action.

Iran

Iranian law prohibits the recruitment of those under 16, basing itself on the Koranic traditions about war. However, the state broke those rules in the Iran-Iraq War. In 1984, Iranian President Ali-Akbar Rafsanjani said, "all Iranians from 12 to 72 should volunteer for the Holy War. The child soldiers wore keys around their necks to signify their coming entrance into heaven. *Ettelaat*, an Iranian daily, reported, "Before entering the minefields, the children wrap themselves in blankets and they roll on the ground, so that their body parts stay together after the explosion of the mines and one can carry them to the graves. An unknown number of schoolchildren currently serve in the ranks of the Basij, an Iranian paramilitary force, according to CSUCS. They have reported that the state conscripts for the regular army at age 19- while accepting volunteers at age 16- and those at 17 can work for the police.

Iraq

Saddam Hussein s regime maintained 'boot camps' of civilian youths between the ages of 12 and 17 that involved small arms training and Ba'athist political indoctrination according to the CSUCS. Iraqi opposition sources and the U.S. State Department reported that children who refused faced punishment. As well, the state incorporated children as young as ten

into the *Futuwah* and *Ashbal Saddam* youth movements and then subjected them to military training, sometimes for 14 hours a day. Peter W. Singer has compared the groups to the *Hitler Jugend*. In the Gulf War, 12-year-old boys fought for the Iraqi side with Kalashnikovs. Children also participated in the Iran-Iraq War.

American forces fought children at Nasariya, Karbala, and Kirkuk in the 2003 invasion of Iraq. A January 2009 UN report on the post-war Iraqi occupation stated that the Iraqi insurgency has used children as combatants. The report noted, for example, a suicide bombing attack by a boy between 10 and 13 years old against Kirkuk's police commander. CNN.com called the findings "disturbing". Coalition forces have been forced to take child insurgents as captives, which has led to a moral dilemma. The U.S. has shipped many of them into Abu Ghraib prison.

Kurdistan

The Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) systemically recruits children as young as 7 according to the CSUCS. They have reported that the PKK even formed a battalion specially for this purpose, called *Tabura Zaroken Sehit Agit*. They counted the number of child soldiers at 3,000 in 1998. The Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) also recruits children according to the CSUCS.

Lebanon

Many different sides in the Lebanese Civil War used child soldiers. The practice essentially ended after the peace from 1990 onwards, but factions have made allegations against each other about it since then. A May 2008 CSUCS report stated that Hezbollah trains children for military services. In

April 2009, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon accused several factions of the practice. However, a Human Rights Watch representative told *The Daily Star* that they have not documented any systemic military use of children by anyone.

Nepal

Estimated 6,000-9,000 children serve in the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) forces. Although a peace agreement is in place, the Maoists have not yet demobilized children from their ranks Robert Koenig's documentary, "Returned: Child Soldiers of Nepal's Maoist Army" tells the story of Nepali boys and girls as they attempt to rebuild their lives after fighting in the Maoist revolution against the former government. The children describe their dramatic recruitment and participation in the Maoist People's Liberation Army during the eleven-year civil war between the Maoist insurgents and the Hindu monarchy controlled government of Nepal.

The Philippines

Children are recruited by rebel forces, including the New People's Army, Abu Sayyaf Group, and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front. An estimated 13 percent of the 10,000 soldiers in the Moro Islamic Liberation Front are children. Child recruitment is also reported by some paramilitary forces linked to the government. The New People's Army gave up the use of child soldiers, and instituted a minimum age of 16, acting as couriers, medical volunteers and members of education and propaganda units while 18 is the more preferred age to become members of the force

Sri Lanka

In Sri Lanka, thousands of children were believed to be in the ranks of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Elam (LTTE), a rebel group banned as a terrorist organization by a number of countries. Since signing a ceasefire agreement in 2001, the latest available UNICEF figures show that the LTTE has abducted 5,666 children until July 2006, although the organization speculates that only about a third of such cases are reported to them. Sri Lankan soldiers nicknamed one unit the *Baby Battalion*, due to the number of children in it. In response to widespread international condemnation of alleged children recruitment practices, the LTTE informed that they have made (taking effect in Oct. 2006) child recruitment illegal for its groups.

Mandatory Palestine

Historically, In *Armies of the Young: Child Soldiers in War and Terrorism* Anthropologist David M. Rosen discusses the creation of troops of boys aged twelve and up, modeled on the Hitler Youth, and armed by the Arab Nazi party in Palestine and that carried out military attacks as part of the 1936–1939 Arab revolt in Palestine. Yassir Arafat grew up in this era and was both a child soldier and an organizer of other youth, emerging as a militant political leader by age ten. During the same period, very young children of Zionist settlers were allowed to take part in military activities in the same area, committing numerous hostilities both against Palestinians and against the British authorities. They train for a year.

Jihad Shomaly, in a report entitled *Use of Children in the Occupied Palestinian Territories*, published in 2004 for the Defense for Children International/Palestine Section, concludes the report by stating that a handful

of children perceive martyrdom a way to strike a blow against those they hold responsible for their hopeless situation, and that they have been recruited by Palestinian paramilitary groups to carry out armed attacks. However, Shomaly goes on to state that there is no systematic recruitment and that senior representatives of the groups and the Palestinian community are against the recruitment of children as a political strategy, although in Shomaly's opinion the political leadership of the Palestinians could do more to discourage the use of children by paramilitaries by requesting that the leadership of the paramilitaries sign a memorandum forbidding the training and recruitment of children. Shomaly also points out that the "State of Israel too regularly and covertly flouts binding regulations prohibiting the recruitment of child soldiers. Using violence, intimidation or blackmail, it coerces Palestinian children into acting as informers, violating their rights and endangering their lives.

William O'Brien, a professor of Georgetown University, wrote about active participation of Palestinian children in the First Intifada: "It appears that a substantial number, if not the majority, of troops of the intifada is young people, including elementary schoolchildren. They are engaged in throwing stones and Molotov cocktails and other forms of violence. Arab journalist Huda Al-Hussein wrote in a London Arab newspaper on October 27, 2000: "While UN organizations save child-soldiers, especially in Africa, from the control of militia leaders who hurl them into the furnace of gang-fighting, some Palestinian leaders... consciously issue orders with the purpose of ending their childhood, even if it means their last breath.

In 2002, the Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers said "while there are reports of children participating in hostilities, there is no evidence of systematic recruitment by armed groups [in the Occupied Territories]", with

less than 1% of Palestinian adolescents having played an active role in clashes with Israeli troops. According to the CSUCS 2004 Global Report on the Use of Child Soldiers, there were at least nine documented suicide attacks involving Palestinian minors between October 2000 and March 2004 but also stated, "There was no evidence of systematic recruitment of children by Palestinian armed groups. However, children are used as messengers and couriers, and in some cases as fighters and suicide bombers in attacks on Israeli soldiers and civilians. All the main political groups involve children in this way, including Fatah, Hamas, Islamic Jihad, and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. In May 2008, a CSUCS report highlighted Hamas and Islamic Jihad for having "used children in military attacks and training" in its Iranian section.

On May 23, 2005, Amnesty International reiterated its calls to Palestinian armed groups to put an immediate end to the use of children in armed activities: "Palestinian armed groups must not use children under any circumstances to carry out armed attacks or to transport weapons or other material. In October 2010, an Israeli military tribunal convicted two Israel Defense Forces soldiers of using an 11-year-old Palestinian child as a human shield during Operation Cast Lead.

Yemen

U.N. Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict Radhika Coomaraswamy stated in January 2010 that "large numbers" of teenage boys are being recruited in tribal Yemeni fighting. NGO activist Abdul-Rahman al-Marwani has estimated that as many as 500-600 children are either killed or wounded through tribal combat every year in Yemen.

Europe

Chechnya

According to the UN report, the Chechen separatist forces included a large number of children, some as young as 11 (including girls), during the First Chechen War: *"Child soldiers in Chechnya were reportedly assigned the same tasks as adult combatants, and served on the front lines soon after joining the armed forces."* In 2004 the Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers reported that in Chechnya, under-18s are believed to be involved in a range of armed groups in the war against Russia, although the numbers are impossible to establish given a virtual ban on media and human rights organizations from operating in the region. Some children allegedly took part in suicide bombings.

Italy

Italy allows boys and girls as young as 17 years of age, with parental consent and in possession of a high school diploma, to join a military academy where they receive both university-grade education and the necessary training to start a military career as commissioned officers; in no case, anyway, those cadets can be deployed in military operations.

United Kingdom

The minimum age to join the British Army is 16 and a half; parental permission is required for those under the age of 18. Approximately forty percent of Britain's military forces joined when they were 16 or 17 years of age. The UK adopted the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, on the involvement of children in armed conflict on 24 June

2003. The Convention calls on ratifying governments to do everything feasible to ensure that members of their armed forces who are under 18 years of age do not take part in hostilities (however in Scotland, the age of majority is 16 and thus 16-17 year olds would not be considered children), however between June 2003 and July 2005, the British government inadvertently sent fifteen 17-year-old soldiers to Iraq, explaining the mistake as due to "the pressures on units prior to deployment.

North America

United States

In the United States, 17-year-olds may join the armed forces, but may not be stationed outside the continental US or deployed in combat situations. The United States military is based on voluntary recruitment, though minors must have parental permission to enlist (or permission from a legal guardian in the absence of parents). Males under eighteen years of age are not draft eligible, and females are not eligible for conscription at any age. The United States military requires all soldiers to possess a high school diploma or equivalent; this requirement may be waived for young soldiers for up to 180 days from the date of enlistment (with the agreement that the child obtains a high school diploma or equivalent within 180 days) and during wartime.

In 2004, the Director of Military Personnel Policy for the US Army acknowledged in a letter to Human Rights Watch that nearly 60 17-year old US soldiers had been deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan in 2003 and 2004. The Department of Defense subsequently stated that "the situations were immediately rectified and action was taken to prevent recurrence".

Human Rights Watch sent written requests in April and August 2007 for updated information regarding possible deployment of 17-year-old US troops to Iraq or Afghanistan, but as of October 2007 had not received any response.

Two protesters in Toronto demonstrated against the American policy of holding child soldiers as enemy combatants in Guantanamo Bay.

In 2008, ACLU stated in a report on "Abusive U.S. Military Recruitment and Failure to Protect Child Soldiers" that "By exposing children younger than 17 to military recruitment, the United States military violates the terms of the Optional Protocol [on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict]."

The United States has detained minors during their War on Terror. Omar Khadr, a 15 year old Canadian citizen, arrested in Afghanistan in 2002, and held at Guantanamo for five years was one of the first detainees to be charged before a military commission. Human Rights Watch charge that, "the US government incarcerated him with adults, reportedly subjected him to abusive interrogations, failed to provide him any educational opportunities, and denied him any direct contact with his family. In 2004, three Afghan children were released from Guantanamo, believed to be between the ages of 13 and 15 at the time of their capture, to rehabilitation programs operated by UNICEF in Afghanistan.

Latin America

Bolivia

The government of Bolivia has acknowledged that children as young as 14 may have been forcibly conscripted into the armed forces during recruitment sweeps. About 40% of the Bolivian army is believed to be under the age of 18, with half of those below the age of 16.

Colombia

In 2005, an estimated 11,000 children were involved with left-wing guerrillas or right-wing paramilitaries in Colombia according to Human Rights Watch and "[approximately 80 percent of child combatants in Colombia belonged to one of the two left-wing guerrilla groups, the FARC or ELN. The remainder fought in paramilitary ranks. According to Peter W. Singer, the FARC attack upon the Guatapé hydroelectric facility in 1998 had allegedly involved militants as young as 8 years old and a 2001 FARC training video depicted boys as young as 11 working with missiles. The group also took in children from Venezuela, Panama, and Ecuador.

In 1998, a Human Rights Watch press release indicated that 30 percent of some guerrilla units were made up of children and up to 85 percent of some of the militias, which were considered to serve as a "training ground for future guerrilla fighters. In the same press release, Human Rights Watch also estimated that some of the government-linked paramilitary units contained up to 50 percent children, including some as young as 8 years old.

In 2008, the Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers reported that the Colombian government's security forces did not officially recruit children. The legal age for both compulsory and voluntary recruitment had been set at

18. However, students were allowed to enroll as cadets in military secondary schools and 16 or 17 year olds could enter air force or national army training programs, respectively. In addition, captured enemy child combatants were employed by the Colombian military for intelligence gathering purposes in potential violation of legal prohibitions.

Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos

In the most notorious case, the *Khmer Rouge* communist group exploited thousands of desensitized conscripted children to commit mass murders and other inhuman acts during the Cambodian genocide. The brainwashed child soldiers were taught to follow any order without hesitation.

Sierra Leone

Thousands of children were recruited and used by all sides during Sierra Leone's conflict (1993–2002), including the Revolutionary United Front (RUF), the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC), and the pro-government Civil Defense Forces (CDF). Children were often forcibly recruited, given drugs and used to commit atrocities. Thousands of girls were also recruited as soldiers and often subjected to sexual exploitation. Many of the children were survivors of village attacks, while others were found abandoned. They were used for patrol purposes, attacking villages, and guarding workers in the diamond fields. In his book *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Child Soldier*.

In June 2007, the Special Court for Sierra Leone found three accused men from the rebel Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC) guilty of war

crimes, crimes against humanity, and other serious violations of international humanitarian law, including the recruitment of children under the age of 15 years into the armed forces. With this, the Special Court became the first-ever UN backed tribunal to deliver a guilty verdict for the military conscription of children.

Uganda

Originally created to protect Northern Ugandans from the 1986 military coup by the People's National Resistance Army, Joseph Kony began the LRA - Lord's Resistance Army in 1987. Stating that he "received messages from God" Kony began attacking his own people - the Acholi - to establish a new theocratic government in Uganda based on the principles of the "Ten Commandments of God." This attempt by the LRA to gain control of the Ugandan government via roaming armies has used boy as well as girl-children as soldiers. The LRA expansion into South Sudan, Central African Republic and the DRC - Democratic Republic of Congo has armies with children active in efforts to destabilize the regions by the displacement of civilians through abduction and extreme violence. A 21 Oct, 2008 appeal by the UN Security Council, was made asking the LRA to cease all military actions causing humanitarian violations in the DRC immediately. On 14 June 2002, Uganda deposited its instrument of ratification of the Rome Statute, and on 16 December 2003, the Government of Uganda referred the situation concerning Northern Uganda to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC). The ICC investigated the situation, and on 14 October, 2005, issued indictments against Lord's Resistance Army leader Joseph Kony, and four other commanders, (Vincent Otti, Raska Lukwiya, Okot Odhiambo and Dominic Ongwen) for war crimes. The warrant for Kony, Otti and Odhiambo included the alleged crime of forced enlisting of children (Rome Statute Art. 8(2)(e)(vii)).

4.4 Prostitution of Children

Prostitution of children or child prostitution is a form of child sexual abuse involving the commercial sexual exploitation of children in which a child performs the services of prostitution, for financial benefit. The term normally refers to prostitution by a minor, or person under the local age of majority. In many countries there are specific laws against child prostitution which may include people who are older than the local age of consent.

The form of child prostitution in which people travel to foreign countries for the purposes of avoiding laws in their country of residence is known as child sex tourism.

A customer may negotiate an exchange directly with a child prostitute in order to receive sexual gratification, or through an intermediary (pimp) who controls or oversees the prostitute's activities for profit. The provision of children for sexual purposes may also be an object of exchange between adults. Many children are prostituted over the Internet with the use of webcams to facilitate this abuse, and child pornography may be linked to the prostitution.

The Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography to the Convention on the Rights of the Child states that child prostitution is the practice whereby a child sells his or her body for sexual activities in return for remuneration or any other form of consideration. The remuneration or other consideration could be provided to the prostitute or to another person. The 131 countries who are parties to the Optional Protocol (at May 2009) undertake to prohibit child prostitution.

The Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (Convention No 182) of the International Labour Organization(ILO) provides that the "use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution" is one of the "worst forms

of child labour. This convention, adopted in 1999, provides that countries that had ratified it must eliminate the practice urgently. It enjoys the fastest pace of ratifications in the ILO's history since 1919.

It was the limitations of the term child prostitution that led to the development in the mid-1990s of the term commercial sexual exploitation of children, or CVE, as a more encompassing description of specific forms of sexual trade involving children. Nevertheless, 'child prostitution' remains in common usage and is indeed the wording embedded in international instruments of law.

Some believe that the terms child prostitution and child prostitute carry problematic connotations. They claim this is because these terms, on their own, fail to make it clear that children are generally not expected to be able to make an informed choice to prostitute themselves. The act of prostituting a child is sometimes carried out by another party, as stated in the definition provided by the Special Reporter on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

4.5 Trafficking of children

Trafficking of children is a form of human trafficking. It is defined as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receiving of children for the purpose of exploitation.

Commercial sexual exploitation of children can take many forms, including forcing a child into prostitution, other forms of sexual activity, or child pornography. Child exploitation can also include forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude, the removal of organs, illicit international adoption, trafficking for early marriage, recruitment as child soldiers, for use in begging, as athletes (such as child camel jockeys or football players), or for recruitment for cults.

According to international legislation, in the case of children, the use of force or other forms of coercion, such as abduction, fraud, deception, the abuse of power, or a position of vulnerability does not need to be present in order for the crime to be considered trafficking. The UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children also defines child trafficking as trafficking in human beings. The International Labor Organization convention 182 defines it as a form of child labor.

There are potential links between trafficking and migration. When people move from place to place at local, national, or international levels, they are likely to become more vulnerable, particularly at times of political crisis or in the face of social or economic pressures. Whether driven by desperate situations or motivated to seek better opportunities in life, they may willingly consent to being smuggled across a border. Once transported across the border, they may find themselves abducted into a trafficking network, unable to escape and without access to legal advice or protection.

4.6 Cocoa production

In 1998, UNICEF reported that Ivory Coast farmers used enslaved children – many from surrounding countries. In late 2000, a BBC documentary reported the use of enslaved children in the production of cocoa—the main ingredient in chocolate— in West Africa. Other media followed by reporting widespread child slavery and child trafficking in the production of cocoa. In 2001, the US State Department estimated that there were 15,000 child slaves in cocoa, cotton and coffee farms in the Ivory Coast, and the Chocolate

Manufacturers Association acknowledged that child slavery was used in the cocoa harvest.

Malian migrants have long worked on cocoa farms in the Ivory Coast, but in 2000, cocoa prices had dropped to a 10-year low and some farmers stopped paying their employees. The Malian counsel had to rescue some boys who had not been paid for five years and who were beaten if they tried to run away. Malian officials believed that 15,000 children, some as young as 11 years old, were working in the Ivory Coast in 2001. These children were often from poor families or the slums and were sold to work in other countries. Parents were told the children would find work and send money home, but once the children left home, they often worked in conditions resembling slavery. In other cases, children begging for food were lured from bus stations and sold as slaves. In 2002, the Ivory Coast had 12,000 children with no relatives nearby, which suggested they were trafficked, likely from neighboring Mali, Burkina Faso and Togo.

The cocoa industry was accused of profiting from child slavery and trafficking. The European Cocoa Association dismissed these accusations as "false and excessive" and the industry said the reports were not representative of all areas. Later the industry acknowledged the working conditions for children were unsatisfactory and children's rights were sometimes violated and acknowledged the claims could not be ignored. In a BBC interview, the ambassador for Ivory Coast to the United Kingdom called these reports of widespread use of slave child labour by 700,000 cocoa farmers as absurd and inaccurate.

In 2001, a voluntary agreement called the Harkin-Engel Protocol, was accepted by the international cocoa and chocolate industry to eliminate the worst forms of child labour, as defined by ILO Convention 182, in West

Africa. This agreement created a foundation named International Cocoa Initiative in 2002. The foundation claims it had, as of 2011, active programs in 290 cocoa growing communities in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, reaching a total population of 689,000 to help eliminate the worst forms of child labour in cocoa industry. Other organisations claim progress has been made, but the protocol's 2005 deadlines have not yet been met.

4.7 Mining in Africa

In 2008, Bloomberg claimed child labour in copper and cobalt mines that supplied Chinese companies in Congo. The children are *creuseurs*, that is they dig the ore by hand, carry sacks of ores on their backs, and these are then purchased by these companies. Over 60 of Katanga's 75 processing plants are owned by Chinese companies and 90 percent of the region's minerals go to China. An African NGO report claimed 80,000 child labourers under the age of 15, or about 40% of all miners, were supplying ore to Chinese companies in this African region.

BBC, in 2012, accused Glencore of using child labour in its mining and smelting operations of Africa. Glencore denied it used child labour, and said it has strict policy of not using child labour. The company claimed it has a strict policy whereby all copper was mined correctly, placed in bags with numbered seals and then sent to the smelter. Glencore mentioned being aware of child miners who were part of a group of artisanal miners who had without authorization raided the concession awarded to the company since 2010; Glencore has been pleading with the government to remove the artisanal miners from the concession

Small-scale artisanal mining of gold is another source of dangerous child labour in poor rural areas in certain parts of the world. This form of mining uses labour-intensive and low-tech methods. It is informal sector of the economy. Human Rights Watch group estimates that about 12 percent of global gold production comes from artisanal mines. In west Africa, in countries such as Mali - the third largest exporter of gold in Africa - between 20,000 and 40,000 children work in artisanal mining. Locally known as *orpaillage*, children as young as 6 years old work with their families. These children and families suffer chronic exposure to toxic chemicals including mercury, and do hazardous work such as digging shafts and working underground, pulling up, carrying and crushing the ore. The poor work practices harm the long term health of children, as well as release hundreds of tons of mercury every year into local rivers, ground water and lakes. Gold is important to the economy of Mali and Ghana. For Mali, it is the second largest earner of its export revenue. For many poor families with children, it is the primary and sometimes the only source of income.

4.8 Child Jockeys:

From Asian countries including Pakistan, India and Bangladesh are working on slave labour as child camel jockeys in miserable circumstances in UAE and Middle East and Arab countries. A lots of child is faced miserable conditions for which one cannot even imagine. These innocent children of humanity are living in iron tents, without electricity in the temperature of above 50 degree centigrade (above 100 degree Fahrenheit), where the sexual abuse is common. These children come from Pakistan, Bangladesh, Srilanka, Sudan, Ethiopia and other parts of the world. Years of abuse has led these children to have their upper legs flesh rubbed away, their bones being

damaged as well as their body structures. The gruesome idea of making these innocent children disabled at such a young age is an enjoyable sport! Injuries are a common factor; over the years the injury deteriorates and causes long term defects in the lower part of the body. They even lost their sexual ability because of use them as child camel jockeys from the age of one and a half year or start from two years of age and used them till the age of seven. These children will face problems once and if they start a family. The riding and rubbing on the camels continuously will be damaging on their sexuality. The ill treatment of these employers and traffickers is very upsetting but very true. Some children are also abused and taken advantage of by traffickers and their employers.

"These children are purposely underfed so that their weights are kept down."The food there given in the camps is very dirty and unhygienic. They have to feed the camels, but are beaten if they try to eat the animal good food. They are allowed to eat only half bread in 24 hours. They get up early 3 o'clock in the morning and go to sleep at 9 at night; they work for 18 hours a day, while the ages of these children are one and a half year old to six years. They are continuously on slave labour without any rest, 7 days a week and 375 days a year and work for 18 hours per day. "They sleep in hot, crowded huts made from corrugated iron sheets. It is boiling hot out in the desert yet they have to train twice or three times a day. Its hard and painful work and, after a while, the boys have permanent damage to their sexual organs from bouncing up and down on the camels."

During training and in races, they often fall down and are badly injured or crushed to death. Because its illegal to keep underage jockeys, they never receive medical treatment and some of them die very painful deaths. Their bodies are just buried out in the desert in unmarked graves .He said, the uses

of children as jockeys in camel racing are extremely dangerous and mostly result in serious injury and even death. Children are as young as one and a half year that are used and abused by these very people who have no heart and no fear.

4.9 Child Labour in South Asia

Bangladesh situated in South Asia. South Asia is a over populated region of the worlds. The geographical coverage for South Asia includes: Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Afghanistan and Iran. This review focuses on national legislation and polices relating to child labour, government polices and programmes as well as IPEC interventions specific to each country.

Child labour are largely found in South Asia. Based on officially available statistics, it is estimated that there are 21.6 million children, aged between 5 and 14 years, working in South Asia out of a total of 300 million children in this age group.

Table: 5 CDL in South Asia

Country	Working Children (5-14 years)	Total number of children (5-14 years)
Bangladesh	5.05 million (4)	60 million
India	12.6 million (5)	253 million
Nepal	1.660 million (6)	6.225 million
Pakistan	3.3 million (7)	40 million
Sri Lanka	0.475 million (8)	3.18 million

Source: UNDP report-2012

The factors that contribute to child labour in South Asia include parental poverty and illiteracy; social and economic circumstances; lack of awareness; lack of access to basic and meaningful quality education and skills, internal conflict, migration and trafficking and high rates of adult unemployment and under-employment. Attitudes towards child labour also play an important role. In South Asia, children are perceived as 'adults' at an early stage. Children are expected to perform physical work equivalent to an adult as early as 10 years old in some countries.

There is a great deal of commonality across the South Asian countries in the forms of child labour, most notably in the areas of:

- Child domestic labour;
- Children in hazardous child labour;
- Children in export oriented industries, much of it is home-based;
- Child trafficking and migration (both internally and across borders);
- Child bonded labour particularly in agriculture; and
- Child labour in the informal economy, particularly in urban areas.

Child domestic labour

Child domestic labour exists in South Asia. Both rural and urban areas are found it. In South Asia, child domestic labour (CDL) is culturally accepted and commonly practiced. CDL refers to situations where children are engaged to perform domestic tasks in the home of a third party or employer. Where child domestic labour is exploitative and includes trafficking, slavery, or practices similar to slavery, or work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is hazardous and likely to harm the health, safety, or morals of the child, it constitutes a worst form of child labour as defined in the International Labour Organization (ILO) Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (No. 182), 1999.

Table: 6 CDL is prevalent in every country of South Asia:

Country	Known CDL population
Bangladesh (10)	300,000
India (11)	20% of all children under 14 years working outside the family home are in domestic service
Nepal (12)	62,000 children under 14 years
Pakistan (13)	264,000 children working in 'personal and social services'
Sri Lanka (14)	19,000

Source: ILO report 2012

Children working in hazardous sectors

A large number of children are engaged in hazardous work. The ILO Convention No. 182 (Article 3d) defines hazardous child labour as 'work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety, or morals of children'.

According to the Government of India, there are 2 million children working in hazardous industries. Examples of hazardous occupations include brick manufacturing, stone quarrying, fireworks manufacturing, lock making and glassware production. An ILO study on hazardous child labour in Bangladesh found that more than 40 types of economic activities carried out by children were hazardous to them. The survey also revealed that except for light work, child labour usually had harmful consequences on the mental and physical development of children.

In Pakistan, it was found that of the total population of child labourers, 7 per cent suffered from illness/ injuries frequently and 28 per cent occasionally. The majority of children suffering from illness/injuries were found in agricultural activities. The situation in Sri Lanka seems to be less problematic since, according to a child activity survey nearly 90 per cent of the working children in the age group of 5-17 years have never experienced a health or safety hazard due to the activity in which they were engaged. In Nepal, identified hazardous sectors include construction, transportation and production, and especially the bidi and carpet industries.

Children working in export-oriented industries

In South Asia industrialization has expanded largely. Export industries in South Asia involve a large number of child labourers mainly in the supply chain. The main export industries include carpet, footwear, soccer balls and garments in Pakistan and India, surgical instruments in Pakistan, and garments in Bangladesh.

In 1995, before the BGMEA/ILO/UNICEF project in Bangladesh started, nearly 43 per cent of the garment factories employed children. By 2003, this figure had been reduced to around 1 per cent. In Pakistan's carpet industry, which is 95 per cent export oriented, the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) estimated in 2001 that about 206,194 children were employed as full-time labourers. Following the IPEC Carpets project in Pakistan, 24,359 children were withdrawn and 5,217 children were prevented from entering this sector through the provision of educational services and training opportunities.

Child trafficking situation in South Asia

In South Asia, there is trafficking in children both internally and across national borders (from Bangladesh and Nepal to Pakistan and India, and from South Asia to South-East Asia and the Middle East). Victims end up in various forms of sexual and labour exploitation, i.e. doing domestic work, working in factories, on the streets, and as jockeys in camel races.

In the past few years, overwhelming attention has been paid to cross-border trafficking and trafficking for sexual exploitation. More recently, internal child trafficking and migration are also being highlighted.

A common feature of child trafficking is that young girls and boys are trafficked from rural communities to urban areas and even to another country or region. Indicators in the hardest-hit sending areas show that the practice is internalised as a strategy to cope with poverty. Other factors contributing to child trafficking are an increasing rate of unsafe migration, weak law enforcement, insufficient household income, ill-treatment and physical abuse at home and in the community, parental alcoholism, lack of food, and forced marriages.

Nepal's and Sri Lanka's experiences show that children can be easily drawn into armed conflicts. Likewise, gender inequality manifested through domestic violence, forced marriages, and the stigma against women without spouses can increase women's and children's vulnerability to child trafficking.

Table 7: The degree of child trafficking in South Asia:

Country	Cross-border trafficking
Bangladesh	13,220 children smuggled out of the country between 1990 and 1995 (22)
India	12,000-50,000 women and children trafficked every year into the country from neighbouring states for the sex trade (23)
Nepal	12,000 girls trafficked every year from Nepal and across borders (24)
Pakistan	200,000 women and children trafficked from Bangladesh to Pakistan between 1990 and 2000 (26)
Sri Lanka	More than 19,000 boys aged 2-11 years have been trafficked as camel jockeys from Pakistan to the Middle East (27)

Source: UNDP report 2011

Chapter 5: Child labour: Policy and Legislation

5.1 National Legislation and Policies against Child Labour in Bangladesh

5.2 ILO and UN Conventions

5.3 National policies and programmes

5.4 Laws of Bangladesh

5.5 ILO standards on rights at work

5.1 National Legislation and Policies Against Child Labour in Bangladesh

Bangladesh has long been actively participating country in the global campaign to prevent and eliminate child labour. Bangladesh began the implementation of the International Labour Organization's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) country programme in 1995. IPEC's aim is the progressive elimination of child labour worldwide, with the eradication of the worst forms an urgent priority.

Legislation

Article 20 of the Constitution of Bangladesh refers to work as a right and a duty and a matter of honour of every citizen who is capable of working. Article 28 of the Constitution empowers the State to make special provisions for the benefit of children.

The Government of Bangladesh, through the Ministry of Labour and Employment has reviewed all fragmented laws related to child labour with a view to fixing a uniform age for admission to work and to prohibit their engagement in hazardous occupations. According to the Labour Act (2006) the minimum age for admission to work is 14 years to 18 years for hazardous work. Further, light work for children between the ages of 12 - 14 years is defined as non-hazardous work that does not impede education.

Other laws that define the rights and protections due to children are:

- The Children Act (1974) and the Children Rules (1976);
- The Bonded Labour Act, 2006;
- The Suppression of Violence against Women and Children Act (2000); and
- The Compulsory Primary Education Act, 1990.

5.2 ILO and UN Conventions

Bangladesh has ratified:

- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child;
- ILO Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labour (No. 182);
- ILO Night Work of Young Persons (Industry) Convention, (No. 6);
- ILO Night Work of Young Persons (Industry Revised) Convention (No. 90);
- ILO Minimum Age (Trimmers and Stockers) Convention (No. 15);
- ILO Minimum Age (Industry Revised) Convention (No. 59);
- ILO Forced Labour Convention (No. 29);
- ILO Abolition of Forced Labour Convention (No. 105);

5.3 National policies and programmes

As a result of various research studies, the lack of awareness of child labour in the 1990s within the Government and civil society and several initiatives to combat the problem were taken by the Government of Bangladesh. In 1990, Bangladesh became a signatory to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the ensuing Summit Declaration and Plan of Action. In the same year, Bangladesh passed the Primary Education Act and, in 1993, it established the compulsory primary education system for children aged 6 years and above. At the same time, the Government adopted the National Children Policy and formulated the first National Plan of Action for Children (1991 - 96). The child labour problem was however, first identified in the second National Plan of Action for Children (1997 - 2002).

In collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP), the Government started the Food for Education Programme in 1993 with the aim to attract poor children and their families to primary education. With the setting-up of the Primary and Mass Education Division in 1992 and the Directorate of Non-Formal Education in 1996, the Government introduced another initiative to tackle the high drop out and low attendance rates in the formal school system.

In March 2001, the Government ratified ILO Convention No. 182 and that year, the Ministry of Labour and Employment initiated the development of National Policy on Child Labour. The Third National Plan of Action for Children (2004 - 09) addresses the issue of the worst forms of child labour and provides information on planned interventions for the next five-year period.

The Ministry of Labour and Employment has also implemented a USAID funded project aimed at the Eradication of Hazardous Labour in Bangladesh. Interventions under this project, which covers areas in Dhaka and Chittagong Municipal Corporations, included non-formal education and skills training for working children and micro-credit support to their guardians/parents.

5.4 Laws of Bangladesh

A. National Child Labour Laws

Bangladesh has some 25 special laws and ordinances to protect and improve the status of children. The current laws, however, present a confusing maze of conflicting provisions regulating child labour. Under existing law, the minimum age for employment may be variously interpreted as anywhere

between 12 and 16. In 1993, the Government of Bangladesh formed a National Labour Law Commission to revise and harmonize labour laws. The first draft of the recommendations, completed on March 31, 1994, propose to eliminate the inconsistencies regarding the minimum age for employment by defining a child as "a person who has not completed his fourteenth year of age." The draft further provides that "no child shall be employed or permitted to work in any occupation or establishment." According to the Joint Secretary for Labour, these provisions, if enacted, would supersede and control all other labour laws related to children.

Current laws include The Factories Act of 1965, which prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 in any factory. This law also stipulates that young workers (i.e. children and adolescents) are only allowed to work a maximum 5-hour a day and only between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. The penalty for violation of this Act (Article 44(1)) is a fine up to 1,000 taka. The Employment of Children Act, 1938 (as amended in 1974) prohibits employment of children under 14 years in a factory. Other laws include the Shops and Establishments Act 1965 and the Children's Act 1974 and Children's Rules, 1976.

The government agency responsible for enforcing child labour laws, the Bangladesh Department of Labor and Inspectorate of Factories, lacks sufficient resources, staff and logistical support to adequately perform the task of monitoring child labour laws. The Government of Bangladesh also maintains that employers and factory owners/managers evade labor laws. It should be noted, however, that the government has instructed the garment industry not to use child labour. The Labour Ministry was however, unable to provide information to the Department of Labour official regarding inspections of garment factories or prosecutions or convictions of factory owners for violating the Factories Act or the Employment of Children Act.

B. Education Laws

Under Bangladesh law, children must attend school through the fifth grade. Primary education is free and compulsory, although not compulsory for girls in the rural areas. The implementation of compulsory education has fallen short in part because parents keep their children out of school, finding school accessories too expensive or preferring their children to be working for money or helping with household chores. The government policy was to implement compulsory education to the extent of 50 percent in the country by 1995 and 100 percent by the year 2000. The 1994 report by the Asian-American Free Labour Institute, however, revealed that, despite this policy on compulsory education, there had not been much progress. The Government of Bangladesh contend that it does not have the resources. A UNICEF sponsored study on non-formal education and child labor in Bangladesh noted that parents found purchasing uniforms, books, and other supplies a significant burden, especially for poor families, and presumably a major disincentive for sending their children to school rather than to work.

C. International Conventions

Bangladesh is a party to ILO Convention No. 59 Concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment in Industry and the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child. Bangladesh has not ratified ILO Convention No. 138 Concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment.

Programs and Efforts To Address Child Labour

Some significant steps have been taken by the Government of Bangladesh, the BGMEA, international organizations, and NGOs to create solutions and

alternatives for child workers. In its written testimony to the U.S. Department of Labor, the Government of Bangladesh listed official efforts either taken or planned for the future. Some of the efforts include a realization of the objectives of the Rights of the Child Convention (a National Program of Action for Children launched on June 2, 1992); examination by the National Labor Law Commission on existing labour laws with the goal of updating and consolidating them into a "Labour Code,"; strictly enforcing child labor laws; continuing to publish notices containing the provisions of laws relating to child employment in daily newspapers and broadcasting prohibitory messages over TV and radio; and distributing posters prohibiting child labour.

The government is cooperating with international organizations such as UNICEF to develop non-formal educational and other support programs for working children. The government has reportedly also agreed to allow the ILO to conduct a national survey of child workers.

On July 4, 1994, the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) announced that it would eliminate child labour from all garment factories by October 31, 1994. On May 5, 1994, Mr. Redwan Ahmed, president of the BGMEA, announced that in addition to setting up a hospital for garment workers, the BGMEA also planned to give informal education, professional training, and to provide health care facilities to the employees of the apparel sector by setting up seven clinic/hospitals and seven training center/schools in Dhaka and Chittagong.

On many occasions both publicly and privately, the BGMEA has expressed its willingness to work with NGOs, international organizations and the government to establish programs for children. Although the BGMEA presumably has a vital interest in ensuring that the garment industry is free

of child labour, as of this writing, only one of the above-mentioned programs or cooperative efforts proposed by the BGMEA recently has been implemented. At its July 4, 1994 news conference, the BGMEA inaugurated one small school/clinic for children in Dhaka. Other programs or cooperative efforts recently proposed by the BGMEA have not yet been implemented.

There has been tremendous public reaction in Bangladesh to the proposed Child Labour Deterrence Act, which, combined with serious concern for the welfare of the children, has resulted in the formation of a child labour coalition, consisting of representatives from international organizations, NGOs, labour unions, various government ministries, and representatives of the garment industry. The work is being spearheaded by UNICEF, which has researched and reviewed a number of private non-formal education programs for possible use in setting up schools for working children. In addition, numerous child welfare and education NGOs are active in the effort to provide assistance to working children.

Other Initiatives Against Child Labour in Bangladesh

UNICEF has through the Directorate of Non-Formal Education (DNFE) been implementing the Urban Hard-to-Reach Project. This Project aims at addressing the needs of underprivileged children, including those engaged in child labour. Non-formal education (NFE) programmes have been established in six metropolitan cities. It aims at mainstreaming NFE graduates into the formal primary education.

The Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies (BILS) implements a hazardous child labour project, funded by the Council of Denmark. The project's interventions include enhancing education through NFE, provision of vocational training to create employment opportunities for working children and awareness raising programmes on children's rights. Their geographical

coverage is limited to four mainly outer administrative areas within Dhaka, i.e. Tongi, Gazipur, Mirpur and Keranigonj.

It should be noted that IPEC projects have been coordinating all these projects and programmes regarding geographical areas and child labour sectors to avoid duplication.

Under its poverty and working children programme, Save the Children UK has been approaching the child labour issue by:

- Reducing child labour by reducing families' dependency on their children, conducting research and advocating/influencing major development NGOs to incorporate child labour issues in their mainstream development activities. Targeted interventions on the economic/social empowerment of families are undertaken through the BRAC (Bangladesh Rural Advancement Centre) ultra-poor programme in Rangpur and PKSF in Jamalpur.
- Pilot programmes focusing mainly on the informal economy (selected areas in Dhaka, Jamalpur, Kurigram and Khulna), including the provision of non-formal education and improvement of workplaces (environment and conditions) through employers' participation and establishing community pressure groups.

A Joint Child Labour Working Group (JCLWG) was formed in 1999 as there was a felt need for broader cooperation, information sharing, and joint advocacy initiatives to tackle the vast problem of child labour in Bangladesh. The group argues that with the ILO Convention No. 182 and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child — all of which have been ratified by the Government of Bangladesh — there is a strategic opportunity for all concerned to work together in a comprehensive way towards specific goals and make the rights of children in the most hazardous and exploitative forms of child labour a living reality. The JCLWG aims at achieving greater programme synergies through systematic sharing of information and lessons learnt from the various activities of the group members, as well as planning

joint research agendas, policies, and strategic plans. The JCLWG focuses on the development and effective implementation of the national Time-Bound Programme, within the frameworks of the ILO Convention No. 182 and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The present members of the group are the ILO, UNICEF, the Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum (an alliance of NGOs), the Dhaka Ahsania Mission, the Centre for Mass Education in Science, and the Save the Children Alliance.

Govt targets child labour phase out

The Bangladesh government has finalised the draft of National Child Labour Elimination Policy-2008, seeking to phase out child labour and rehabilitate over 1 million children engaged in risky jobs. At a meeting at the secretariat the Labour and Manpower Ministry also resolved to have 30,000 working children enrolled for primary education and introduce stipends for them. Identifying ship breaking as the most hazardous job, it decided to commission two taskforces—one to be comprised of government officials and the other of non-government ones—to visit Chittagong and report back on child labour situation there. Labour and Manpower Adviser who chaired the meeting observed a long term initiative to eliminate child labour would follow once the draft policy is approved by the cabinet. “Hopefully, we will place the draft before the council of advisers by the end of this month,” he told reporters after the meeting that gave a unanimous consent to the draft. Government officials and representatives of NGOs, factory owners and employees were involved in scripting the draft over four long years. The policy suggests fixing the working hours and wage for child workers. Despite policies and laws against child labour, thousands of children are employed in bidi (hand-rolled cigarette), leather-tanning and construction industries, farming, forestry and fishery. Besides, a huge number of them work as domestic help, porter, transport worker and street vendor. Successive governments in the past took steps to tail off the exploitative practice, but it continued unabated due to poverty, unemployment, illiteracy and lack of awareness among parents.

“The policy will work as guidelines for curbing child labour as well as for rehabilitating those involved in risky and hazardous jobs.” “It will give directives on what to do and what not regarding child labour,” Hakim, who is also in charge of the ILO (International Labour Organisation) desk at the ministry, told *The Daily Star*. According to the National Child Labour Survey conducted in 2003, the number of child labourers aged between 7 and 17 is 30.18 lakh. However, many NGOs and government officials believe the number would be much higher. “The reality is child labour is on the rise,” said an official of the labour ministry. The survey also revealed that 10.3 lakh working children are engaged in risky jobs. The draft policy detailed how the children are subjected to discrimination as most of the employers tend to hire them for token wages and even get them work without pay. It observed that the owners do not feel the need for improving the working conditions let alone ensure healthcare for the child workers. It said special measures would be taken for physically handicapped and mentally retarded children and those belonging to different races. If necessary, a separate policy would be formulated so that their condition improves. The draft national policy proposed conducting more research on child labour, its causes and solution, and setting up a child labour unit and national child labour welfare council. It also calls for greater involvement of the NGOs in the campaign to end child labour.

ILO’s Conventions on Child Labour- 2012

The World Day Against Child Labour 2012 provided a spotlight on the right of all children to be protected from child labour and from other violations of fundamental human rights. In 2010 the international community adopted a Roadmap for achieving the elimination of the worst forms of child labour by 2016, which stressed that child labour is an impediment to children’s rights and a barrier to development. World Day 2012 highlighted the work that needs to be done to make the roadmap a reality.

The ILO’s Conventions seek to protect children from exposure to child labour. Together with other international instruments relating to children’s,

workers' and human rights they provide an important framework for legislation established by national governments. However, the ILO's most recent global estimate is that 215 million children worldwide are involved in child labour, with more than half this number involved in its worst forms.¹ The children concerned should be at school being educated, and acquiring skills that prepare them for decent work as adults. By entering the labour market prematurely, they are deprived of this critical education and training that can help to lift them, their families and communities out of a cycle of poverty. In its worst forms, child labourers may also be exposed to physical, psychological or moral suffering that can cause long term damage to their lives.

Our call on the World Day:

- Universal ratification of the ILO's Conventions on child labour (and of all ILO core Conventions)
- National policies and programmes to ensure effective progress in the elimination of child labour
- Action to build the worldwide movement against child labour

5.5 ILO standards on rights at work

The principles and rights established in eight ILO core Conventions are also regarded as human rights which all ILO Member States are required to respect, promote and realise. The "fundamental principles and rights at work" concern freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining, the elimination of forced or compulsory labour, the abolition of child labour, and the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation. The four categories of rights are mutually reinforcing: the elimination of child labour will be achieved much more quickly and efficiently when the other rights are also respected.

Concerning child labour, the ILO Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) requires States to specify in law a minimum age for admission to employment not less than the age of finishing compulsory education, and

which in any case, should not be less than 15 years. A member country whose economy and educational facilities are insufficiently developed may under certain conditions initially specify a minimum age of 14 years.

The ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) calls for “immediate and effective measures to secure the prohibition of the worst forms of child labour as a matter of urgency”. The worst forms are defined as:

- All forms of slavery, or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom, as well as forced labour, including forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict.
- The use, procurement or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances.
- The use, procurement or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in relevant international treaties.
- Work which, by its nature or circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children, such harmful work to be determined by national authorities.

Other key international standards and declarations

Over the years, growing awareness of the need to ensure that children receive education and protection has spurred the development of a body of international standards to help guide governments in enacting domestic legislation.

The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights features the right to education prominently stating that “Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available...”

There is near universal ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Convention states that children have the right to be protected from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development. It also states that primary education should be compulsory and available free to all and encourages the development of different forms of secondary education available and accessible to every child. The United Nations General Assembly has also adopted two Optional Protocols to the Convention to increase the protection of children from involvement in armed conflicts and from sexual exploitation.

The importance of protecting fundamental principles and rights at work during the ongoing global financial and jobs crisis was reflected in the communiqué of the G20 Summit held in November 2011 which encouraged the ILO to continue promoting ratification and implementation of the core Conventions ensuring fundamental principles and rights at work.

Ratification and implementation of ILO Conventions on child labour

Although the ILO's child labour Conventions are among the most widely ratified of ILO Conventions there is a need for countries that have not yet ratified the Conventions to do so, and to ensure their effective implementation.

The ILO's Convention No. 182 requires that each Member which ratifies the Convention shall design and implement programmes of action to eliminate as a priority the worst forms of child labour. Many countries have now established National Action Plans that provide a framework for such efforts. However, many other countries have yet to do so and countries that have established plans need to monitor and review their effectiveness. If the challenging target of eliminating the worst forms of child labour by 2016 is to be achieved, urgent action along these lines is required now!

The worldwide movement against child labour

Although governments must take the lead role in tackling child labour, the ILO standards stress the important role that employers and workers organizations should play in setting and implementing action programmes. Many civil society organizations are also closely involved in efforts to tackle child labour. Building the worldwide movement against child labour at global, national and local level remains a priority.

The World Day Against Child Labour promotes awareness and action to tackle child labour. Support for the World Day has been growing each year. The most recent estimates suggest 127 million boys and 88 million girls are involved in child labour with 74 million boys and 41 million girls in the worst forms. National laws or regulations may permit the employment of 13-15 year olds in light work which is neither prejudicial to school attendance, nor harmful to a child's health or development. The ages 12-14 can apply for light work in countries that specify a minimum age of 14. The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

Chapter 6: Child Labour in Bangladesh: Causes

- 6.1 Economic Factors
- 6.2 Lack of Social Responsiveness of the Employers
- 6.3 Social Factors
- 6.4 Social Class System
- 6.5 Schooling System
- 6.6 Migration of Labour Force from Rural Areas
- 6.7 Global warming, Natural disaster and child labour
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- 6.16 Broken family
- 6.17 Adult unemployment and urbanization
- 6.18 Implement of compulsory primary education
- 6.19 Inadequate Laws and Violation of Codes

This section analyze the information on views regarding study of various books, journals, research reports, newspaper, websites along with UNICEF, UNDP, WB published reports related with child labour.

Causes of Child Labour

Child labour persists in Bangladesh even though laws and standards to eliminate it exist. Current causes of global child labour are similar to its causes in the U.S. 100 years ago, including poverty, limited access to education, repression of workers' rights, and limited prohibitions on child labour. Children work for a variety of reasons, the most important being poverty and the induced pressure upon them to escape from this plight. To determine the probability of a child not going to school and works, low household income were found to be more susceptible to make their children work and not to go to school (Villamil 2002). Anthony, L. Josheph (2002) mentioned both micro and macro factors are contributing to child labour. Household and enterprise employers constitute the micro factors where as macro factors include social, political, economical, natural calamity, weak infrastructure and global macro volatility. Employers demand to deploy child labor as they depend on casual workers to keep investment low. On the other hand families suffering from poverty are in the supply side of child labour. Poverty, unemployment among adults, low purchasing power and lack of credit and alternative sources of funds make families unable to finance their children's schooling and/or force them and their children to supply child labor to supplement household income or to sustain the children's subsistence needs.

However, factors causing child labour in Bangladesh can be discussed into broad dimensions which are as follows:

6.1 Economic Factors

Low per capita income plays pivotal role in contributing to child labour. Adult unemployment at both rural and urban areas, bad working conditions, lack of minimum wages, exploitation of workers, value system of families, etc. have direct effect on unemployment and poverty which ultimately causes child labor. In developing countries, children are seem to be an economic burden and are often prompted to work by their parents. Children in developing countries also contribute more time to household works as compared to their counterparts in developed countries (Lindert 1976). Parents represent 62 percent of the source of induction into employment where as children make their own decisions to work only 8 percent of the time (Syed et al. 1991). Again, school attendance by a child is also highly correlated with family income (leon and Mook 1991). As a result child labour has become part of vicious cycle where poverty remains both as the main cause and consequences.

6.2 Lack of Social Responsiveness of the Employers

Lack of social responsiveness of the employers is another determinant of generating child labor in Bangladesh. The employers become interested to employ child labour for short-term incentives like attaining low cost and low investment. Different business enterprises in Bangladesh depend on unskilled and casual labour force to keep their production cost low. Lack of social awareness, weak enforcement of law and mass people of Bangladesh are facilitating such event to happen. General scenario of our labour force is characterized by lack of proper division of labor and absence of attaining specialization in a certain task. This is because most of the people of the country are still illiterate and less well off. They do not demand for specialized products from the producers and even do not care how and by whom the producers produced the products. As a result the employers do not feel compelled to employ skilled, matured and permanent labour force. Again, exorbitant growth of population and education facilities and their costs are other worth mentionable factors causing child labour. Though basic

primary education is free in Bangladesh as far as direct costs and school-books are concerned, but many indirect costs are involved in this regard such as transport, uniforms, pens, pencils, and paper/notebooks, which are often turned to be unaffordable to the mass people. Thus the opportunity cost of child education to the poor parents appears to be huge and they ultimately opt for engaging their dependents in different income generating activities.

6.3 Social Factors

Our social structure and cultural factors are also responsible for child labour. In a male dominant family structure like ours, there is a pervasive notion that educated females will not get married or if married they will no longer be interested in traditional household affairs. Therefore, many families raise daughters solely to take over the household duties in order to release the mother for paid labour. Such cultural practices restrict the education of females and promote child employment. Thus the established female role in the country dictates that women will not fit into traditional roles if they become educated (Bequele and Boyden 1988).

6.4 Social Class System

The existence of social class and caste system also perpetuate child labour (Weiner 1991). For example, people of lower Hindu castes are expected to perform manual labour and therefore are more apt not to attend school. Muslims women are not supposed to go out and show themselves to other males. Thus social caste system in traditional Hindu families and women isolation and hiding tendency in traditional Muslim families keep the families in social darkness which causes child labour in the long run. Besides, parents have so much control over their children, their perception of the value of school is a main determinant of child attendance.

6.5 Schooling System

Schooling problems also contribute to child labor in Bangladesh. There is a direct link between child labour and education. Nearly 50 per cent of primary school students drop out before they complete grade 5, and then gravitate towards work, swelling the number of child laborers. The high drop-out rates are correlated with the low quality of public primary education, low adult literacy, low awareness of the importance of education, teacher-student ratio (sometimes this goes up to 1 per 100). Children often seek employment simply because there is no access to nearby schools or no school at all. When there is access, the low quality of the education often makes attendance a waste of time for the students. Schools in many developing areas suffer from problem such as overcrowding, inadequate sanitation and apathetic teachers. Moreover, parental education plays a large role in determining child schooling and employment (Tienda 1979). Due to illiteracy of the parents, they may find no use in sending their children to school when they could be home learning a skill (for example, agriculture) and supplementing the family income.

6.6 Migration of Labour Force from Rural Areas

In recent times, child labour has become more prone in urban areas than in rural areas. Due to poverty and unemployment in rural area rapid rural-to-urban migration takes place, which again causes for the increasing rate of child labour in urban areas. The rural families have to suffer from flood, soil erosion, cyclone, drought, etc. and lead a miserable life. Thus families leave the severity of agricultural working conditions for cities in order to search for economic opportunities that often do not exist. Over the last couple of decades this movement has been drastic and rural people are migrating to Dhaka or Chittagong city in search for their mere livelihood. In 1950, 17

percent of the population of the developing world lived in urban areas. This increased to 32 percent in 1988. By the year 2025, it is estimated that this proportion will increase to 57 percent (United Nations 1989). Such increases, coupled with worsening economic trends, force children and their families into urban poverty; children are required to work soon (Barker and Knaul 1991).

6.7 Global warming Natural disaster and child labour

In Bangladesh 54.25% of all people hampered by disasters in from 1975-2012 were low income or lower-middle income people. The poorest people comprised 28% of deaths from disasters. These plain numbers are an indictment of socioeconomic inequality, and a telling signpost to where disaster risk reduction must concentrate its efforts as of moral necessity. Furthermore, drought, cyclones, and flood are repeatedly depriving the poor of their assets, livelihoods, and labour force, all too often locking them into endemic poverty cycles. Natural hazards, which are becoming more intense and frequent, have a devastating impact on the poor people of Bangladesh. A large-scale hazard that hits a highly vulnerable community with low capacity to cope reverses hard-won development gains, entrenching people in poverty cycles, and increasing vulnerability. Sustaining and protecting livelihoods of the poor and marginalized is a way to tackle poverty. In that situation poor parents are bound to send their children to involve in work. Disasters are often portrayed as acts of nature, or of a natural order. Yet this is mostly far from reality. The major factors influencing disaster risks are human and social vulnerability, matched with the overall capacity to respond to or reduce the impact of natural hazards. Poverty is therefore a major factor increasing disaster risk, by increasing vulnerability to disasters and reducing existing coping capacities. It is only by addressing these two issues together that we can make the difference between a community trapped in a grinding poverty cycle, and one with secure lives and livelihoods. Another patch of common ground is that the poor suffer the most from disasters.

6.8 Poverty:

Poverty is one of the main concerns which drive children at work, so that is an absolute situation in our country and biggest weakness for union perspective. The main problem of our country is poverty. Because of this issue many people divert to crimes and unethical activities. It is a matter of great sorrow that majority of the people of our country live under the poverty line. Thus to fulfill their starvation, many poor parents send their children to work in the factories and mills. Poverty is the most powerful push factor behind child labor. With a per capita income of \$240, more than 40 percent of the country's population lives in absolute poverty and cannot afford to spend money for children's education. Such conditions of extreme economic hardship leave no alternative for the children but to work. Thus any alternative given to them is a good option. Many companies take this as an opportunity and exploit them. As the poor children cannot understand the manipulation clearly, the owners exploit them.

6.9 Over population:

Bangladesh is a overpopulated country. Due to limited resources and more mouths to feed, children are employed in various forms of work. Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) in the "National Sample Survey of Child Labour in Bangladesh: 1995-96" defined child labourers as children in the age group of 5-14 years who were found to be working during the survey reference period (preceding 12 months of the day of survey). A child was said to work if he or she was found either working one or more hours for pay or profit or working without pay in a family farm or enterprise during the reference period, or was found not working but had a job or business from which he or she was temporarily absent during the reference period. According to BBS the number of child labourers was 6.6 million in 1995-96. 19 percent of the total child population (5-14 years) was found to be economically active. 11.6 percent of the child labour force belonged to the 5-9 age group and the rest to the 10-14 age group. 95.6 percent of the child labour force was employed.

Of the employed child workers, males constituted 59.8 percent and females 40.2 percent. Child workers were scattered all over the country. 17 percent of the child labour force lived in the urban areas and the rest in the rural areas. Child workers were present in almost all the sectors of the economy with the exception of mining and utilities. Agriculture accounted for 65.4 percent of the child workers, followed by services (10.3 percent), manufacturing (8.2 percent) and transport and communication (1.8 percent). Other activities including household work accounted for 14.3 percent of working children.

6.10 Price Hike

According to Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics in Bangladesh the cost of living has increased by 82.59 % over the last 5 years. This price hike has made the fixed income groups living extremely unmanageable. According to the Household Income and Expenditure Survey -2010 of Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, the cost of living in 2010 (national level) was estimated at TK 11,200 which TK6,134 in 2005, showing an increase of 82.59% expenditure. In rural and urban levels, the average monthly expenditure was estimated at TK 9,612 and TK 15,531 respectively in 2010. The price hike of essentials, lack of efficient market policy and high inflation rate have pushed the poor parents to involve in child labour. According to market study report of Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAB), the price of rice has increased 21.13%, prices of edible oil 7.29%, prices of fishes 18.65%, prices of spices 41.24%, and prices of sugar increased 35.77% in 2010 than those of previous year. In addition, the house rent increased 5.99%, water and electric prices 4.97% and 6.48% in 2010. According to the situation, people have to depend on their savings to manage expenses. On the other hand poor parents were bound to involve their children in child labour to increase their income.

6.11 Socio-economic cause:

In the society of Bangladesh, working children, as a socio-economic group, happens to be the most disadvantaged of all since "they are forced to work for a living, sacrificing their childhood as well as their future for bare survival of self and family". Today, as individual well being increasingly depends on literacy, numeracy and intellectual competence, a child working is in fact a future denied. Although Bangladesh accounts for less than 2 percent of the world population, it is the home of 6.6 million working children, accounting for more than 5 percent of the world's working child population numbering 120 million. In Bangladesh children are found working in almost all the sectors of the economy except mining, quarrying, electricity, gas and water. Many of them work 48 hours a week on an average, earning less than 500 taka per month. A large number of children work in occupations and industries, which are plainly dangerous and hazardous.

6.12 Parents consideration towards child labour

Parents have huge misperceptions regarding the studies which are another reason that stands out as a big weakness: Many poor and illiterate parents think that the best option for their children is to work as early as possible. They think that after the children pass from the school, the parents cannot afford to educate the children more so the children have no future for them. Thus it is a very good decision to do work in many factories rather study in school and college. The poor parents of our society think that it is a total waste of time and money to educate their children because most of them cannot afford the expenses of colleges and universities. Even if poor children are enrolled in school, they fail to continue their education for two reasons. First, though the tuition is free, poor families cannot purchase clothes and supplies. Second, schooling stops the children's earning and reduces the families' total income. As a result, the children drop out of school and work in factories or mills. Thus if the children start to work in their early age the family can be beneficial for that.

The reason employers choose children for certain job is obvious- to give them lower salary and extract the last drop of ability from them. When they are done with it, they just throw them in the dark, we don't have the proper statistical data to show, but we are pretty much sure that they end up engaging themselves into subversive activities nowadays. So to employ those children when they grows up would be a great idea as by the time they grows up, they will become perfectly skilled workers. In Bangladesh, the main source of revenue from foreign countries comes as remittance, but due to lack of skilled and skillful workers, they rate is going down. We cannot do much with the current workers, but can consider the children workers as in the pipeline, and send them to work as skilled workers foreign countries. The time table for this problem is a bit longer, because the potential children workers are currently not qualifies for the minimum age to work as full timers and at abroad it is out of question. So, the perfect timing to implement this could be as soon as the child workers cross the age of 18, they should be considered as exportable worker provided they have proper skill and knowledge about the job to do in abroad.

6.13 Special need for children's expertise

It is a matter of great sorrow that some works need the help of children. There are some works which cannot be done by the adults rather children expertise is highly needed. The majority of child domestics tend to be 12 and 17 years old. But children as young as 5 or 6 years old can also be found working. A survey found that 38 percent were 11 to 13 years old and nearly 24 percent were 5 to 10 years old. Child domestics works long hours, getting up well before their employers and going to bed long after them. 50 percent domestic workers work 12- 14 hours a day. Irrespective of their gender, Child domestic carry out all sorts of household work. Boys often perform tasks like going to the grocery, cleaning the drain, taking the garbage to road side bins, washing the car and sell nuts etc. On the other hand, girls have to iron the cloths, attend phone calls and serve the guests. Many works like sophisticated works need the help of tiny fingers thus children are needed. In many job descriptions small height is needed, thus children are encouraged to participate in those works.

6.14 No union to look after the working children

Unions are created to look after the situation of every labours and to improve their working conditions. But usually child labour is overseen by the union itself. Every union neglects the working children and do not even care about the working children in the mills and factories. Child service is a widespread practice in Bangladesh. They are so poor. Although children are employed as domestic throughout the country, they have overwhelmingly high concentration in the cities. Employers in the urban areas usually recruit children from their village home through family, friends or personal contacts. Most of the domestic child workers come from vulnerable families, many of them being orphans children. A good number of them are from having the single-parent families. On average 5 percent children workers work 13-14 hours in a day. Though these children work from dusk till dawn, they are always ignored. Not even the unions look after them seriously. As a result the exploitation of these children continues.

6.15 Parents perception towards child education

Very crucial reason has to be the perceptions of the parents of the children. The curriculum, followed in schools, is hardly perceived to be capable of meeting the practical needs of poor families. Naturally, poor parents fail to appreciate the long-term value of education, and instead opt for the short-term economic gains of child labor. In many cases, the male children of the household are expected to help the father in the field and the female children the mother with the household work. Moreover, parents consider their children's employment in certain occupations like in the engineering workshop as a rare opportunity to learn employable skills. To them, it is an alternative education with much more practical value than the traditional primary education. Despite the fact that the government has launched the Compulsory Primary Education Program all over the country since January 1993, education remains very expensive for a poor family, which is expected to bear the costs of uniform and transportation. In some areas of the country the expenditure on primary level students represents one-third of the entire

income of a typical poor family, though most families have more than one child of the school-going age. Many children are, therefore, forced to work to pay for their own education. The last reason for the alarming increase in the number of child labor would be the rising number of emergencies. They often contribute to an increase in the supply of child labour.

6.16 Broken family

Parents who got divorce and do not look after their children properly; those children are one of the major victims. They have no shelter from their parents, so that they are one of the major victims. The children of our local prostitutes who do not have a positive environment to grow up also face this kind of abuse. Our society neglects them so that they are very much abused. The children who lives in street or work specially as a maid in the home, they are also victims. They don't have a positive environment and positive looking from our society, so that they are abused. Bangladesh is very poor country. Government can not provide all of basic needs to us, for this reason children have to involve works. However, child worker is prohibited. Government can not be strict because of their lacking. In that case children are abused when they work in the street or inside the home. Female children are very much affected by sexual abuse. They are not safe even in their home. Male children are also abused by sexual harassment from same sex as well as another sex.

6.17 Adult unemployment and urbanization

Adults often find it difficult to find jobs because factory owners find it more beneficial to employ children at cheap rates. This exploitation is particularly visible in garment factories of urban areas. Adult exploitation of children is also seen in many places. Elders relax at home and live on the labour of poor helpless children.

The industrial revolution has also had a negative effect by giving rise to circumstances which encourages child labor. Sometimes multinationals

prefer to employ child workers in the developing countries. This is so because they can be recruited for less pay, more work can be extracted from them and there is no union problem with them. This attitude also makes it difficult for adults to find jobs in factories, forcing them to drive their little ones to work to keep the fire burning in their homes.

6.18 Implementation of compulsory primary education:

Absence of compulsory education at the primary level, parental ignorance regarding the bad effects of child labour, the ineffectivity of child labour laws in terms of implementation, non availability and non accessibility of schools, boring and unpractical school curriculum and cheap child labour are some other factors which encourages the phenomenon of child labour. It is also very difficult for immature minds and undeveloped bodies to understand and organize themselves against exploitation in the absence of adult guidance. Children born without wedlock, children with no parents and relatives, often do not find anyone to support them. Thus they are forced to work for their own living.

6.19 Inadequate Laws and Violation of Codes

Child labour laws in Bangladesh are often not enforced or include exemptions that allow for child labour to persist in certain sectors, such as agriculture or domestic work. Even in countries where strong child labour laws exist, labour departments and labor inspection offices are often underfunded and under-staffed, or courts may fail to enforce the laws. Similarly, many state governments allocate few resources to enforcing child labour laws.

Even when laws or codes of conduct exist, they are often violated. For example, the manufacture and export of products often involves multiple layers of production and outsourcing, which can make it difficult to monitor who is performing labor at each step of the process. Extensive subcontracting can intentionally or unintentionally hide the use of child labour.

Chapter 7: Consequences of Child Labour

- 7.1 Evil Consequences of Child Labour
- 7.2 Dangers and risk
- 7.3 Increase Adult Unemployment Rate
- 7.4 Physical Injury of Children
- 7.5 Perpetual Poverty
- 7.6 Increase in child marriage
- 7.7 Obstacle to rapid economic development
- 7.8 Increase in Juvenile Delinquency
- 7.9 Ill-health and mal-nutrition
- 7.10 Disruption of social peace and security
- 7.11 Obstacle to attain MDG

Consequences of Child Labour

Though in the short term, child labour may generate income for the poor parents or may ensure safety to the family but in the long run the consequences of child labor is severe. It creates a vicious cycle of poverty to the family in the long run. Anthony, L. Josheph (2002) pinpointed a number of consequences of Child Labour in family. He talked about the consequences of child labour from both short , medium and long term perspective and mentioned that short run consequences of child labour comprises both benefits (like increasing income, ensuring safety during crisis) and hazards (like exposure to health, physical, emotional and psychological damage, should dropout, etc.). He also focused that the ultimate consequences of child labour is a vicious cycle of low education, low productivity and low income and thus ends into poverty.

7.1 Evil Consequences Of Child Labour

Early involvement of children in work leads to serious health and developmental consequences. Working children suffer significant growth deficits as compared with school children. They grow up shorter and lighter, and their body size continues to be smaller even in adulthood. Many of them work under conditions that leave them alarmingly vulnerable to chemical and biological hazards. Child workers tend to develop muscular, chest and abdominal pain, headaches, dizziness, respiratory infections, diarrhoea and worm infection. Poor working conditions make them more susceptible than their adult colleagues to infectious diseases, injuries and other workplace-related ailments. Many even experience amputations or loss of body parts. Child domestic workers are often found to be victims of verbal and sexual abuse, beating or punishment by starvation. Children, engaged in scavenging, rag-picking or marginal economic activities in the streets, are exposed to drugs, violence, and criminal activities, physical and sexual

abuse in many parts of the country. Children have the right to be children: "to be loved, cherished, educated, nourished, clothed, pampered, and fostered as children when they are children" (Hasnat 1996, quoted from Natoli 1992). Child labour is, then, a denial of the right to enjoy childhood and achieve full physical and psychological development. Worse still, many hundreds of children are trapped in forced labour, debt bondage, prostitution and other kinds of jobs that cause lasting and devastating damage. Obviously the formulation of a National Plan of Action for the elimination of child labour in the country is a need of the hour. A critical evaluation of the nature and magnitude of the problem should, however, precede such an exercise. This paper is intended to serve as a humble step in that direction.

The effects are indisputable. Children who fall victims to child labour often become mentally as well as emotionally mature too fast this is very dangerous, these child suffer physical and mental torture, these children are depressed and develop mental health problems, these children are also deprived of a normal, healthy childhood. The effects of child labour are saddening; no child should have to grow up at the age of three. These children are victims; they have no voice or say in anything that they are forced into doing. Many of these children have given up hope; their world is hell they are forced into the most heinous 'jobs' with no say. No child can thrive, or grow up healthy as a child labour. A child labour is stripped of their childhood, as well as their humanity. Statistics show 4 out of 30 children who are victims to child labour will die before the age of seventeen. This statistic is truly heartbreaking; no child even from the poorest family should go through the embarrassment, torture and ridicule of being forced into child labour. The effects of child labour are horrific.

Another consequence of Child Labour is that children are forced to work and help the family that they are likely to drop out of school and continue working full time. According to studies by ILO-2010, "Seventy-eight percent of children between 10 and 14 years work either full-time or part-time with their parents," by working full time the children have no other

choice than to drop out of school and make work their first priority. Not only are these children dropping out of school, but they are dropping out at a young age, "a child reduces the probability of completing primary school by as much as 20 percentage points," Therefore, children are lowering their education level and suffering more consequences throughout the years. Therefore, the consequences of child labour form an almost unbreakable cycle. The children are not allowed to finish their education. They are sent to work to help with financial stability and soon they get married and the cycle never ends because they do not make enough money to have a family, so then their children have to help also and so forth. The lives of these children are being harmed and even though they are helping currently with money for the family, the consequences are much deeper children will be future leader. So as a parents or a policy maker, we have a huge responsibility to build our children as a resourceful person. But our children not only engage in child work they also suffering with malnutrition. Child malnutrition can be calculated by weight, height with respect to age status of be children. According to survey (BBB: 1998) represents that in total, 57 percent of children were underweight.

7.2 Dangers and risk:

Long hours of work, low or no wages, poor food, isolation and hazards in the working environment can severely affect children's physical and mental health. Child labourers are also vulnerable to other abuses such as racial discrimination, mistreatment and sexual abuse. Some work, such as domestic labour, is commonly regarded as an acceptable employment option for children, even though it too poses considerable risks. In addition to distorting children's thoughts, abuse also forces children into a position of having to "hide the family secret". This prevents children from having real relationships and has life-long effects. And because our ability to form healthy social relationships is learned, abused children are deprived of many skills necessary to navigate the social world. Their entire concept of a

relationship is distorted. This leads to problematic relationships in life and even on the job. Another disturbing aspect of abuse is the experiential restraint it puts on children. If a child fears doing anything new because of the chance that it will lead to a violent attack or because an abusive parent keeps extremely tight control over them, the child will lose his or her sense of curiosity and wonder at the world and will stop trying new things and exercising his or her mind. That child will never achieve his or her intellectual potential. There is a long list of outcomes for children experiencing abuse. They range from mild, almost unnoticeable personality effects to full-blown breakdowns in healthy functioning. The point is that abuse increases a child's risk of developing a number of health and psychological problems. Others effects may be Academic difficulties; Aggressive behavior; Alcohol and other drug abuse; Anxiety; Attention problems; Bad dreams; Bed wetting; Behavior problems; Chronic pain; Compulsive sexual behaviors; Concentration problems; Dangerous behavior such as speeding; Dehydration; Depression; Dissocialize states; Eating disorders; Failure to thrive; Fear or shyness; Fear of certain adults or places; Frequent injuries; Insomnia; Learning problems; Lying; Malnutrition; Panic attacks; Physical symptoms such as headaches and stomach aches; Repeated self-injury; Risky sexual behaviors; Running away; Self neglect; Separation anxiety; Sexual dysfunction; Sleep disorders; Social withdrawal; Stealing; Stuttering; Substance abuse; Suicide attempts; Thumb-sucking or any age-inappropriate behavior etc.

Child abuse is the physical or psychological/emotional mistreatment of children. The main victims of child abuse are broken family children, sex workers children, street children and child labor. In Bangladesh, There are different types of abuse in our society which may always not recognize. Child abuse has a great impact on Child's health. In Bangladesh, it is increasing day by day. It is really shocking for us. Now a day's children are not safe both in home and out side. Some steps could be taken to prevent child abuse. Currently in Bangladesh, There are many institutions that are

very much active to make awareness among the people. Its should be our oath to make a safe place for children.

Child abuse or maltreatment constitutes all forms of physical and emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect or negligent treatment or commercial or other exploitation, resulting in actual or potential harm to the child's health, survival, development or dignity in the context of a relationship of responsibility, trust or power. Child abuse is the crime of harming a child in a physical, sexual or emotional way.

All types of abuse and neglect leave lasting scars. Some of these might be physical; however emotional scarring has long term effects in the Child's life. Most child abuse occurs in a child's home. For this reason, we can not know all of these abuses. Child sexual abuse is a hidden type of abuse, which occurs both home and outside. It is very complicated form of abuse because of its guilty.. In this country, children are vulnerable. Girls are much more at risk and disabled children are also vulnerable. Bangladesh is very poor so that many child works as a labor and some work as a maid, they are abused. Children are scared for this reason. They have a bad idea about society. In some cases, they can not grow with suitable environment for them. Immature and inexperienced child labourers may be completely unaware of the short and long term risks involved in their work.

7.3 Increase Adult Unemployment Rate

Child labor accelerates adult unemployment by bringing down wage rates. Though child labour seems help households in generating income but actually it reduces family income, ft is believed Chat employment of child labour helps to speed up capital accumulation by raising the overall rate of exploitation; child labour also indirectly contributes to such exploitation by substituting workers with higher wage expectations (Rodger and Guy, 1981). Because, children are supposed to be compliant and judged as a source of cheap labour force and thus are given preference over adults by potential employers. Moreover, children's participation in the labor market often affects the employment of women who are engaged in specific service sectors (Ahmad and Quasem. 1971). In fact, children perform the usual women works at far less rate and give an incentive to the employers to replace women workers, which ultimately affect the labor market structure.

7.4 Physical Injury of Children

Many of the working children labour in very dangerous or hazardous occupations such as agriculture, manufacture, construction, retail and marginal activities. Most of children in rural areas help their parents through engaging themselves in different agricultural activities. But this activity is consistently ranked among the most hazardous industry for mortality and morbidity (Cooper and Rothstein. 1995). On the other hand, despite its hazards, agriculture is one of the less-regulated sectors and it is among the sectors where the existent laws are very difficult to enforce (Wilk, 1993). Therefore, children working in agriculture suffer high rates of injuries. They frequently suffer cuts from sharp knives and falls from ladders. They may be crushed or maimed by tractors and other heavy equipment. They risk back injuries from hauling heavy loads of produce. Another severe threat to the health of child agricultural workers is exposure to pesticides. Pesticide risks are particularly acute for children. Because their organs are still developing, they are less able than adults to expel toxins from their body. Moreover in urban areas, children are often engaged in different small and medium enterprises where there are some general hazards that arise not from the production process but from uncaring management. Examples of these problems are naked electric wires, lack of first aid facilities, poor ventilation, lack of sanitation, lack of sufficient light, heavy lifting, exposure to loud noise, proximity or operation of dangerous machines, and the lack of protective equipment. In some cases physical punishments are frequent (Bequele and Myers 1995). Again, children engaged in different construction, restaurant and retail stores are also suffering from different fatal and non-fatal injuries where as children engaged in household services facing unfair and harsh treatment and even physical torture. Thus child labour perpetuates bad physical and mental health of the children and poverty in their late life. It generally reduces their potential of making a livelihood in later life, which clearly degrades society's stock of human capital (Boyden et al, 1998).

7.5 Perpetual Poverty

Child labour stems from and ends into poverty. Poor parents of the society are not financially solvent enough to educate their children and engage them in different income generating activities. As a result the children suffer from malnutrition and physical injury which make them less productive and make them to be poor in their later lives. Thus the children of poor families born in a vicious cycle. Neither these children nor their next generation can get out of this cycle and as a result the families suffer from perpetual poverty generation after generation.

If a country could effectively outlaw child labour three consequences would follow: (1) the families (and the economy) would lose the income generated by their children; (2) the supply of labour would fall, driving up wages for adult workers; and (3) the opportunity cost of a child's working time would shrink, making staying in school (assuming schools were available) much more attractive. In principle, a vicious cycle would follow: with more schooling, the children would get more skills and become more productive adults, raising wages and family welfare"(Bachman 2000).

7.6 Increase in child marriage

In more ways than one child labour brings many consequences on the children who work. Children begin to lose their childhood and are rushed into adulthood, therefore Child labour leads into early marriage. According to, Kathleen Beegle, Rajeev Dehejia, Roberta Gatti, and Sofya Krutikova authors of *The Consequences of Child Labour digest* children who become a part of the work industry and have several years working it becomes more likely for them to get married at a younger age than opposed to going to school and living a "normal "childhood.

7.7 Obstacle to rapid economic development

Child labour is an obstacle to economic development. Unskilled population growth generally results in the lower rate of growth of GDP and per capita GNP which are conventionally considered as measures of economic growth of a country. **The** present economic growth income fails to exert a significant impact on vast masses of unskilled population who remain deprived of basic goods and service which are indispensable for leading and acceptable quality of life.

7.8 Increase Juvenile Delinquency

Juvenile delinquency is one of the serious problems of our country. In Bangladesh, child labour increases juvenile delinquency largely. Delinquency is a kind of abnormality. When an individual deviates from the course of normal life, his behavior is called juvenile delinquency. In simple words, it can be said juvenile delinquency is a type of anti-social behavior by a juvenile who is between age 7 to 16. The main symptoms of juvenile delinquency are truancy, to disobey the elders, to fight on the streets, cinema hall and other entertaining hall, to smoke, to drink wine, teasing the girls, to roam about aimlessly, to gamble, to kill, to get involved in different criminal activities by the instigation of political parties etc.

7.9 Ill-health and mal-nutrition

Health care facilities are inadequate in Bangladesh because of mass poverty and rapid growth of population. As a result, lack of health is noticed among the child labourer. Particularly, the health of poor children's is much worse. The death rates of children is very high for want of nutrition nursing facilities.

7.10 Disruption of social Peace and Security

The peace of society is hampered by child labour. A large number of children leads their lives in poverty and frustration. Helpless children, living in such a situation, very often fail to discriminate between right and wrong. As a result social crimes like theft, highway robbery, mugging, murder etc. occur very frequently. Frustration leads the children to be an addicted and gradually getting involved in various immoral activities. They are getting involved in activities like drug trafficking, smuggling etc. At present drug addiction has spread among the children and youth all over the country at an alarming rate. Because of moral degradation, illicit intimacy and adultery have increased. As a result, overall law and order situation has deteriorated and the peace and security of the society are hampered.

7.11 Obstacle to attain MDG

Bangladesh rated as a developing country in the world, an active member of United Nations and making its progress by setting up Millennium Development Goal (MDG) to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger within 2015 (World Bank) along with reducing child death. Moreover ensuring education for all is another main agenda for the country which is trying to achieve under MDG. In Bangladesh still now these problems are exist largely. If the situation is going on then it will be hard to attain MDG.

Chapter 8: Eradication of Child Labour: Initiatives

8.1 Ombudsman ship

8.2 NGO initiatives

8.3 Implementation

How do the children turn into the labourer? Some are tricked by the factory owners who say that they and their family will get enough money and care. The children go along, thinking that all will be ok, and before you know it, they are shackled to carpet looms or locked in a gunpowder room. Some families become indebted to factory owners, often promising their child's labour in order to pay for a wedding or as a mortgage.

These children will often find it impossible to get out of the labour market, unless liberated. They are charged for their food and roof, often inflated to many times its street value. These children are paid less than they need to even pay for the food, so they become more and more in debt. Others are abandoned on the street as very young children, and brought up as child workers in domestic homes, or in service areas, like hotels, often only working for their food and the roof over their head. They essentially become the "employer's" property.

Now that we know the problem, we must find an answer. That answer is schooling, heavier laws against child labour, and most importantly, awareness. If they can go to school, they can get proper jobs to care for their families, and stay out of the factories. If there are laws, workplaces will be safer, proper wages doled out and children will not be able to be taken advantage of. But the most important thing is awareness. If there is awareness, there is change. Change will be when every child goes to school, getting the education they need. Change occurs when every child can play, be a kid. We can help achieve this goal by boycotting companies and manufacturers who use and therefore support child labour. We can write to those companies, demanding that they change their practices. It is their birthright and government is the body who can do it. Remember, children are also a tool for criminal to their crime. Governments of a country should be aware and take steps for that. Lastly, we are living in a era of globalization. We all are international. So developed country and organization should come forward to help the poor child of the third world

country. The various international organizations can take steps to raise awareness to the people to stop child labour. They can help children financially by giving them free education at education for all programme and putting pressure on the government to enforce the law to provide necessary elements for the welfare of children. The combination of the above bodies will make it easy to eradicate children's ill health. Children are the sign of innocence and purity. Your heart should melt in tears when you see them sleeping in the street with a hungry belly if you are a real human. The youth should raise their voice. This world should be made a better place for the upcoming generation.

Child labour in Bangladesh

Table:8 Child labour in Bangladesh

Working children, aged 5-17 ²	7.4million
Working children, aged 5-14	4.7million
Child labourers (according to definition, below), aged 5-17	3.2 million
Children engaged in hazardous labour, aged 5-17	1.3 million
Child domestic workers ¹	421,000 about

¹, Baseline Survey on Child Domestic Labour in Bangladesh, 2006

²

BBS/ UNICEF, Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2006, October 2007

All other statistics from

Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, Report on National Child Labour Survey, 2012-2013

What is the solution?

Three things:

1. Society and people
2. Government
3. Welfare organizations like UNICEF.

First of all the major responsibility is for we the people to live in the society. It may start at our home. We never make any servant do work underage. We will provide some financial help to the street boys. We should unite people who want to help them. We make welfare groups. Give children education and give them shelter and food. If we all work from our own place as far as we can, then it is possible to have a result. Never put any child to hard and heavy work in an industry. Boycott the people who are doing this and raise your voice against them. Make them know the law of crime like child labour. Raise awareness to the people. Come forward and take your own responsibility and make your own judgments.

Secondly, governments can play a huge role. First of all they can making the proper law against child labour and enforce them strictly against people who are putting the children to heavy work. Governments also should assure shelter, food, education and all basic needs for children. A child should be as free as he is in heaven. It is their birthright.

8.1 Ombudsman ship

Several countries have created an institution of children's rights ombudsman, most notably Sweden, Finland and Ukraine. Ukraine is the first country worldwide to install children at that post. In Ukraine, Ivan Cherevko and Julia Kruk became first children's rights ombudsmen in late 2005.

Each State should designate a special office to monitor the delivery of services and to handle customer complaints related to child welfare. Generally, a review or investigation must occur at the local level before the

state agency becomes involved. If it cannot be resolved at the local level, the next step is to contact the appropriate state office to discuss and/or resolve disagreements with the local agency. If the state does not have a special office that addresses child welfare related grievances, a state's child welfare agency contact information is provided. Decisions involving child welfare issues are governed by State statutes and policy, as defined by each individual State.

This report examines the changes in a child welfare system created by establishing an ombudsman's office to investigate complaints regarding children in the foster care, adoption, and child protection systems.

The Children's Ombudsman is "administrative acts" of child protective services, foster care, or adoption agencies led to real or potential harm to children. Through investigation of these complaints, a number of areas of concern in the child welfare system were identified, resulting in changes in case management, investigation, or service provision.

A children's ombudsman can improve the child welfare system through complaint investigation and identification of system-wide deficiencies on a state-wide level.

Efforts against child labour

The International Labour Organization's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) was created in 1992 with the overall goal of the progressive elimination of child labour, which was to be achieved through strengthening the capacity of countries to deal with the problem and promoting a worldwide movement to combat child labour. IPEC currently has operations in 88 countries, with an annual expenditure on technical cooperation projects that reached over US\$61 million in 2008. It is the largest programme of its kind globally and the biggest single operational programme of the ILO.

The number and range of IPEC's partners have expanded over the years and now include employers' and workers' organizations, other international and government agencies, private businesses, community-based organizations,

NGOs, the media, parliamentarians, the judiciary, universities, religious groups and, of course, children and their families.

IPEC's work to eliminate child labour is an important facet of the ILO's Decent Work Agenda. Child labour not only prevents children from acquiring the skills and education they need for a better future, it also perpetuates poverty and affects national economies through losses in competitiveness, productivity and potential income. Withdrawing children from child labour, providing them with education and assisting their families with training and employment opportunities contribute directly to creating decent work for adults.

8.2 NGO initiatives

Currently in Bangladesh, There are many institutions that are very much active to make awareness among the people regarding child abuse in Bangladesh. Many national organizations are working in the very root level of child abuse. Breaking the silence is a non-profit, non-political registered Non Government Organization (NGO) in Bangladesh. It is established in 1993. Its main purposes are to make awareness and to create a positive environment and protective behavior in the society. Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar (ChildRights) Forum, established in 1990, is an apex body of 200 NGOs of Bangladesh working in the child rights sector. The vision of Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum is to establish a healthy, child-rights enriched society, free of abuse, exploitation and discrimination for the disadvantaged children of Bangladesh. Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK) is a national legal aid and human rights organization, established in 1986. Their goal is to establish the rule of law based on the principles of equality, democracy, human rights, justice and gender equity. Bangladesh Institute of Human Rights is established in 1992. The Areas of expertise are Child labour and working children, Children and education, Children and health, Children and participation, Children and violence, Children in conflict with the law, Children with disabilities, Children working and living on the street, Gender and girls, Individual cases of violations, Minority or indigenous children, Reporting to and monitoring the CRC, Rights based programming, Sexual exploitation of children.

8.3 Implementation

1. In Bangladesh nation wise detailed information and statistical data on the nature and extent of child labour should be compiled and kept up to date to serve as a basis for determining priorities for national action for the abolition of child labour, in particular for the prohibition and elimination of its worst forms as a matter of urgency.
2. As far as possible, such information and statistical data should include data disaggregated by sex, age group, occupation, branch of economic activity, status in employment, school attendance and geographical location. The importance of an effective system of birth registration, including the issuing of birth certificates, should be taken into account. Relevant data concerning violations of national provisions for the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour should be compiled and kept up to date.
3. The compilation and processing of the information and data should be carried out with due regard for the right to privacy.
4. The information should be communicated to the International Labour Office on a regular basis.
5. Government should establish or designate appropriate national mechanisms to monitor the implementation of national provisions for the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, after consultation with employers' and workers' organizations.
6. Government should ensure that the competent authorities which have responsibilities for implementing national provisions for the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour cooperate with each other and coordinate their activities.
7. National laws or regulations or the competent authority should determine the persons to be held responsible in the event of non-compliance with national provisions for the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour.

8. Government should, in so far as it is compatible with national law, cooperate with international efforts aimed at the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour as a matter of urgency by:
 - a. gathering and exchanging information concerning criminal offences, including those involving international networks;
 - b. detecting and prosecuting those involved in the sale and trafficking of children, or in the use, procuring or offering of children for illicit activities, for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances;
 - c. registering perpetrators of such offences.
9. Government should provide that the following worst forms of child labour are criminal offences: all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;
 - a. the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances; and
 - b. the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties, or for activities which involve the unlawful carrying or use of firearms or other weapons.
10. Government should ensure that penalties including, where appropriate, criminal penalties are applied for violations of the national provisions for the prohibition and elimination of any type of work referred to in Article 3(d) of the Convention.
11. Government should also provide as a matter of urgency for other criminal, civil or administrative remedies, where appropriate, to ensure the effective enforcement of national provisions for the

- prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, such as special supervision of enterprises which have used the worst forms of child labour, and, in cases of persistent violation, consideration of temporary or permanent revoking of permits to operate.
12. Other measures aimed at the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour might include the following: informing, sensitizing and mobilizing the general public, including national and local political leaders, parliamentarians and the judiciary;
 - a. involving and training employers' and workers' organizations and civic organizations;
 - b. providing appropriate training for the government officials concerned, especially inspectors and law enforcement officials, and for other relevant professionals;
 - c. providing for the prosecution in their own country of the Member's nationals who commit offences under its national provisions for the prohibition and immediate elimination of the worst forms of child labour even when these offences are committed in another country;
 - d. simplifying legal and administrative procedures and ensuring that they are appropriate and prompt;
 - e. encouraging the development of policies by undertakings to promote the aims of the Convention;
 - f. monitoring and giving publicity to best practices on the elimination of child labour;
 - g. giving publicity to legal or other provisions on child labour in the different languages or dialects;
 - h. establishing special complaints procedures and making provisions to protect from discrimination and reprisals those who legitimately expose violations of the provisions of the Convention, as well as establishing helplines or points of contact and ombudspersons;

i. adopting appropriate measures to improve the educational infrastructure and the training of teachers to meet the needs of boys and girls;

j. as far as possible, taking into account in national programmes of action:

i. the need for job creation and vocational training for the parents and adults in the families of children working in the conditions covered by the Convention; and

ii. the need for sensitizing parents to the problem of children working in such conditions.

13. Enhanced international cooperation and/or assistance among Members for the

prohibition and effective elimination of the worst forms of child labour should complement national efforts and may, as appropriate, be developed and implemented in consultation with employers' and workers' organizations. Such international cooperation and/or assistance should include: mobilizing resources for national or international programmes;

a. mutual legal assistance;

b. technical assistance including the exchange of information;

c. support for social and economic development, poverty eradication programmes and universal education.

Chapter 9 Findings of the study

9.1 Major Findings

9.2 Case Studies

9.1 Major Findings of the study

This chapter presents the result of field survey. The respondents have given their opinions about causes and consequences of child labour. Along with the nature of child labour in Leather Tanneries, Garments Factories and vehicles as helper. It also presents the various dimensions of child labour. The major themes dealt with the survey were based on the research findings on child labour. They are:

- The conditions that lead child workers to leave their rural homes
- The channels through which they reach the capital city
- The experiences of child domestic workers
- How the children come to leave their work
- Why the children drop outs from primary school
- Why the children engaged themselves for future uncertainties

Number of children working in the Leather Tanneries, Garments Factories and Vehicles as helpers

It was found that 77 children (13.75%) were working in Leather Tanneries, 133 (23.75%) in Garments Factories and the remaining 350 (62.50%) in the Vehicles as a helper.

Table-1.1 Working place affiliation of working children

Sectors	Number of working children	%
Leather Tanneries	77	13.75
Garments Factories	133	23.75
Vehicles as a helper	350	62.50
Total	560	100

Sex, Age of the children

It was found that all children working in the Tanneries and Vehicles were boys and in Garments sectors maximum were girls. No women or female child workers work in the transport sectors of the study area. According to Table 1.2, of total 506 working children 62 were in the age group between 5 and 10 years, 100 in the age group between 11 and 14 years and remaining 398 were between 15 and 17 years of age. It is to be noted that only 9.29 percent of the total child labourers were 5 to 10 years. The majority of children, 71 percent belonged 15 to 17 years. This is due to the fact that working conditions in these sectors are very poor, risky and unhygienic, where children cannot effectively perform their work. It was found that “No work- No wage- No food” in the practice for the child labourers of the study area.

Table-1.2 Age wise distribution of working children

sectors	Age 5-10	%	Age 11-14	%	Age 15-17	%	No	%
Leather Tanneries	16	6.90	9	11.69	65	84.42	77	100
Garments Factories	2	1.20	11	15.79	108	81.20	133	100
Vehicles as a helper	44	12.85	80	22.85	225	64.25	350	100

Activities undertaken by the child labour

The children working in the leather tannery factories, garments factories and vehicles as a helper perform various types of task. These include soaking, chemical processing (leather tanneries), sewing, cutting (garments factories) and collecting money and passengers (vehicles as a helper). In the Table 1.3 out of all these activities children are generally found working in soaking (73%), cutting (56%) and money and passengers collect (60%). They have no fixed work. It means that they have to do extra work beyond as usual work.

Table 1.3 Activities performed by working children

Major Activities	Ranked 1 st	%	Ranked 2 nd	%	
Leather Tanneries	soaking raw skin	73	wet blue chemical processing	27	100
Garments Factories	cutting and measuring cloth	56	sewing	44	100
Vehicles as a helper	money and passengers collect	60	to assist driver	40	100

Benefits received by the children from employers

Besides daily wages, children have received various kinds of benefits from their employers. These benefits were often in the forms of free meals, small festive bonus, medical benefits, loan and other privileges. Based on multiple responses, the result clearly shows that only 44 (7.86) children received some loan from their employer.

Table-1.4 Benefit available to the working children

Benefits	meal		Bonus		Medical		Credit		others	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
received	221	38.46	461	82.32	116	20.71	44	7.86	7	1.25
Not received	339	60.54	99	17.68	444	79.29	516	92.14	553	98.75
Grand total	560	100	560	100	560	100	560	100	560	100

Educational background of the working children

The data from survey shows that of all working children 62 percent of them stated that they could read and write, while 31 percent of them could not read and write. They are deprived from the basic rights like education.

Table – 1.5 Educational situations of the working children

Age group	cannot read and write		can read but cannot write		can read and write		total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
5-10	24	46.15	4	7.69	24	46.16	52	9.29
11-14	42	38.18	5	4.55	63	54.27	110	19.64
15-17	105	26.38	33	8.29	260	65.33	398	71.07
Total	171	30.54	42	7.50	347	61%	560	100

Reasons for discontinuing education

Table 1.6 shows that 478 (85.36%) children have discontinued their education as climate refugee. It was discovered that a large number of the children 31 (5.54%) were unable to continue their formal schooling mainly due to economic reason. Poverty is one of the main concerns which drive children at work.

Table -1.6 Reason for school off

Age group	climate refugee	economic reason	to support family	failure in the exam.	parents reluctance	total
5-10	44 84.62%	5 9.62%	3 5.77%	-	-	52 100%
11-14	89 80.91%	7 6.36%	3 2.73%	1 0.91%	10 9.09%	110 100%
15-17	345 86.68%	24 6.03%	13 3.27%	1 0.25%	15 3.77%	398 100%
Total	478 85.36%	31 5.54%	19 3.39%	2 0.36%	30 5.36%	560

Parents employment status

Looking at the occupation of the parents of the 560 working children, Table 1.7 indicates that 78 of them (13.93%) were unemployed, about 20% followed by daily wage labourers, while about 25% of them were engaged in farming or as a fishery occupation. Many parents are currently without work and have little hope of obtaining any occupation.

Table-1.7 Parents' employment condition

unemployed	daily wage labourer	farmer/fisherman	self employed	regular employed	total
78 13.93%	111 19.82%	139 24.82%	75 13.39%	157 28.03%	560 100%

Child labour guardianship at the workplace

It is interesting to note that about 39% children were working in the workplace without any guardian. Thus it seems that a great number of the children migrated from the rural areas leaving behind their families and homes.

Table-1.8 Guardian of the working children

father	mother	brother/sister	relative	neighbor	without guardian	total
38	7	71	182	37	223	560
7.02%	1.23%	12.46%	31.93%	6.49%	39.12%	100%

Average daily income (in taka) of the children from the work place

Looking at how the children using their hard-earned income, it is found that they have remitted part of their earnings, on average tk. 812 per month, to maintain their family in the rural areas. At least 44.52% children said that they sent a large portion of their income to their family in the village. The wage rate of child labour is one of the lowest in study area. The relation between the owners and the child labours is highly exploitative.

Table-1.9 Use of income of the working children

sectors	age group			total average
	5-12	13-14	15-17	
leather tanneries	36.67	48.81	56.73	55.51
garments factories	28.30	36.45	53.74	52.24
vehicles as a helper	35.88	42.93	54.97	49.84
Average	36.90	44.52	55.29	51.47

Children place of dwelling

Table 1.10 shows the pattern of dwelling of children, where out of 560 working children 362(64.64%) lived in rented house, others stayed in messes (6.96%), some shared accommodation with their co-workers (7.50%), while many of them resided in unpaid temporary shelters (20.90%). Child labour is predominantly concentrated in Dhaka city compared to that of rural areas. There is also highly concentration of child labour in the study area.

Table-1.10 Types of residence of working children

places of dwelling	%
Ranted house	362 (64.64%)
Living in messes	39 (6.96%)
Sharing with co-worker/guardian	42(7.50%)
Living in unpaid temporary shelter	117 (20.90%)
Total	560 (100%)

Children suffering from regular illness

On the health condition of the working children, it is proved that the working places are very unhealthy for the children. Due to this environment, it is likely that they would suffer from many diseases from time to time. Out of the 560 children interviewed, 252 (45%) admitted that they often suffered from various diseases.

Table -1.11 Health situation of the working children

Age group	Regular suffering from diseases		Total
	yes	no	
5-12	22 42.31%	30 57.69%	52 100%
13-14	48 43.64%	62 36.36%	110 100%
15-17	182 45.73%	216 54.27%	398 100%
Total	252 45%	308 55%	560 100%

Type of diseases the working children usually suffer from

The results of the interview shown in Table 1.12 on the various illness occurred among the children indicate that the most common type of diseases were skin diseases (27.50%), gastric complications (23.04%), rheumatic fever (19.64%), coughing (18.57%), pain in abdomen (9.46%), respiratory problems (8.39%) and others (4.29%). However, it must be borne in mind that in addition to regular suffering many children may even suffer from serious diseases, which are yet to be diagnosed. They have hardly any access to nutritious food any hygienic work environment.

Table -1.12 Diseases of the working children

Age group	skin diseases	gastric	asthma	rheumatic fever	cough	respiratory problem	pain in abdomen	other s	Total
5-12	13 25%	12 23.07 %	1 1.92%	11 21.15%	9 17.31 %	3 5.77%	4 6.96%	3 5.76 %	52 100 %
13-14	29 26.36%	26 23.64 %	4 3.64%	18 16.36%	26 23.64 %	6 5.45%	14 12.72%	5 4.55 %	110 100 %
15-17	112 28.14%	91 22.85 %	14 3.52%	81 20.35%	69 17.34 %	38 9.54%	35 8.79%	16 4.02 %	39 100 %
Total	154 27.50%	129 23.04 %	19 3.39%	110 19.64%	104 18.57 %	47 8.39%	53 9.46%	24 4.29 %	560 100 %

Types of Vaccines received by the child labourers

Table 1.13 indicates that 262 (42.79%) Of the children received BCG shot, 261 (46.61%) had DPT vaccines. A total of 213 (38.04%) children had measles vaccinations and 202 (36.07%) took oral polio vaccines.

Table -1.13 Types of Vaccines received by the working children

Age group	BCG	DPT	Measles	Oral polio
5-12	32 61.54%	32 61.54%	28 53.85%	31 59.69%
13-14	48 43.64%	46 41.81%	40 36.36%	38 34.55%
15-17	182 45.73%	183 45.98%	154 36.43%	133 33.42%
Total	262 46.79%	261 46.61%	213 38.04%	202 36.07%

The pattern of soap-use by the children for Bathing

With regard to personal hygiene and cleanliness, 392 (70%) children admitted that they always use soap while taking baths, while the remaining 168 (30%) replied that they never or occasionally used soap.

Table- 1.14 Use of bathing soap

Age group	Always		Never		Occasionally		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
5-12	31	59.62	0	0	21	40.38	52	100
13-14	75	68.18	2	1.82	33	30.00	110	100
15-17	286	71.86	6	1.51	106	26.63	398	100
Total	392	70.00	8	1.43	160	28.57	560	100

Types of latrine the child labourers use

The children were also asked about the kind of sanitation facilities in the factories available to them. The great majority of the respondents mentioned that they used water- sealed latrines, which seem to be hygienic. But observational data suggest that these latrines were often not clean enough. They were found to be malodorous, unclean and extremely dirty.

Table- 1.15 **Types of latrine used by the working children**

Age group	water sealed		pit		hanging		open space		others	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
5-12	42	80.77	4	7.69	5	9.69	1	1.92	52	100
13-14	93	84.55	9	8.81	6	5.45	2	1.81	110	100
15-17	370	92.96	24	6.03	3	0.75	1	0.26	398	100
Total	505	90.18	37	6.61	14	2.50	4	0.70	560	100

Sources of drinking water of the child labourers

With regard to the sources of drinking water, a majority of the respondents 491 (87.88%) were found to drink water from water supply sources provided by the factory. The remaining 69 (12.32%) children mentioned that they procured their drinking water from the tube-wells. Unfortunately, even though the children drink tap water, the sources of water supply in Dhaka city are notorious for being contaminated. There is hardly any pure drinking water for the children to drink. They live in the thatched house in the slum and often suffer from water borne diseases.

Table -1.16 Quality of water used by the working children

Age group	Tube well		Water supply		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
5-12	10	19.23	42	80.77	52	100
13-14	23	20.91	87	79.09	110	100
15-17	36	9.05	362	90.95	398	100
Total	69	12.32	491	87.88	560	100

Biggest family burden on the working children

To judge the livelihood situation of the children, the respondents were asked to mention the biggest family burden. Out of 560 children, an overwhelming majority of the 540 (96.43%) said that their biggest family burden was to support the family to buy food. Acute poverty is mainly responsible for forcing children to undertake work to support their families. They are very poorly paid depending on the quantity of products.

Table -1.17 Biggest family burden on the working children

Age group	Food		House rent		Clothing		Health		Education		Others	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
5-12	51	98.08	1	1.92	-	-	-	-	-	-	52	100
13-14	106	96.36	3	2.73	1	0.91	-	-	-	-	110	100
15-17	383	96.23	6	1.51	4	1.01	2	0.50	3	0.75	398	100
Total	540	96.42	10	1.79	5	0.89	2	0.36	3	0.54	560	100

Willingness of child labourers to be enrolled into a formal School

As for continuing their schooling, as many as 474 (84.64%) children expressed their eagerness to restart their education in the school.

Table -1.18 Willingness of child labourers to be enrolled into school

Age group	Yes		No		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
5-12	42	84.62	10	19.23	52	100
13-14	95	80.91	15	13.64	110	100
15-17	337	86.67	61	15.33	398	100
Total	474	84.64	86	15.36	560	100

Working children's willingness to attend school and leaving present employment

When asked whether they would leave their present employment and go to school instead, the number of positive responses came down slightly. Here 375 (66.96%) children agreed to go to school leaving their present employment though it is not clear how they are going to maintain their living cost without job.

Table -1.19 willingness to attend school

Age group	Yes		No		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
5-12	39	75.00%	13	25.00	52	100
13-14	74	67.27	36	32.73	110	100
15-17	262	65.83	136	34.17	398	100
Total	375	66.96	185	33.04	560	100

Preference of the children in regard to their work

Even though the children were enthusiastic about ideas of schooling, it became clear that the majority of them 387 (69.11%) did not have any preference for any work. 79 (14.11%) children replied that they wanted to be part-time learner and part-time worker in the working place. 42 (7.50%) stated that they would attend non-formal education classes during the non-working hours. On the other hand 7% of the still want to work full time in the working places. They are often exposed to environmental hazards and often are victims of minor injury in the factories. In the consideration of nature and load of work, work intensity and duration or hours of work, children working in this sector are considered to be involved in hazardous work.

Table-1.20 Choice between education and work of the working children

Preferences	Age Group						Total	
	5-12		13-14		15-17		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Full time work	4	7.69	12	10.91	22	5.53	38	6.79
Attend NFE classes during non working hour	3	8.76	10	9.09	29	7.29	42	7.50
Part learner and part worker	3	8.76	13	11.82	63	15.83	79	14.11
No schooling but like to attend vocational training	2	3.85	1	0.91	11	2.76	14	2.50
No preference	40	76.92	74	67.27	273	68.59	387	69.11
Total	52	100	110	100	398	100	560	100

Analytical Overview:

This section presents the various information on stakeholders' views regarding different aspects of child labour. A cross-section of people of study area including the factory management and the trade union leaders, were interviewed. The FGDs (Focus Group Discussions) were also conducted very systematically in an informal way.

Opinion and Reactions of the Management Personnel:

A total of twelve management officials of different positions from transports sectors, different tannery factories and garments factories were interviewed in order to bring out their views on the issue of child labour in these three sectors.

According to the exchange of views with the managers, supervisors and the factory owners, a fairly clear picture emerged that they were fully conscious of adverse effect of employing child labour. All they admitted that they did not want to employ child labour in their factories, but mentioned that it was the distressed street children and the poor families from the rural areas who come to them asking for jobs in factories.

In reply to the question as to how child could be stopped, a few management officials viewed that Government should put pressure on factory owners to stop child labour. A manager from a transport sector pointed out that small factory with less capital investment had a tendency to employ child labour to whom they can afford less wage than that of the adult worker,

The management officials also consider that under-aged children should go to school. They were, however, aware that the heavy economic burden on some families makes it difficult for them to afford sending their children to school. A very few management officials said that the children preferred to work in the different sectors as they could earn better wage than elsewhere. In the meantime, their parents who migrated from the village also preferred to work in these sectors, as they earn better than what they could fetch from being agricultural labourers.

When asking about environment, the management officials replied that they were unable to keep the workplace fully clean and hygienic, even though many desired to do so.

The management officials themselves expressed their dissatisfaction in regard to their own salary. Some pointed out that they were neither properly treated nor received any special remuneration for performing their work in a very unhealthy environment.

With respect to the ILO initiative to eliminate the worst forms of child labour from these sectors, with only one exception, all other management officials were ready to provide support to the cause. Interestingly, many of them were not fully convinced that the new programme would work well. Some of them suggested that the government should enact legislation to stop child labour. Issues like incentives and rewards were also discussed. The factory officials urged the ILO to find other alternative strategies, which may allow the needy families to find other opportunities for economic survival and not to push their children into hazardous work. The factory management also felt that the project staff would have to convince the guardians and parents that their children would be employed after the completion of the education or training. However when asked whether the factory authorities would allow the ILO project team to organize educational classes for working children in the factory compound, almost all the respondents expressed clear unwillingness to allow this activity to be organized within their factory premises. Neither did they seem to be very eager to provide any medical facilities to their workers. One management official however, said that they often provide medicine to the children if they fall sick.

It seemed that the management is much more concerned with their business and profitability than issues like elimination of child labour in these sectors.

The Opinions and Views of the Community People

A total of 10 FGDs were conducted in the study areas of Dhaka city, with the involvement of factory workers and various stakeholders residing in the area. About 25 to 30 participants of different ages from the locality attendant the discussions. A few women also participated in the FGDs spontaneously and inquisitive local children also gathered to observe the events.

Almost all those taking part in the FGDs formed the opinion that they did not want their children working in the factories. Yet, they started that they had to do so. A general consensus which emerged from the discussion was that poverty compelled them to send their children to work in such hazardous activities. The main issue that most of the children working in the factories had migrated from the rural areas, when they become totally homeless due to various reasons. When asking the reasons for child employment in the factories, most of the respondents replied that economic adversity compelled them to send their children to work. The children present at the FGDs strongly supported this view. It was further learnt that the children had to work because they had to supplement their family income so as to maintain their families.

On socio-economic and occupational problems, there were diverse responses from the participants. Some viewed that, as the children in the area could not find other alternative work, they were bound to be involved in factories activities. Many could not access to education and healthcare service or any recreational facilities, knew well that these work caused lung diseases, fever, coughing. A good number of respondents from FGDs said that the acute stench from the factories and fumes from chemical substances cause health hazard.

Regarding the question on what sort of benefits the child workers receive other than their wages; almost all the respondents replied that they received a yearly festival bonus. A few of them, however, admitted that the factory owners often provided them with lunch meals. Some of them also said they received medical allowances and informal credits.

9.2 Case Studies

Alleged abuse of a child maid by the RAB officer in Dhaka

Name of victim: Shila Begum,

Father: Mr. Badshah Ali,

the permanent resident of Krishana Pur village, Puthiya police station, Rajshahi district, Bangladesh Alleged perpetrators:

1. Mr. Alamgir Kabir Elias Shaukat, Sub Inspector of the RAB-1 in Dhaka

2. Ms. Nipa Begum, the wife of Mr. Alamgir Kabir Elias Shaukat

Date of torture: Around 24 May 2007

Place of torture: Uttara in Dhaka, Bangladesh

The Asian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) has received information from a reliable source regarding the alleged abuse of a child maid by the officer of the Rapid Action Battalion-1 in Dhaka and his wife on around 24 May 2007. The victim is Shila Begum, who is a minor living in Krishana Pur village, Puthiya police station, Rajshahi district, Bangladesh. About 9 months ago, she was hired as a maid by Ms. Nipa Begum, the wife of Mr. Alamgir Kabir Elias Shaukat, who is the Sub Inspector (SI) of the Rapid Action Battalion-1 in Dhaka. On or around 24 May 2007, Nakshi, the daughter of Ms. Nipa Begum, allegedly broke a spice blending stone but she falsely accused Shila for the damage. For this petty matter, Ms. Nipa Begum allegedly struck Shila's head with a cutting instrument (known locally as a *chhunni*) and also pressed a lighted candle light to her chest. It is also alleged that the RAB SI Alamgir kicked Shila with his boots. Shila fell to the floor and her hand was broken. On 24 May 2007, Ms. Nipa Begum allegedly took Shila to the Puthia Bazar at Rajshahi and left her without paying her any salary or providing any medical treatment. Shila was rescued by her neighbor who took her to her father Mr. Badshah Ali. After that, she was

admitted to a local health complex and her condition improved after getting proper medical treatment. The marks of torture are still visible on her body. Mr. Jasim Uddin, the Officer-in-Charge of the Puthia police station, confirmed that the victim's father lodged a complaint about the incident on 26 May 2007. The First Information Report (FIR) has been reportedly forwarded to the Dakkhin Khan police station. However, the AHRC has been informed that there has been no development of the investigation into the incident to date. The two alleged perpetrators, Ms. Nipa Begum and Mr. Alamgir Kabir Elias Shaukat have not been arrested. Meanwhile, when she was contacted by a human rights organization, Ms. Nipa Begum claimed that Shila was tortured not by her and her husband, but by her father. She also refused to reveal her residential address. There is an allegation that after the victim's father lodged a complaint at the Puthia police station, the concerned RAB official and his wife exerted pressure upon a local journalist, human rights activists and police officers.

2. Name: Hira

Fathers name: Ramzan Ali

Age: 12

Education : Primary level

Occupation	Duration	Working hour per day	Monthly wage/time
Transports helper	9 month	10 hours(including over time)	Tk. 3000.00

An elderly man carrying a boy named Hira, 12, in a rickshaw van took to Dhaka Medical College Hospital who was groaning in pain lying on it. Hira's plight was gathered from the van driver. Being victim of an accident at his working place, Hira lost his two fingers. He received severe blows at his knees and chest. Boy of a poverty-stricken family, Hira came to the city in search of food. His job in a transports sector was considered to be a good shelter by his family. Hira's family came to Dhaka from Barisal five years ago. Hira's family lives in a rented house near Mohammadpur, which costs Tk 3000.00 per month. The environment of the house is very unhealthy. His parents are unable to manage their large family without contribution of Hira. That's why he has been working as a helper for nine months.

His mother has been working there as a domestic worker for 10 years. She herself had started working in the house as a child domestic worker. His father is jobless. He is lazy and does not have any interest in getting job. He spends his time mainly in playing cards with some people like him. He does not have any contribution to his family. He is a consumer, not an earning member in the family. His mother is wage earner. She is the main earning member of the family. Yet his father does not behave well with his mother. He often misbehaves with his mother for money. His father's behavior to his mother appears painful to him. Hira has a dream.

In future he wants to be a driver of Bus.

3. Lata Katun

Age : 12 years

Fathers name: Karim Mia

Education : Primary level

Occupation	Duration	Working hour per day	Monthly wage/time
Garments Worker	6 month	10 hours per day (including over time)	Tk. 1600.00

Lata being at her early adolescence has been passing her days in a very difficult situation after being retrenched from her job in garments factory. Her job in garments factory was thought to be a good shelter by her parents as that employment kept them free from any anxiety about their daughter at least during her working period from morning to evening. Lata's father was an illiterate person. He came to Dhaka before 4 years from Dinajpur District in search of a job for a better living. Lata's family lives in a rented house in a slum 'Rayer Bazar slum' which costs Tk. 1500.00 per month. The surrounding of the house is very dirty and there is also marshy land around it. At present, her family comprises altogether three members including her. She has one brother, age about 15 years. She studied up to class three. After her father's death she had to discontinue her schooling. The mother of Lata is awfully anxious about their daughter and her future. They do not know what type of future waits for their daughter.

4. Ratna

Fathers name: Dulal

Age : 13 years

Education : No formal school

Occupation	Duration	(Working hour per day)	Monthly
Germents Worker	almost one year	Both in the day & night shift 10 hours per day (including over time)	wage/time Tk. 2000.00

Ratna is lean and thin to look and appearance. She was very happy after getting her job in the garments factory. She feels her family very much. Her family consists of 8 members like her father, mother, she herself, 2 brothers and 3 sisters. Her father age is about 58 years Ratna's family lives in a slum in Mirpure-1, Dhaka. Her house in the slum is made of bamboo. The house rent is Tk. 2500.00 per month. Her family needs to share latrine with other's living there. There is a common tube well for drinking water. Just in front of the slum there is a pond used as a bathing place for the slum dwellers. The condition of health and sanitation is quite precarious. The environment of the slum is unfit for habitation. She has not been study in any educational institution. She is not interested to study in any school. But she can read and write, can use mobile phone and calculator. Her father's behavior is not good with her and other members of the family. His conduct is very rude to and often badly behaves with his mother. She is also does not know that she is a child.

Ratna herself as well as her guardian is still in a state of hesitation about her future course of activities.

5.Rahim Mia

Age: 13 years

Fathers name: Zakir Hasan

Education : Class ii

Occupation	Duration	(Working hour per day)	Monthly wage/income
Vehicle helper	6 month	11 hours per day	Tk. 3000.00

Rahim lives at a slum near Mohammadpur. His parents live here for three years. They are original inhabitants of Patuakhali. They had migrated to this place due to river erosion. His job in transport sectors as helper was thought to be a good source of income by his parents. His working period is from dawn to midnight. He has almost no leisure time. Whenever he gets time he plays top and marble game with his friends. He also watches television at nearby place. He is very much fond of watching cinema at cinema hall. But he has no money for that purpose. Although he is eldest son of his family, his younger two brothers are also students of primary school. They could not complete primary education. They are now working as helper in the same sectors. They do get nominal wage. Rahim like others in this sector does not know that he is a child. His dream is to be a driver of a Human Haller. With this dream, he has been working in this sector.

6. Md. Rajon

Age : 14

Father : Md. Suruz Mia

Education : No formal school

Occupation	Duration	(Working hour per day)	Monthly wage/time
Transports helper	10 months	10 hours per day (including over time)	Tk. 3000.00

Rajon lives in a house at Hazaribag, Dhaka with his maternal uncle. His parents lives in Feni district. His cousin works in a tannery they have been living in a two room house with one bathroom, a kitchen and a narrow veranda. His father is a poor farmer. Rajon has three sisters. Before coming to the Dhaka city he used to work with his father in agricultural field. He was a student of class six at his village. But sudden natural calamity has pushed his parents to request his uncle to search for a job for Rajon in Dhaka city. His main job is assist to others.

Rajon comes to the work place at about 8:5 am and leaves his work place after 8:00 pm. He gets a wage Tk. 2200 per month. Payment is made on monthly basis. He sends Tk. 1200 to his parents to support his family. Rest of the amount is spent on his uncle's family. He does not have any savings for future. Rajon does not about child right. When he is fallen sick his uncle take care of his Owner of the tannery does take little interest in such situation. He has no weekly holiday, he gets leave only when he is ill or sick. Sometimes he takes bi-cycle on rent and enjoys cycling on comparatively less busy roads within the locality. Sometimes unnoticed, in roaming around with his friends in the area. Rajon has a dream to be a owner of a tannery shop. When he will have money he will try to be an owner of one tannery shop.

7. Arif

Age : 12,

Education : Class iii

Father : Abu Kalam

Occupation Vehicle helper	Duration About 1 year	(Working hour per day) 10-11 hours per day	Monthly wage/income Tk. 3000.00
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Arif is a helper of Human Haller. He lives in a Rayer bazar slum, Dhaka. He lives with his parents. It is a semi puca house' that means walls are made of bricks and the roof is made of tin. All the utility services such as electricity, water gas supply are not available at the house. Arif has been working at transport sector. For about six months. He works as the helper to the driver, keeping the vehicles neat and clean. He has to collect passengers and money. He also works as an orderly peon and has to carry out orders of the driver and passengers.

Arif gets 100 taka per day. He gives his money to his father. I is a token of his sense for responsibility toward his family. He does not have any savings for future. Arif had very little interest in education. So, he studied only up to class-III in a local primary school. Arif does not get any meal from the owner of the car. Except light snacks at the evening time. He has no holiday. He does not have any idea of child rights. At Arif's illness he does never enquire about his health. Arif wants to develop his carrier as a driver. He has a dream to be the owner of a Human Haller.

8.Mala Katun

Age: 13 years

Father : Razzak

Education: No formal school

Occupation	Duration	(Working hour per day)	Monthly
Garments Worker	2 years	Both in the day& night shift 10 hours per day (including over time)	wage/time Tk. 2500.00

Mala is by nature a decent and gentle. She lives with her parents in a rented slum in Mirpur-1, Dhaka. Mala since her childhood has been fighting with poverty. His father and mother is a construction labour. The income of her parents is not enough for their family. Mala's experience as a slum dweller is bitter. Her parents and sister are not literate. They did not attend any school. She is also illiterate. She had interest in education. But now even if is favored with an opportunity studying in any school she will not avail it. Now she has lost interest and energy for education. She commented, it's not the time to study. The environment of slum is full of problems and social evils. In such situation no body think for anybody Mala learnt about life and living out of her experience in slum dwelling. She is very happy to have a job for a better life and living. That's why she has been working in a garments factory for 2 years. She has a mobile phone. Her maternal aunt gave her a mobile phone. She spends Tk. 150 each month on this mobile phone. She usually does not make any phone call to others. She receives only incoming call. Most of the time phone call come from his village. She does not get any meal from the owner except light refreshment at evening time. Nobody knows what type of future waits for Mala.

Chapter: 10 Conclusion

Conclusion

The state, society, parents and international agencies need to play complementary roles in eliminating child labour. The interests of different players in this area are of course often diametrically opposed. This implies that all parties will have to be prepared to give and take - a process that needs to be economically viable and ultimately in the interests of the children, who do not have the maturity to decide for themselves. In Bangladesh, child labour cannot be considered in isolation from the socio-economic realities. This means that total and sudden elimination of child labour at one point of time could threaten the delicate socio-economic balances of the less developed countries. But the price of child labour is continued illiteracy, backwardness, ill-health and adult unemployment. Hence, sector-wise elimination in a phased manner is appropriate. Technical cooperation to governments, non-governmental organizations and other agencies in this endeavour must be strongly promoted.

Labour Force Survey of 2013 by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) reported 6.5 million working children in the age group 10-14 years. Other estimates suggest about 15 million child workers of the same age group. The BBS report also says that in 2010-11, the national labour force participation rate for children aged 10-14 was estimated at 46% for boys and 36% for girls. Child labour is much more prevalent in the rural areas where the participation rate for boys is 50% and for girls it is 42%; in the urban areas, the rate for boys is 28% and for girls is 16%. All of these figures were 6 to 8 percentage points higher than reported in the previous labour force survey of 1984. A calculation based on the 1989 survey found that the majority of these children were actually unpaid family helpers - 64% of boys and 85% of girls (Wahid, 1997,5). The UNICEF Multiple Indicator Survey for Bangladesh finds that of the children between 6-17 years, 21% of boys are working and only 4% of girls. This is a much lower estimate than the labour force survey. The proportion of children working increases with age, but even in the roughly comparable 11-14 age group, the proportion is much

lower than that of the labour force survey. The very low proportion of girls is attributed to the fact that most work on domestic chores, which is usually a hidden form of child labour (Stalker, 1996,9). In contrast, according to village studies, the participation rate of children aged 6-14 year, either inside or outside the house, averaged 34% (Ahmed and Quasem, 1991), but the rate varied considerably from one village to another- 16% in the most developed village to 64% in the least. Thus the national proportion of children working in Bangladesh varies from about 10% to 44%, depending on the definitions and the type of sampling. These children work in factories, workshops and mines. They work as bonded labourers in agriculture and industry. They are also in the informal sectors of agriculture, industry, prostitution, house-domestics, and then there is a large segment of this informal sector comprising street children who do all kinds of miscellaneous work. Kidnapping, cheating, extortion and even maiming are used to make children work in miserable conditions. Children working on farms are inhaling poisonous pesticides. Those working in industries are handling machines meant for adults. Domestic workers are at the mercy of their employers and the life of a bonded worker is nothing better than that of a chained animal. What Burra describes as the condition of children working in the glass industry of India is reminiscent of a 19th century scenario at the end of the 20th century: No factory owner wants a labourer to die on the premises as there would be an inquiry and compensation would have to be paid. Glucose drips were given daily to workers who faint with dehydration and heat exhaustion. The inhuman conditions of work take their toll upon the health of workers.

A man by the time he is thirty-five years old is almost finished and has to rely upon his children to save him from starvation and imminent death. There are almost 50,000 children below the age of fourteen year working in the glass industry. If a person starts working at the age of eight or nine, he is burnt out by the time he is thirty-five. Poverty and ill-health force him to use his children and the vicious cycle continues inexorably (Burra, 1995,41). For

this and many other reasons, many consider the term child labour too benign for the fate of most child labourers. It is child slavery (Senser,1994). This is more so due to the widespread incidence of bonded child labourers and child exploitation in the less developed countries. These slaves are not made by chains, but by debt and exploitation. As estimated by the South Asian Coalition on Child Servitude, there are a total of one million children in servitude engaged in the Indian subcontinent- 500,000 in Pakistan, 300,000 in India and 200,000 in Nepal (US Department of Labour,1995,85). They are also evident in small-scale industrial units and the sex industry of Thailand and the Philippines, in the charcoal industry of Brazil, in the gold panning operations in the jungles of Peru, and in the camel racing sport of the Gulf states. Among the occupations in which children are employed, child domestic work is a form of hidden and sometimes forced child labour that is difficult to identify. It occurs in a disguised manner behind closed doors and thus often goes unnoticed and unresearched.

Often employers engage these children with the promise of education, food and good living conditions, but these promises are rarely fulfilled. These children have to work long hours. Child domestics in Jakarta work 12 to 15 hours a day and are paid little (UNICEF 1997,30). In Zimbabwe, the work day for a child domestic is between 10 and 15 hours long; in Morocco, a survey found that 72% of such children start their working day before 7 a.m. and 65% could not go to bed before 11 p.m. (UN Chronicle, 1996).

Among the occupations in which children are engaged in the urban areas of Bangladesh, domestic work was commonest. Estimates for Dhaka alone range from 200,000 to one million, almost all girls (Stalker, 1996,11). This is probably the most numerous group of child workers. A number of other surveys found the second numerous group of child labourers in the urban areas of Bangladesh were the children selling various goods and services. Of the children surveyed in the key locations, around half were involved in some kind of selling. The waste collectors are probably the third largest group. There may be around 100,000 waste collectors of various kinds in

Dhaka, combing through the rubbish dumps and wandering the streets with sacks over their shoulders. Up to one third of these are girls (Pelto, 1995). As far as small factories are concerned, children aged 5-15 years accounted for 40% of the total workforce. Given that the 5-14 years age group made up only 26% of municipal population, this represented a significant degree of concentration (Karmaker,1994). Almost all of those were boys.

Different industries seemed to engage children of different age groups. The younger boys, aged 5-12 years, were to be found in industries such as jewelry, shoes, lock making and book binding. Older boys aged 12-15 years were more likely to be found in engineering and automobile workshops as well as in furniture, glass and electric wire industries. Factories with the highest proportion of child workers were candle making (71%), kite-making(58%) and electronics (58%). In rural areas a study of villages (Ahmed & Quasem,1991) concluded that working boys spent 79% of their time in agriculture and 5% in household work. Girls spent 71% of their time in housework, 25% in agriculture and 4% in non-agricultural work (Stalker,1996,11).

In case of the formal sector, the garment industry of Bangladesh has caught the attention of the world. A 1992 study by the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies suggested that around 10% of the garment work force was under age, which would have entailed about 80,000 children (BIDS, 1992). Out of these 80,000 children, 10,500 were children between 8-14 years and most of them were girls. Legislation alone has proved insufficient for eradication of child labour in less developed countries. Pursuant to the 1973 United Nations convention, most countries made provisions of law that set a minimum required age for working, but apparently to no avail.

The Constitution of Bangladesh (Articles 23 and 34) also contains provisions conveying the same spirit and idea. It prohibits the employment of children in factories, mines or in any hazardous work. Bangladesh has

also passed a Compulsory Primary Education Act providing penal prescription on parents for not sending a child to school. But to create an enforcement mechanism is not only a costly proposition but it possesses the potential of yet another breeding ground for corruption. Therefore, the making of laws has to be accompanied by the provision of alternatives acceptable to children and their families. Citing unemployment, poverty and illiteracy are a superficial way of looking at the issue. Adult unemployment may be the immediate reason why parents send their children to work. Thus abolition of child labour may well open up employment opportunities for adults in the same places where their children work. Often adults, incapacitated by years of labour in their own childhood are forced to send their children to continue the same vicious cycle of poverty, ill-health and death. Poverty and illiteracy create a mind set that employers are willing to exploit for their profit. Employers prefer children for their easy manipulation and low cost, not for their expertise or capacity for hard work. If the world is to witness the elimination and proper rehabilitation of child labourers, the question of releasing the children from their work places and subsequent rehabilitation should occupy an important item on the international agenda. The socioeconomic reality of Bangladesh or of any poor country will not permit the total and sudden elimination of child labour, as children released without proper rehabilitation are bound to drift towards some other sources of employment. This is the paradox of child labour reform (Berlau, 1997). Efforts to outlaw child labour might lead to results even more inhumane for the very children they intend to help. For example, children of landless labourers of the drought-prone areas of Bihar in India work in the carpet industries under semi-slavery conditions. Although some of them were restored to their parents, they were again sent back to work for the same masters by their parents. The logic of the parents was that since they could not afford to feed their children, the children had to somehow earn to feed themselves (Burra, 1996,21).to go in search of jobs.

The UNICEF survey of the garment factories found that almost 90 In Bangladesh, a study conducted by the UNICEF and the ILO (Berlau, 1997) tried to trace some of the children released from the garment industry to see what happened to them after their termination from employment. Some were found working in more hazardous situations, in unsafe workshops where they were paid less, or in prostitution. More importantly, often there is the question of the survival of the entire family, which leads children % of the children were from single-parent households and homes where there had been a death or disability. Almost 50% were the sole supporters for their families (*Canada and the World Backgrounder*, 1997). In most of these families, the childrens' contribution made the difference between destitution and survival (Chawla,1996:16). Hence, the issue of release and rehabilitation of child labourers in developing countries has to be dealt from several angles simultaneously. Technical cooperation is a significant step in this direction. Technical cooperation programmes like the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) can play and has played a significant role in the release and rehabilitation of child labourers in the less developed countries, as seen from the experience of Bangladesh. .Involvement of international agencies is imperative to break the cycle of vested interests, powerful elites and unscrupulous middlemen who want to preserve the present state of affairs.

The case of the slain child activist Iqbal Masih from Pakistan is an example in point. Masih, a 12-year-old and an ex-bonded labourer in Pakistan's notorious carpet industry, helped lead a movement against the abuses of the child labourers in Pakistan. He drew the attention of the world to the realities in poor countries that often perpetuate the existence of such evil; he became a threat to the powerful carpet lobby. The International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) is a technical cooperation programme of the International Labour Organization towards elimination of child labour. Spread across four continents, it is active in twenty-five countries. Bangladesh's garment industry is just one example of the implementation of

an action programme under IPEC, but it is unique. Started in 1995 after observing the plight of the released child labourers, the programme began with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the BGMEA, ILO and UNICEF, detailing areas of cooperation.

The MOU provides that all child labourers below 14 years of age in the garment sector be removed from factories and enrolled in schools and paid a monthly stipend. By September 1996, 130 MOU schools for former child workers have opened, serving nearly 2300 children (Reich, 1996,7), a figure that quadrupled by next year end (Berlau, 1997). This project is unique in that the employers are playing an active role for educating their former underage workers. The government, trade unions or nongovernmental organisations implement the other projects under IPEC in Bangladesh. As Stackhouse (1996) observes, this could be a model of how to build a bridge between two worlds, the development agencies that advocate child rights and the private sector, which employs most of the world's working children. For an effective elimination of the child labour problem, legislation and economic incentives have to work together and technical cooperation has an important role. Bhagawati observes that child labour laws only worked in the United States and other countries when the standard of living had risen to a level where it was no longer an economic necessity for children to work (Berlau, 1997). The less developed countries cannot expect to achieve this, if during the process of their growth, a huge portion of their human resources remain uneducated and untrained, trapped in a cycle of poverty, illiteracy and death. Child labour in countries like South Korea and Japan decreased as their economies grew strong and it is well known that the bases of their economic growth were sown when education was made compulsory for all children. Technical assistance in the form of aid and know-how are important. Such assistance can help defray the expenses relating to-

- (a) free and compulsory primary education for all children,
- (b) implementation of part-time income generating schemes,
- (c) developing the technical and managerial capacity of those involved in the rehabilitation of child labour,
- (d) strengthening institutional capacity in the form of organization development,
- (e) research for combating child labour, and
- (f) awareness raising and social mobilisation.

The less developed countries need to increase their budget for primary education and also revise their system of imparting formal education at fixed hours. The system has to be informal and flexible, as only non-formal education can serve as a bridge for working children to enter the world as productive and healthy adults. Several programmes are trying to address the paradox of child labour reform (Berlau,1997). The concept of Underprivileged Children's Education Programme (UCEP), as introduced in Bangladesh, is a step in this direction. The main objective of UCEP is to impart general and vocational education to the underprivileged children and to provide them with jobs through UCEP job placement centers. Many students of the UCEP schools also do odd jobs like shining shoes on the footpath, some work as vendors, some in rickshaw garages or as garbage pickers and so on. The UNICEF *Report on the State of the World's Children* (UNICEF, 1997,51) evidences other successful cases. In Honduras, more than 2000 young street workers have benefited from formal and non-formal education at Project Alternatives & Opportunities, which provides health care, counseling, school supplies, uniforms and when needed, partial scholarships and nutritional supplements. Another programme in Loja (Ecuador) pays weekly stipends that approximate the earnings of a shoeshine boy while teaching handicraft production. Education systems have to be reoriented to suit the needs of child labourers and designed for different age groups in such a way that in due course the children, irrespective of the age at which they enter the system, become healthy and productive adult members of society.

The education to be given should attain the objectives of non formal education, that is community development, self-help, leadership, awareness raising, decision-making and participation. One example of a creative solution to child labour being practiced in Colombia is a program called Tierra de Vida. A branch of the Swiss charity Sentinelles, it is a program which offers children alternative employment to the usual work in coal mines. The children still work, but they work outdoors, cultivating fruits and vegetables that will go to feed hungry children, and they have enough time to attend school in the evenings (*Economist*, 1994). It is also important to consider fruitful activities in which released and rehabilitated children may engage after school hours in order to prevent their drifting towards unlawful and criminal activities. Combining beneficial work and education in the form of non-formal education as mentioned above is necessary, as such forms of child work help to fill leisure time, specially in places where organised outside activities are absent to keep children away from streets, crimes and criminals. Much depends on addressing the special needs of the different groups of child labourers. The needs of the domestic child labourer and the needs of the bonded child labourer have to be addressed differently. Child labourers working within the closed doors of a household as domestics face different risks than child labourers working in a factory or in the streets. As far as domestics are concerned, the Maurice Sixto Shelter is one programme that tries to address the multiple developmental risks faced by child domestic workers (UNICEF, 1997,31). It aids 300 child domestics working in a Port-au- Prince (Haiti) suburb, where the child workers attend non-formal classes with other children in the afternoon. Shelter workers gain the employers' consent to unite child domestics as often as possible with their natural families. Another programme is the Sinaga Women and Child Labour Resource Centre in Nairobi (Kenya) which is trying to better the lives of some of Kenya's estimated 200,000 child domestic workers by providing basic education classes and skills training. The released bonded child labourers found in the informal sector face a different set of issues. The image of a child , slaving away over the thousands of tiny wool knots in the

carpet industry of South Asia is known the world over. Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) with the aid of international donor agencies have attempted to rescue these children and place them in rehabilitation homes. One such agency is the South Asian Coalition of Child Servitude (SACCS) which unionises labour, involves the news media for mass awareness, pressurises the enforcing agencies for speedy action and rescues bonded child labourers. But rescuing these children is not enough; rehabilitating them in such a way that they do not again fall prey to the unscrupulous hands of their former masters is a daunting task.

Again, there is the special group of child labourers, the street children, whose needs are completely different from that of the domestics or bonded labourers. Many of these children do not have contacts with their families and many of them do not want to go back to their families. Agencies such as the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organisation should make sure that governments are complying with international laws and standards relating to child labour.

The World Bank and other lending institutions should assess the effects of proposed projects on the incidence of child labour and provide funding only when satisfied. The international community should actively involve non-governmental organisations to effectively implement the task of release and rehabilitation of child labourers. International consumers should help in the process by not purchasing goods made with child labour. The labeling movement has already attempted to create customer awareness through distinctive symbols like the Rugmark seal on a carpet. But such social labelling initiatives should be combined with goals such as, light work with schooling and gradual elimination of child labour. Otherwise, it will worsen the plight of the very children whose situation was supposed to improve. Bodies like SACCS and other NGOs will have to fight child labour in less developed countries, especially for child labourers in the informal sector, with the help of international bodies. Although the export-sector is most visible, a UNICEF report notes that these account for less than five percent of jobs held by children (Berlau, 1997). Most children are working in the

undocumented informal sector, where conditions are harsh and sometimes inhumane. What is required is for international bodies to assist NGOs in eliminating child labour in a phased manner. A safety net is a good idea to relocate the released children to other beneficial activities. Progress may be slow, but similar ventures like the one adopted in the garment industry of Bangladesh is a necessity. Codes of conduct that have already appeared in the garment industry through policies that address child labour and other working conditions is required for other industries too. Parties involved in technical cooperation have to be aware of issues to be monitored.

In Bangladesh, the garment industry is now required to terminate the services of its child labourers and provide stipend and schooling to them, until they come of age to work legally. In some cases, industries may deny the existence of child labour by hiding the children or disclaim responsibility by sub-contracting. Codes of conduct should be applicable to all involved in the supply chain. These should not be used by firms merely as an advertising gimmick for selling their products.

Imposition of restrictions may simply prompt the industries to close down, putting many adults out of work and closing the avenues of future adult employment. A way out could be to involve organisation of industries in that sector to make this economically viable. In Pakistan, multinational corporations and their local suppliers have joined with international organisations in an effort to eliminate child labour from the soccer ball industry. This is a significant step in linking the energies of international organisations, industry groups, workers and governments. It is also important to ensure that corporate responsibility is voluntary and extends to all domestic industries and not confined to a select few. Brazil's example is relevant here. In 1995, the Volkswagen company in Brazil initiated a series of studies with the aim of eliminating child labour in vehicle production assembly lines. The Brazilian Association of Citrus Exporters also

committed itself to combat child labour in orange juice production and processing activities. Similarly, the sugar and alcohol industries also signed an agreement with the government pledging to eradicate child labour in that sector. Mobilisation of civil society has to be a necessary component of the strategy.

The problem of child labour has reached the consciousness of the society in Bangladesh. A movement for attitude change and raising awareness gains ground. This involvement will facilitate the formation of interest groups which are essential for enforcing legislation.

- ◆ In a poor society like Bangladesh, the extra income obtained by children, however meager, is sought after by many families. Hence, a total eradication of child labour from Bangladesh is still remaining a far cry. However, following strategy recommendations may sound worthy to reduce child labour from different hazardous jobs and bring back them to usual life.
- ◆ The policy and action plans to eliminate child labour from both formal and informal sector should be concrete and should pinpoint specific strategies. The action plans should prioritize among the different course of actions and should be distinguished on need basis i.e. more vulnerable and hazardous sectors should be dealt with most care immediately.
- ◆ Technical cooperation to governments, non-governmental organizations and other agencies in this endeavor must be strongly promoted with due accountability of the service providers.
- ◆ In regard to handle the child labour at agricultural sector, children's entry should be strictly prohibited by law after the pesticide application in the farm. The entry into the treated areas should be banned and is required to

be established clearly by the government regulations and vigorously enforced by the government agencies.

- ◆ Employers should also provide all workers, including children, with appropriate protective equipment and train them in methods of protecting themselves from workplace hazards. Such training should be conducted regularly and be understandable by children.
- ◆ Reduction of domestic child labour would definitely be a big challenge for the Government. The Government alone cannot reduce child labour from household activities as it will affect our daily life and none of us will agree to bear the inconvenience of losing a helping hand and household activities. Government should take awareness building program to educate the general people of the country and to aware them about basic human rights of the children working at their homes. Electronic media can play a significant role in this regard by broadcasting different awareness building programs and encouraging them to reduce dependency on child labour gradually. A separate body can be formed to monitor the total scenario in this regard. Legal provisions should be implemented without any biasness to protect the harsh behavior with the children working at homes.
- ◆ The violators of child labour laws should be sanctioned in the fullest extent of the law. Governments should consider increasing fines for violations of laws on child labour and dedicating a portion of the fine to the rehabilitation of child workers.
- ◆ The Government should establish mechanisms to monitor the treatment of children working in different sectors including industry, agriculture

and household and ensure that effective complaint mechanisms are available to children and their families.

- ◆ Arrangement of pre-vocational/vocational skill training for working/disadvantaged children might be an attractive option to rehabilitate the work-ins children in short run and eliminate child labour in the long.
- ◆ The children should receive free and compulsory primary education. The number of schools is too few to cover the need of schooling in all rural areas of Bangladesh. Moreover, school fees and other associated costs of education should be waived or scholarship programs should be developed for children whose families are unable to afford them. Special educational or vocational programs should be developed for child farm workers who have dropped out of school.
- ◆ Finally, in Bangladesh, child labour cannot be considered in isolation from the socio-economic realities. Total and sudden elimination of child labour at one point of time could threaten the delicate socio-economic balances of the less developed countries. Therefore, the state, society, parents and international agencies need to play complementary roles in eliminating child labour. The interests of different players in this area are of course often diametrically opposed. This implies that all parties will have to be prepared to give and take - a process that needs to be economically viable and ultimately in the interests of the children who do not have the maturity to decide for themselves. Mass campaign by the government in this regard may be worthwhile to increase the awareness among the people. Local Government officials may also be trained and be assigned responsibility with due accountability in this regard.

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Appendix

Causes and Consequences of Child Labour in Bangladesh: An In-depth Study

Survey Questionnaire for the development of database on working children.

Respondent's Child:

Name of the Survey place:.....

Name of the child:.....

Age:.....

Father's Name.....

Mother's Name.....

Address of Child's Workplace:

Address of Child's home :.....

Name of the employer :.....

Address of the employer :.....

A. Information of Child's family :

A. 1. Where do you live in?.....

A.2. With whom do you live in? 1) With parents 2) Relatives 3) others

A.3. Are your parents alive? 1) Yes 2) No 3) Only father 4) only mother

A.4. If yes, what are their occupations?

1) Unemployed 2) Daily wage labour 3) Farmer/fisherman

4) Domestic servant 5) Regular employee 6) Other.....

A. 5. Are your brothers & sisters working? 1) Yes 2) No

A.6. If yes, please give the following details.

SL.No	Name of the brother's/ sister	Age years	Place of work	Nature of work
1				
2				
3				
4				

A.7. At what age you first started working for money? Starting age:.....

A.8. Who is your guardian at the work place?

1) Father 2) Mother 3) Brother/ Sister 4) Relative 5) Neighbor 6) No guardian.

A.9. What is main cause of you involved working for money?

**1) Lost everything by Natural Disaster 2) Large family member 3) Prize hike
4) Others**

B. Information on child's work & working conditions:

B.1. What are the activities you involved in the work place?

1) Assistant 2) Supplier 3) Other

B.2. If your job is on seasonal basis, what do you do during the rest of the year?

1) Return to village 2) Engage in some other job in the city 3) Engage in a job outside the city 4) Others.....

B.3. What is the type of your work-contract?

- 1) Regular 2) Provisional 3) Daily basis 4) Seasonal basis

B.4. What is your average working period?

- 1) hours per day 2)days per month

B.5. What is your income from job?

TK.....daily

B.6. Out of total monthly income, how much do you give to your family?

TK.....Per month.

B.7. For what purpose, the salary is spent?

- 1) Spending for self 2) Parent's household 3) Brother's & sister's education
4) Paying family debt 5) Other.....

B.8. What benefits do you receive from your employer besides wage?

SL.No	Benefits	Remarks
1	Meals	
2	Bonus	
3	Medical	
4	Credit	
5	Others	

B.9. In future what benefits do you expect from the employer?

SL.No	Future Benefits	Remarks
1	Increased salary	
2	Skill development for job	
3	Permanent employment	
4	Others	

B.10. Are you happy at your present workplace?

- 1) Yes 2) No

B.11. Specify the reason.....

C. Information on child's rights(education, health, recreation and personal hygiene)

C.1. Can you read or write?

- 1) yes 2) No 3) Little

C.2. If yes, what is the level of education you attained?

- 1) Non formal education 2) Primary (i-v) 3) Vocational

C.3. What is the main reason for discontinuation of education?

- 1) Due to economic reason 2) Failed in examination 3) To support family

4) Parents did not want to continue schooling?

C.4. Do you still like to go to a formal school?

- 1) Yes 2) No

C.5. If you are supported, will you attend this school leaving your employment ?

- 1) Yes 2) No

C.6. If no, what are your preferences?

- 1) Continue working full-time
- 2) Attend school & work part time
- 3) No education but like to attend vocational training.
- 4) Other

C.7. Are you regularly suffering from any diseases?

- 1) Yes 2) No

C.8. If yes, mention the name of disease

- 1) Skin diseases 2) Gastric 3) Asthma 4) Rheumatic fever 5) Coughing
6) Respiratory problems 7) Other.....

C.9. According to your knowledge, what is /are the activity/activities that have caused this disease?

C10.What was the last time you received medication and for what?

.....Month/year Reason for medication.....

C.11. What do you do during leisure time?

- 1) Watch TV/Cinema 2) Play 3) Sleep 4) Study 5)
Talk to friend 6) No leisure time

C.12. Does employer provide any recreational facilities to you?

- 1) Yes 2) No

C.13. Do you have time to take bath everyday?

- 1) Yes 2) No

C.14. Do you have proper place to sleep?

- 1) Yes 2) No

D. Information on the socio-economic condition of the child and his/her family

D.1. Where are you staying?

- 1) In a rented house 2) In a mess 3) Sharing with co-workers/guardian 4) Other.....

D.2. What is the biggest burden for your family to bringing younger brothers & sisters?

- 1) Cost of food 2) Cost for house rent 3) Cost for clothing 4) Cost for health 5) Cost for education

D.3. What is most likely to happen if you stop working?

- 1) Household cannot afford to live 2) Household living standard will decline
3) Sibling currently studying have to leave the school 4) No effect to the family
5) Other.....

D.4. If there is no effect to the family, what made you to take up this job in this sector?

- 1) Friend's influence to come to city 2) Parent's intention on acquiring skills
3) Neighbors in the village work in this sector 3) Other.....

D.5. Of the items listed below, please identify the three most important items that your family spends its income (with or without your earnings) on

- 1) Food
- 2) Accommodation
- 3) Clothing
- 4) Medical expenses
- 5) Children's education
- 6) Repayment of loans

D.6. Have you done any unlawful activity in work place?

- 1) Yes 2) No

D. If yes, Why?

- 1) For food
- 2) For medical
- 3) For family members
- 4) For yourself
- 5) Other

D.7. Who helped you to find out this job?

- 1) Arranged by parents 2) Self 3) Arranged by friends 4) Through an agent

D.8. Have you paid or are you paying anyone in order to be in this employment?

- 1) At the time of entry 2) Regularly 3) Occasionally

D.9. If paid, then how much you had paid/are paying?

TK.....

D.10. How long have you been working at this sector?

.....months/ year

D.11. Have you worked at some other sector prior to this?

- 1) Yes 2) No

D.12. If yes, what were the reasons for moving from that sector?

- 1) Insisted by parents 2) Heavy work load 3) Physical & mental abuse
- 4) For better salary 5) Other

D.13. How frequently do you visit your parents/guardians at village/city home?

- 1) Once a year 2) Twice during Eid festivals 3) Often 4) Never

D.14. How frequently do you visit your parents/guardians come to see you?

- 1) Once a year 2) Twice during Eid festivals 3) often 4) Never

D.15. Are you a smoker?

- 1) Yes 2) No

D.16. If yes, who influenced you to be a smoker?

- 1) Co-worker 2) Friends 3) Other

D.17. What is your opinion about smoking?

- 1) Good 2) Bad 3) Not necessary 4) Necessary

D.18. Is your friend engaged in any criminal activity?

- 1) Yes 2) No

D.19. If yes, why?

- 1) For food 2) For family 3) Self 4) Other

D.20. Please provide details of your criminal friends, brothers & sisters.

SL.No	Name of friends	Sex M=1 F=2	Age years	Remarks
1				
2				
3				
4				

7. What is your opinion about child labour in Bangladesh?

Respondents	Increased significantly	Decreased significantly
Civil Society		
NGO Worker		
Employer of Child laboureres		
Parents of Child labourers		

8. What are the consequences of child lobour on society?

Respondents	Helpful	Hindering	Both
Civil Society			
NGO Worker			
Employer of Child laboureres			
Parents of Child labourers			

9.What are the measure to ensure Child labour free society of Bangladesh?

Respondents	Have to increase peoples participation in awareness programme	Others	Can not say
Civil Society			
NGO Worker			
Employer of Child laboureres			
Parents of Child labourers			

10.What is your opinion about the level of people’s participation against Child labour?

Respondents	Increased	Not increased
Civil Society		
NGO Worker		
Employer of Child laboureres		
Parents of Child labourers		

11. What step do you suggest to remove child labour in Bangladesh?.....

Supervisor.....

Researcher.....