Situation of Rural Child Labour in Bangladesh:

A Study in Two Upazillas

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Abstract

Child labour is a matter of great concern throughout the world. The issue of child labour has been generally perceived mainly as a problem of developing countries including the other challenges such as poverty, high population growth, rising unemployment, natural disaster and so on. Child rights are seen to have deceived at every now and then in every corner of the country. The rural area is cursed for the abuses of child labour. Muradnagar and Debidwar are important upazilla in Comilla district. There are thousands of child workers facing some problems in their work places. The study reveals the exact situation of child labour, a study is under taken in July to September 2016: the main purpose of the study is to carry out the following objectives:-

To know the demographic and socio-economic condition, characterise of the children employment, the available facilities of them, identify the circumstances that creat children as a worker, the future thought of the child workers and to provide recommendations regarding the problems of child workers.

To achieve these objectives a sample survey has been carried out within the Muradnagar and Debidwar upazilla. The study has found actual situation of child workers in these two upazillas and most important facts are: 42.50 percent of the child workers are of 13-15 years, 33.75 percent are 16-18 years, 18.75 percent are 10-12 years and only 5 percent are below 10 years old. The findings show that mainly 13-18 years old children are involved in child labour. Out of 80 respondents there are 68.75 percent are boys and

31.25 percent are girls. Family bears a great contribution for its children to become a child labour. 66.25 percent mother, 30 percent father and 3.75 percent brother and friends of the respondents encouraged them to go to work. 78.75 percent respondents inform that they have to get themselves engaged in work due to poverty of their family. The finding represent that the rural children are mainly engaged in 7 types of work, as like shop assistant, agriculture, house hold work, rickshaw pulling, brick bearing, boat rowing etc. About 41 percent child workers work above 8 hours a day. In this case, child workers are not paid on the overtime basis as per labour related laws.

The child labourer of the rural areas is employed with the salary ranging from TK.1000 or less, some children are employed for food and shelter only. About 20 percent respondents are satisfied about their work, but about 67 percent are somewhat satisfied and 10.5 percents are not satisfied. Only 2.5 percent respondents are highly satisfied to their work. About 65 percent respondents are living in tin-shade, about 25 percent are living in damp and dirty places, and about 2.5 percent are living in here and there. And about 7.50 percent respondents are living in clean places only.

About 86 percent respondents get chance to study, but about 80 percent of these respondents can not pass primary level. About 46 percent respondents face abuse in their working places. About 33 percent of female workers face sexual abuse.

About 66 percent respondents are pushed to engage them in work by their mother, about 30 percent by their father and about 4 percent are pushed by others. About 21 percent respondents become child labour when their age were 7-9 years, about 50 percent respondents' age were 10-12 years, that is not admissible by any existing labour related law.

So, it is urgently needed to implement the National Action Plan for Children properly and timely which will protect the children including rural working children of Muradnagar and Debidwar areas and over all Bangladesh.

Abbreviations

BARD : BANGLADESH ACADEMY FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT.

BBS : BANGLADESH BUREAU OF STATISTICS.

BRAC : BANGLADESH RURAL ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE.

CRC : CONVENTION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILDREN.

DU : DHAKA UNIVERSITY.

FGD : FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION.

ILO : INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION.

IPEC : INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM OF THE ELIMINATION OF

CHILD LABOUR.

ISWR : INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND RESEARCH. LDC

LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

NGO : NON GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION. RMG :

READY-MADE GARMENT.

SAARC : SOUTH ASIAN ASSOCIATION FOR REGIONAL CO-

OPERATION.

SRCLB : SITUATION OF RURAL CHILD LABOUR IN BANGLADESH.

UCEP : UNDER PRIVILEGED CHILDRENS EDUCATIONAL

PROGRAMS.

UNICEF : UNITED NATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN

EMERGENCY FUND.

UNO : UPAZILLA NIRBAHI OFFICER.

UHC : UPAZILLA HEALTH COMPLEX.

WFCL : WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOUR.

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Out Line of the Study

This study consists of six chapters

Chapter one is the introductory chapter. It gives background information, objectives of the study, discusses the operational definition of key concepts and research problem of the study. This chapter also explains the nature, scope and importance of the study and its methodological characteristics.

Chapter two deals with the concept and critical review of incidence of child labour highlighting the historical background of the incidence of child labour.

Chapter three discusses the different dimensions of child labour, situation of rural child labour, causes and effect of child labour, child labour laws in Bangldesh are broadly discussed in this chapter.

Chapter four analyses the data in detail, examine all empirical data and secondary information and observations. Overall living, working and health conditions, their income, child rights situation, causes of child labour and schooling of child labourers, time of work, sleep, recreation, reading etc.

Chapter five is explaining case study. Four case study included in this study to know the actual situation of child labour, their wages, facilities in workplace and experiences, opinions of the child labourers regarding how best they can shape their better future in selected areas child labourers.

Chapter six is the ending chapter of the study. The major findings, limitations of the study, recommendations and conclusion are discussed in this chapter

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CHAPTER-ONE INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Introduction.
- 1.2 Statement of the Research Problem.
- 1.3 Rational of the Study.
- 1.4 Objectives of the Study.
- 1.5 Operational Definition of Key Concepts.
- 1.6 Methodology of the Study.

Introduction

Infect child labour is a reality of present time. The child labourers work for their own survival and also for offering assistance to their families that are found to be living an abject poverty. The issues related to child labour have socio-economic causes that are beyond large identical in all developing countries. Child labour is a tragic and silent emergency of our time. Like many other problems, child labourers have emerged out of socio-economic conditions prevailing in our country. The head of the family find it difficult to meet the day to day necessities of the members of the family including children. The benefit received from combining the earning of all members in the traditional extended family system is now absent. In such a situation, parents in a poor family normally avoid sending their children to school. They have engaged them in different work. Children in rural areas are working as agriculture assistant, shop assistant, rickshaw/van puller, house hold worker, brick bearer, boat rowing etc. In rural areas 50% of its population may be considered absolute poor (Child, Halim.M.A. and Sadeque Mohammed). Because of rural poverty, landlessness, unemployment, natural calamities and lack of job opportunities. So, they are continuing migrate themselves to urban areas.

Unfortunately, reaching in these areas is scattered and inadequate. Though ultimate goal of govt. in LDCs is to totally eradicate child lobour, the existence of socio- economic and cultural factors among with the conceptual, definitional and measure problems are associated with child labour to pose a serious hindrance in achieving this goal in a reasonable time. So, till such time as the goals are achieved, there is an imperative necessity to understand the problem and protect the interest of the working children in rural areas.

Muradnagar and Debidwar upazilla are the important upazillas in Comilla district. It has occupied prestigious geo-political, socio-cultural position. There are about 5,23,556 people are living in Muradnagar, and 4,31,452 in Debidwar upazilla (Population Survey, 2011).

Thousands of child worker have been serving as child labour in those two upazillas. They have worked in various sectors as like agriculture, shop, van/ricksaw pulling, brick bearing, boat rowing, fisherman, household worker etc. They are living in inhuman condition inflicted by poverty, illiteracy, unhygienic and have taken shelter in overcrowded slums totally lack of amenities for living environment.

Statement of the Research Problem

Nearly a quarter of a million children or 16 out of every 100 children around world- wide are engaged in exploitative child labour in violation of convention on the rights of the child and international labour standards (khan,2011).

Child labour is a complex problem. It is a controversial and emotional issue. It is also a challenging one that does not have simple solutions. The thoughtful and comprehensive approaches required must be guided by the best interest of the child and by a commitment of children's human right as enshrined in the convention on the rights of the child (UNICEF,1997). Its roots are deeply embedded on social, economical and cultural structures.

The perception of childhood started to change in the nineteenth century. Like other social problems the industrial revolution initially made the child labour problem much worse than it had ever been. This transformation in to a novel type of childhood, namely a child that was free from labour organizations and that was educated and disciplined in school was basically completed by the early twentieth century (Listen 2009). It is not until recently that it has started evoking international attention. The united nations of the convention on the rights of the child sets an international standard for looking at child labour.

The problem of child worker is burning question in Bangladesh as else-where in the world. The use of child workers on different fields of activities around the world is common and is also on the increase. The alarming rate of the increase of child workers has attracted the attention of conscious citizens, particularly the social workers, sociologists, economist, and also the people in the legal profession. The problem of the child workers has also drawn the attention of the politicians and legislators. At the turning point of the present country the problem is found to cross the territorial boundary of particular country and had reached the inner circle of international sentiment, resulting in the United Nation Convention on the rights of the child on November 20,1989. (ISWR, 2009-10).

The Bangladesh government estimates that approximately 6.6 million children between the ages of 5 to 14 are engaged in work. Working children are found engaged in 200 types of activities, of which 49 are regarded as harmful to children's physical and mental wellbeing. Out of 31 million, children between the age of 5-14 years,

6.13 million are economic activities, of which 1.9 million are between 5-9 years. Child workers represent about 12% of the total labour force of the country. For between the age of 10-14 represents 27.7% of this age group. In 1996, the third SAARC Ministerial conference on children, government statistics indicated the figure to be only arround 6 million for all children aged 5-14.

The total number of child workers of 5-14 years of age in Bangladesh has been then estimated at 6.3 million, out of which 3.8 million are boys and 2.5 million are girls (Base Line Survey -1996).

The findings from the second survey conducted in 2003 indicate that, of 42.39 million children age 5-17 years in Bangladesh, 7.42 million are economically active, of which

3.18 million are considered child labourers and the represented 7.5 persent of the entire child population in this age range.

The working children in Bangladesh are largely engaged in certain sectors such as agriculture and forest (52.7%), manufacturing (14.6%) and trading (14.2%) (Baseline Survey,2006).

34.5 million Children between 5-15 years are child. More than 9,000 girls are trafficked each year from Nepal and Bangladesh in to bondage in India and Pakistan, often acquiescence or co-operation of state officials report from human rights monitors indicate that child kidnapping and trafficking for labour bondage prostitution continue to be serious and widespread problems. Children who work in domestic service may work in conditions that resemble servitude and prostitution. It is known that 168 children have been trafficked, 369 children have been missing and 295 children have been kidnapped during the year 2001. Human Rights Monitors estimates that more than 20,000 women and children are trafficked from the country for the purpose of forced prostitution anualey (ISWR,2009-10).

Estimated 35,000-45,000 children are believed to be involved with criminal gangs with arms and drug trading. Research on 16 children involved in different crimes found that all of them carry pistols, revolvers, bullets, pipe guns, short guns, AK-47, LMG's, hand bombs, knives, swords and razors.

A qualitative survey entitled "The Child Labour Situation in Bangladesh: A rapid assessment" by ILO – IPEC and UNICEF (Rahman, 1997) identify three broad categories of factors that causes child labour in Bangladesh namely, push factors, Pull factors and interactive factors.

Push factors are those, which compel the children to work to earn income, such as extreme poverty, parents disinterest in the child education, rural and urban migration, death of the earning member of the family, parental divorce, being abandoned by parents, natural calamities all these reasons are examples of push factors.

Pull factors refers to the fact that it is cheaper to employ children and children are more likely to accept lower wages. In the garments sector, during the nineties more than 2,000 new garments factories have been established which has created a large number of jobs and attracted the poverty stricken children to easy employment. Therefore, cheap labour can be categorized a pull factor.

In addition to those there are a series of psychological factors, which are termed as interactive factors'working on the vulnerable minds of children leading them to work and earn. Adults shy themselves away from many hazardous tasks in the family. (Baseline survey,2006).

In a country like Bangladesh poverty is an important determinant that drives the children to work in both in the urban and rural areas.

About 60% of the population in Bangladesh live below the poverty line defined according to the living standards of the country which is the reason behind the children's participating in various income generating activities to support the families from the age of 6. The use of child labour is quite extensive in the rural areas of Bangladesh. Most of the working children come from the lower strata of the socio-economic scale. (Ahmed,2014)

The rural areas are less modernized compared to the urban areas of Bangladesh. The rural areas do not have gas, electricity, proper transportation system, developed schooling system compared to the urban areas of Bangladesh. The majorities of people in rural areas are uneducated and dependent on agriculture as their main source of income. The children in the rural areas, apart from being involved in agriculture, the rural boys are also involved in selling items and some boys are working as servants, shop assistants, rickshaw puller, boat rowing etc. Rural girls are involved in household work as a domestic servant and maids and a few number of rural girls work as vendors or in production jobs. Children get involved in these activities to contribute to the family or to learn certain skills or purely for reasons of survival. In the rural areas crop production is an important source of income of the rural households. There is a high demand for labour during transplantation, weeding and harvesting seasons.(Ahmed,2014)

Most of the parents in the rural areas are illiterate by themselves. So, they are not encouraged to send their children to school when they could be at home learning a skill and supplementing the family income. If the children are not encouraged to go to school, then they have no options other than engaging themselves in hazardous and hard works.(Ahmed,2014)

Majority of the rural people live below poverty line, they do not have any property worth mentioning at their disposal. In rural economy land is viewed as a vital property. But landlessness has turned out to be an acute problem in rural area which is on the increase as time goes on.

Many of the rural children had to leave school and take odd job at the prime of life just for bare survival. The child labourer of rural areas have faced various hazardous situation as like; they have faced health hazards, lack of education, violence, abuses, drug addiction etc. Children are often prompted to work by their parents, since poverty is an integral part of the rural society, therefore for the sake of household survival; the outlook of parents in the rural areas is based on the view that children should work rather than going to school to receive education. (Ahmed and Hasan, 1998)).

So, it is very important to know the actual situation of rural child labourers and take proper action to reduce it from the rural society.

Over the years, much has been done to combat child labour in Bangladesh and many players have become involved in the process, but interventions seem to be scattered and there is no concise presentation of the present status of a programme on the elimination of WFCL and from where and how the country is needed to proceed.

Rational of the Study

Child labour is a matter of great concern throughout the world. Now days, children in all types of societies are involved in some activities with-in the context of the economic structure and level of development of a particular country. The issue of child labour has been generally perceived mainly as a problem of developing countries including the other challenges such as poverty, high population growth, rising unemployment, natural disaster and so on.

In a developing country like Bangladesh the child labour issue poses a great challenge which must be addressed on a priority basis. Child labour is not illegal in Bangladesh, although the law discourages employment of children below 14 years of age in factories. Children aged 5-14 years are found working in household, fields, and factories as paid or unpaid labour. The right of children is neglected in Bangladesh. Increasing abuse and infringement of children's right have triggered a concern over it. A dense population, limited resources, and frequent natural calamities are complicating the poverty situation in Bangladesh and children are their worst victims.

The second National Child Labour Survey (NCLS) indicates that of children aged 5-17 years are 42.39 million in Bangladesh. 7.42 million are economically active, of which 3.18 million are considered child labourers and they represent 7.5 percent of the entire child population in this age range. The working children in Bangladesh are largely engaged in certain sectors such as: agriculture and forestry (52.7%), manufacturing (14.6%) and trading (14.2%). (Baseline survey, 2005)

These findings from the survey capture the incidence of the worst forms of child labour in Bangladesh and this multifaceted problem has to be addressed immediately. The attempt for deeper understanding of the issue makes it clear to visualize that child work is a social evil and as such it is an out-come of vicious circle rooted in our society system in the way that child work inherits unemployment among the adult workers and declines their income on the one hand, and unemployment and low wages of the adult family members force them to set their children to work to boost up family income on the other. From micro level consideration child work seems to be helpful as it brings additional income for a poor family. But from macro point of

consideration, it can be visualized that in terms of meaning of life, child labour brings disaster as it causes withdrawal from acquisition of knowledge and skill of an individual in the formative stage of life and consequently he faces deprivation of his earning ability being grown up as an adult member of the society. In the context of present scenario of the incidence of the child labour, it is no doubt difficult to search out both quantitative and qualitative information of child work of the country. In this perspective, the present study has been designed to find out information relevant to present circumstances with emphasis on rural situation. The study again in its present context may be termed as a diagnostic, descriptive and analytical study. Multi- dimensional aspects of child workers engaged in different sectors of employment are in the study area. They have been searched out in the present study.

It is undeniable fact that children are blessings for every society and future of every nation. So, children should have the opportunity to grow up in a healthy, safe and congenial atmosphere with access to adequate basic needs. The general age of unfortunate working children of Bangladesh 6-18 years which should have been in school but to extreme poverty and lack of awareness they become child workers. These tender aged children are compelled to take up odd jobs at the prime of their life by the forces of circumstances and in most cases nearly for keeping their bodies and souls together. But all the child workers need opportunity for growing not only physically, but also socially and intellectually through all the activities and experiences which belong to growing up with all potentialities as like others children.

The rural areas are less modernized compared to the urban areas of Bangladesh. The children in the rural areas, apart from being involved in agriculture, the rural boys are also involved in selling items, some rural boys work as rickshaw puller, boat rowers, brick bearer, shop assistant and servants. Rural girls are involved in house hold work. In the rural areas, crop production is an important source of income of the rural house-holds. There is a high demand for labour during transplantation, weeding and harvesting season. Child labour is often engaged in these activities. Children are often prompted to work by their parents. Since poverty is an integral part of the rural society therefore for the sake of household survival the out look of parents in the rural areas is based on the view that children should work rather than go to school to receive education.

In the rural areas along with poverty, parents out looks towards child labour are the reasons behind children working situation. If the children are not encouraged to go to school, then they have no options other than engaging themselves in hazardous work.(Ahmed,2014)

Moreover, the theoretical base information and perception on the working children in Bangladesh are still inadequate and fragmentary in nature and consequently, the measures concerning the welfare of these unfortunate children are yet to achieve higher priority in national policy and service delivery system. So, the overall situation of child labour prevailing in country in general and rural areas, directs the importance of an enquiring in to the situation of providing pertinent information to the planners, legislators, policy makers, social workers, sociologists and philanthropists to address the problem from a fresh and realistic perspective. It can there for be logically concluded that information presented in the study will satisfy researchers and information seekers in the context of prevailing situation of child labour in the country in general and the rural areas in particular.

Objectives of the Study

The main objective of the study is to understand situation of the working children in rural areas of Bangladesh.

For obtain the main objective, this study will address on the following specific objectives:

- To know the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of the rural child labourers;
- ii) To identify the patern of living and habit of rural working children;
- iii) To explore the nature of work and its impact on their physical, mental and psychological health;
- iv) To findout the welfare services for the children and their access to those services.

Operational Definition of Key Concepts

Situation

The stagnant, traditional and underdeveloped economy, the social organizations and the traditional attitude of the society combine to perpetuate a situation, of which the child becomes a helpless victim, this scenario depicts the intensive problem of child labour and its dreadful effects in context of Bangladesh. Therefore the policy implications should not be just to remove child labour, the option is to come up with policies that would try to minimize the negative impacts of child labour, create situation where children do not have to work and enable the children to get education and health care to make them worthy citizen.

Rural:

The rural areas are less modernized compared the urban areas of Bangladesh. The rural areas do not have gas, electricity, proper transportation system developed schooling system compared the urban areas of Bangladesh. The majorities of people in the rural areas are uneducated and depend on agriculture as their main source of income. The children in the rural areas, apart from being involved in agriculture, the rural boys are also involved in selling items and some rural boy work as servants. Rural girls are involved in household work, work as domestic servants and maids, and a few rural girls work as vendors or in production jobs. Children get involved in these activities either to assist their parents, to contribute to the family, or to learn certain skills or purely for reasons of survival. In the rural areas crop production is an important source of income of the rural households. There is a high demand for labour during transplantation, weeding and harvesting seasons. Child labour is often engaged in these activities. Children are often prompted to work by their parents, since poverty is an integral part of the rural society, therefore for the sake of household survival; the outlook of parents in the rural areas is based on the view that children should work rather than going to school to receive education. Moreover, rural means that areas there do not have gas, electricity, proper transportation system, developed schooling system compared to the urban areas. The majorities of people in the rural areas are uneducated and depend on agriculture as their main source of income.

Child:

According to the United Nation, every person under 18 years will be treated as a child. In Bangladesh under 18 years, every person is being considered as child and this definition has been considered as working definition of this study.

Law makes a distinction between a child and adult. This distinction is based primarily on the age of the child and the purpose of a particular law. Thus a person is a child who is under 16 years of age. (The children Act, 1974) The majority Act of 1875 describes a person to be a child below 18 years. According to vagrancy Act 1943 a person below the age of 14 is a child. The Bengal children Act 1922 (repeated) defined a child as a person who is below 14 years. Again a child is differently described in the children Act 1960 in India. According to this Act a child means a person who has not attained the age of 16 and a girl who has not attained the age of 18 years. According to the child marriage Restraint Act 1929, a child is a person below the age of 21 while in the case of a male it is 18 for a female.

Under Muslim law a child obtains maturity when he attains puberty. A child is assumed to have attained puberty on the completion of 15 years. According to Hindu law now in existence in Bangladesh child attains maturity after the completion of the age of 15 years. The most agreed upon definition of a child based on age can be found in the United Nations Convention on the right of children 1989. All persons below the age of 18 are unequivocally designated as children in the UN convention of children which is a "Meghna Carta" for the children. In this study who obtain 6-18 years old is considered as a child both male and female person.(khan,2011)

Child Labour:

"work is the application of human energy towards things, which application converts, maintains or adds value to the workers, the things on, and the system in which the work is performed" (Wallman, 1979. p-4).

However work is not just a mechanical function of energy expenditure. It is energy directed to explicit goals. An important characteristic of work is that it is necessary aspect of socialization in its holistic approach work taken as a human activity applying human energy and directed to some goal. Work is not always in terms of wage employment or

some kind of remuneration. work may be physiological and mental or a combination of both .

Work can be a gradual initiation into adulthood and a positive element in child's development (Fyfe,1989). Child does certain household activities and the initial phase of childhood, such as, fetching things for parents, minding younger siblings an assisting in household chores, all these are a part of socialization. These activities are not directly or indirectly related to employment in economic sense. These are essential for the child's physical and mental growth and also for socialization.

Child labour refers to the employment of children in any work that deprives children of their childhood, interferes with their ability to attend regular school and that is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful.

Child labourers are seen almost in all places in Bangladesh. In recently thousands of female child labourers are working in garments factories in Bangladesh who are adding a new dimension to the problem. According to the Employment children Act 1939, Factories Act 1965, Shops and Establishment Act 1965, except the children Act 1933, adolescent and young person can work. Such adolescent and young person belongs to the age of 15-18 years. In Bangladesh, again no child under 15 years may be employed or allowed to work in any employment involving transportation of passengers, goods or handling of goods in seaport. Further no child under the age of 14 can work in a factory. However children and adolescent within a prescribed age can work only five hours a day. Child labour legislation in Bangladesh prohibits employment of child labour in certain settings and regulates working conditions of adolescent and young person who are permitted to work. It should be noted that child labour legislation is primarily addressed to the organized sector of the economy leaving aside the vast number of children working in agriculture or other unorganized sector.

In this study a person who bears the age of 6-18 years and works any sector to earn money in Debidwar and Muradnagar upazilla in Comilla district is considered as a child labourer.

Bangladesh:

The study is confined to the rural area of Bangladesh at upazilla level data from direct interview from the respondents. Two upazillas are selected in Comilla district under the study. One is well communicated and another is difficult communicated area. These upazillas' are Debidwar and Muradnagar in Comilla district.

Recreation:

An essential activity for children is termed as recreation. This is considered as primary activity along with schooling and socialization and development of children. All kinds of play, healthy entertainment forms, games, and rest periods are the form of child recreation. These facilities are considered as working definition of this study.

Methodology of the Study

This is primarily a quantitative research based on sample survey. However, the study adopts both quantitative and qualitative techniques for data collection.

The study by its very nature, required in-depth information on the study field. So, the method of sample survey followed for the purpose of the present study. The universe of the study consist of all the working children employed in the different fields of employment in the Dabidwar and Muradnagar upazillas in Comilla district who are in the age of six to eighteen years.

In pursuing the objectives of the study, special attention is given on particular topics within the study areas. Both primary and secondary data are used and information is also obtained through informal observations. In this chapter all the procedures for collection of data are summed up from the beginning to end.

The study is based on two upazillas in Comilla district. The upazillas are Debidwar and Muradnagar. The procedure of selection of sample upazilla, respondents, data collection, for the study are given bellow:

Selection research area:

Child labour in Banglsadesh can be divided into two: rural and urban. Here only rural child labourers have purposively been selected. Data on various aspects as mentioned under the objectives were collected from two upazillas namely Debidwar and Muradnagar were selected purposively. The sample areas were located in six villages namely Shaelchor, Mohammadpur and Alampur in Debidwar. Shatmora, Ghorashal and Delalpur in Muradnagar upazilla in Comilla district. The total number of 80 respondents were selected, 40 in each upazilla.

Two upazillas are selected purposively for the study. One upazilla is selected from well communicated area and another one from comparatively difficult communicated area. The upazillas selected for the study following the criteria were Debidwar as well communicated area and Muradnagar of Comilla district as a difficult communicated area. 40 respondents are selected from each of the upazilla considering different kinds of work and different personal nature. Collected data, Focus group discussion and key informant discussion have been held during the period of July to September 2016.

The child labourers of rural areas are employed in agriculture, fisheries, brick field, shop assistant, household worker, rickshaw pulling etc. observation survey was made prior to fieldwork of the study to identify the locations where the child labourers were available. After observation survey the six villages were selected purposively considering the availability of child labourers.

Then the respondents were selected on purposively or on the basis of their availability in the selected locations. In total the size of sample were 80 with 68.75 percent male and 31.25 percent are female in differents working places. 85 percent Muslims and 15 percent Hindus child labourers are selected as respondents of the study.

Relevant secondary information and data are collected and evaluated during the study period. For this purpose, each selected area's child in age of 6-18 years who are engaged in any earning work is considered as the respondent of the study.

Population of the study:

Every child of the two upazillas who are engaged in any earning work has been considered as a research population. The child labourers of these two upazillas are engaged in shop, brick field, agriculture, van/rickshaw pulling, boat rowing, house hold work, fisheries, auto helper, workshop and some other sectors. So total earning children of these upazillas are the population of the study. 80 respondents (40 in each upazilla) were selected for interview.

Sampling procedures:

The study selected 80 particepends as a sample and the respondents are chosen by purposively sampling. 80 respondents are selected for the data collection who are identified equally of the upazillas.

Methods of data collection:

A structured interview schedule is prepared for data collection. In addition the observation technique is very important for in-depth study. This is why, during data collection personal observations and informal interviews were given special attention.

To interview each respondent of the study areas a questionnaire consisting of different information relating child labour was used. The researcher themselve and two

interviewers has been collected data from the respondents.

Combination of three techniques (sampling, designing questions and interviewing) are the essential to good survey design. It is true for this study also.

Rural child labourers of Bangladesh are employed in agriculture, foresty, fisheries, shop assistant, van/rickshaw pulling, brick bearing, house hold work, boat rowing and some other types of work. Most of them work in unorganized or semi-organized sector. So, through structured and openended questionnaire used for data collection from the 80 respondents.

Before the data collection researcher himself and two interviewers visit the villages and buildup good relation with child labourers, their gardians and masters.

During the data collection personal observations and informal interviews were given special attention.

Analysis and presentation of data:

The collected raw data has been edited; then it has been classified and tabulated according to its characters. Firstly the collected raw data from the research area has been edited. Then, it has been classified and tabulated according to its composition and characters. Proper statistical method (mean, median, mode, percentage) have been used to analyses the data.

Collected data has been presented through appropriate graph, pie chart, bar diagram etc. with the help of MS-excel, XP.

In addition to this, valuable secondary information was used or consulted from the beginning to the end to make the overall presentation worthy.

CHAPTER-TWO LITERATURE REVIEW

Ali khan (2011) conducted a study on "Education for Child Labourers: A of child labourers. Situational Study in Dhaka City" which explores that many out of school children are engaged in child labour and their work can act as a barrier to accessing education. so child labour is a burning question in Bangladesh. There is aneed that they are provided opportunities for education, health care, recreation, human treatment and opportunities for development. So, needs to be proper research on the field. This study find out the actual situation regarding the education

Several studies about child labour have been conducted. For this empirical study, I have examined those published studies that have taken into account statistical control for under-standing child labourers overall conditions. Moreover, it is very limited particularly on situation of rural child labour. Indeed, few studies have covered the problem but scattered. It is worth mentioning that ILO, IPEC, UNICEF and other national organization have conducted several researches about child labour the findings of these researches are very valuable for better theoretical under-standing of the present study.

The objectives of the study are to –

- i) Find out the actual situation about the non-formal educational facilities for child labourers are Dhaka city and analysis the curriculum and syllabus of special school if child labourers both from GO and NGO.
- ii) Analyze the strategy of human resources development for allowing child labourers the opportunities to both work and study.
- iii) Analyze the day to day working conditions and time of work of child labourers in relation to their education
- iv) Analyze the attitude of employers, teachers and guardians towards the educational facilities for the child labourers.
- v) Elucidate the possible immediate and long term solutions of the problem and constraints in implementation.

In this study, the primary data has been collected using three techniques with instrument;

- 1. Interview with schedule
- 2. Observation with guideline and
- 3. Document analysis with checklist.

An interview schedule was used in this study for data collection, which was pre tested prior to the field investigation in order to improve its reliability and validity. Requisite data were collected from the selected child labourers of three schools by direct interview method.

The empirical findings indicate that the highest percentage of child labours falls in age group of 14 years being 27.2 percent, while 14.6 percent belongs to the age group of below 13 years. This data is similar to National Child Labour Survey 2002-2003.

It is revealed from empirical and secondary data that a huge number of children are engaged in various kinds of works without attending school. Thus they are deprived of growing as worthy citizens of the country.

It is observed form this study that almost all school going brothers and sisters of the respondents are attending non-formal schools. From focus group discussion it reveals that one school going child labourer is a symbol of inspiration to juniors of his/her family to attend non-formal school. Here big family size is not a big problem.

It is important to note that there is a strong association between the proportion of attending school of child labourers and the level of education of their parents. Only

21.9 and 19.9 percent of fathers and mothers respectively of child labourers of this study are illiterate.

The study reveals that 19.2 percent fathers are day labourers and 29.1 percent are private employees and 1.3 percent is not able to work due to sickness. On the other hand 52.3 percent of mothers are housewives and 23.8 percent are domestic workers.

It is clear that their income is very limited and live under poverty line. Housing and living condition of child labourers are very poor, unhygienic and highly temporary though a majority of them live with their parents.

It is really important to note that 67.5 percent of child labourers are working through all along seven days of the week. Only 6 percent of them work for 5 days a week, while the rest 26.5 percent child labourers work for 6 days a week.

All the respondents of the study are part time school going children as well as part time child labouerers. Indeed, the study reveals that 58.3 percent respondents work for 2 to 4 hours per day and 26.5 percent work for 4 to 6 hours are followed by 8.6 percent for 6 to 8 hours, 5.3 percent for less than 2 hours and 1.3 percent work for more than 8 hours.

The study reveals that a good number of child labourers have some idea about existing rules, laws and policies related to children. It is available to them because their teachers gave some information at classes.

It is observed from this study that parents as well as employers can play a vital role to accommodate the children to go to school. Besides, repeated government instructions, nation and world-wide campaign against child labour, this study indicates that we should raise awareness of our parents and employers first. Furthermore, 16.6 percent wants financial help, 6.6 percent in favor of the implementation of existing laws and

1.3 percent gave very specific opinion to build special school like UCEP School. Indeed, 19.9 percent have no comment on the idea how to eliminate or at least reduce child labour in Bangladesh.

There are some limitations of the study. They are as follows;

- i) The first limitation of the study is to selected urban child labour only. but maximum child labour is living in rural areas
- ii) The second limitation is the sample size (N=151) and it does not covered the total child labour in urban areas.
- iii) Another limitation is to choose only three schools in Dhaka city.

The review of literature has been prepared with limited facts. On the basis of the findings accrued from the study, the following recommendations could be made for improving the actual situation of non-formal educational facilities for child labourers:-

i. The curriculum and syllabus of these special schools (Non-formal school for child labourers in Dhaka City) should be practical and job oriented in terms of

- their working places and working schedule. Space, place and time should be given on priority basis.
- ii. These special non-formal schools should be increases as soon as possible, time is very important here, these child's labourers will be no more children within a few years, if we fail to facilitate and accommodate them, they will be denied for worthy citizens of the country.
- iii. To determine the nature and magnitude of child labour, a regular and comprehensive survey is necessary.
- iv. To understand the scenario of child labour and education in different areas and to find out the best possible and justified solution of the problem, special research works and survey are needed with large sample covering all districts of the country.
- v. Proper planning is very much necessary to pick up the boys and girls who finish the courses of Hard-to-Reach schools. Otherwise the child labourers will be dropped out from the main streaming of education of the country.
- vi. Hard-to-Reach schools cover the child labourers up to primary level only. This successful and resourceful programme should be extended up to secondary level.
- vii. To keep the children at schools, may be they are child labourers, all class rooms should be well ventilated and children friendly.
- viii. Ministry of Primary and Mass education and Ministry of Labour and Employment can take initiatives in this policy formation. They can consider preparing some projects which will review current knowledge on child labour and education linkages and which identifies areas which could form the basis for new research in this area.
- ix. All the activities regarding the National Child Labour Elimination Policy- 2010, must be strengthening to combat child labour in Bangladesh, Besides all sorts of effective media should be used for raising awareness among the people of all strata of the society.
- x. Ministry of Labour and Employment can take the lead in collaboration with the

Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, Ministry of Social Welfare, ILO, UNICEF and experienced NGOs like UCEF to setting goals and objectives for achieving the elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour by 2016 which adopted by acclamation at the Hague Global Child Labour Conference on 11 May 2010.

Conclusion:

I understood from the study that the actual working situation of child labourers, time schedule for the working children, minimize the higher cost of education of the child labourers in urban areas.

The study indicate the educational status, housing, working hours, mentality of other person towards child labourer in urban society. This information help me to know the real situation of the child worker in my selected areas.

The study conducted only urban areas. So, it is not possible to know the rural situation correctly. The study selected three school, so un-organized child employe are not coverd here, the nature and scope of urban children is far different from rural children, it is also a limitation of the study.

Moreover, this study help me to know the actulal facilities, and obstacks of education for the rural child labourers which will be enriched by the data in the field of rural child worker in Bangladesh. **Islam** (2010) conducted a study on "Hazardous Child Labour In Bangladesh: A Study in Barisal city." which explores that many children are engaged in hazardous work. But they do not know what is the empect of this work for his health and future development.

Children are important assets and the future of a nation. The state as well as the society should offer them ample opportunities for their proper education and physical, mental, social and moral growth and development. As childhood is the formative part of human life, children, should not therefore, be exposed to such work as is detrimental to their physical or mental growth. Unfortunately, a large number of children of the world today are not cared as they required. They are compelled to sell their labour for their survival. It is not just a question of a few thousand, but of several tens of millions of children throughout the world that are exploited at work or employed under condition that seriously jeopardize their health, safety, education, morals and dignity.

127.3 million Child labour live in Asia-pacific. 48 million child workers in Sub- Saharan Africa, 17.4 million child workers in Latin America and the Caribbean countries (Unicef 2008). In fact, Child Labour is a social problem all through the world. It has been a matter of great concern especially for the third world countries (BBS,2003)

Like in others developing countries child labour is an enormous problem in Bangladesh, with around 5.4-7.9 million, about one fifth of all Bangladeshi children aged 5-14 years being classified as child workers (UNICEF, 2008).

In Bangladesh children is considered to be involved in child labour activities under the following classification: Children 5-11 years of age during the week preceding the survey did at least 1 hour of economic activity or at least 28 hours of domestic work and children 12-14 years of age during the week preceding the survey did at least 14 hours of economic activity or at least 42 hours of economic activity and domestic work combined (UN, 2005).

In 1996, 47 forms of child labour detected most hazardous for children. These children are engaged in over 300 different types of activities of which 27 are considered harmful to their physical and mental well-being. (Source- Situation of child labour in Bangladesh-ILO and UNICEF, 1997). In 2001, 425 forms of child labour and 67 types of hazardous forms of child labour detected in Bangladesh (Razzak, 2001). Intolerable forms of child labour, as categorized by the ILO, are domestic service, slavery or near slavery,

hazardous occupations, and sexual exploitation. All of these forms are practiced in Bangladesh.

Both push and pull factors are causing child alabour problems. Extreme poverty, lack of access to education, unemployment problem in the rural areas, lack of scope for institutional skill development, lack of knowledge about harm of child labour are push factors. Pull factors like cheaper wage, easier handling scope of children than that with adult's etc. promotes child labour.

In Bangladesh a large number of children are deprived of their basic human rights due to unacceptable health, nutrition and education as well as social conditions. In addition, children are exposed to severe forms of physical and mental violence at home, in the work place, in institutions and other public places. The nature and extent of violence against children irrespective of age, sex and class has been increasing day by day. On the whole, our children are not safe despite efforts made by government and non-government organizations are ensuring the rights of the children.

The study known the situation of the child labourer who is working at risk. Also the study has been conducted through the following specific objectives: To collect information on the nature and reasons for working in hazardous sector;

- i) Identify the working time, attitude and role of different agencies and actors concerning child rights;
- ii) To investigate the socio-economic and demographic background of the family and factors putting them to work;
- iii) To enquire into the nature of work, work hazards, working environment, income level and use of the income;
- iv) To know the position of the facilities provided to the child labour like education, health care, recreation etc.
- v) To collect information about child exploitation and abuse at work;
- vi) To know the perception of children themselves about their work;
- vii) Occupational risk and health hazardous, injuries, disease, drug adiction and extent of disabilities:

- viii) Understanding the role of different concerned authorities and stakeholders concerning the rights establishment of hazardous working children;
- Method: This is an empirical study and therefore, by its nature the study requires in depth information. After collecting necessary data from secondary sources a sample survey was conducted to collect field primary data.
- i) Area of the study:- The study will cover whole 30 wards of Barisal city. In terms of selecting study area the highest concentration of the types of working children and their variations in these areas got prime importance as far as the study objective is concerned.
- ii) Population of the study: The population of the study consists all of the working children between the ages of 7 to 17, engaged in 7 types of hazardous work out of 67 types of identified hazardous work.
- iii) Study sampling: In terms of selecting sample total 300 samples selected from 10 occupational groups. The sample of the study is selected purposively. In the equal number of male and female children that means 150 female and 150 male are selected in the study.
- iv) Technique of data collection:- It is an empirical study and in-depth investigation was required. To collect data formal interview and observation technique was followed. At first selecting the required area of investigation a questionnaire were prepared for respondents. Data was collected on the basis of the questionnaire. Emphasis was given on observation so that reliable and valid data could be attained; Data were collected from September 2009- November 2009.
- v) Data processing, analysis and interpretation:-After the completion of field study efforts were made to compile and edit the collected data to ensure the accuracy and validity of the information. Simple statistical methods such as percentage, central tendency, mode, median, mean and standard deviation have been applied in some cases.
- vi) Presentation of data: The analyzed data have been presented attractively. Bar diagram, Column diagram, Pie chart, Line graph and other presentation tools have been used with the data table.

To make a clear under-standing about the life condition of the children engaged in hazardous labour in Bangladesh, a sample survey has been carried out under this study. The survey was conducted to children involved in hazardous activities.

A total 300 children between the ages of 7-17 years involved in hazardous labours were purposively selected and surveyed. As method of data collection interview and observation techniques were followed. In the mean-time 67 forms of labours have been identified as hazardous in Bangladesh. The study has been carried out in 10 areas collection labourer out of 67 activities. Male and female child labourer selected with equal ratio.

The number of children household members varies from 1-10 and average family size

5.26 members. The data shows that more than half of the households consist of 5-10 members which are more than national average family size 4.5 members.

80.67% households are headed by male. But a significant number of households instead of male members are headed female'17.67 %households are headed by female members. Father of the working children the highest number of them is involved in Rickshaw pulling. Highest number of mothers about half of the mother is identified as house maker. 46.73% mother is identified as house maker.

The monthly income of the household of the respondents varies from 1,000 taka to 9,000 taka. The dominant segment of household 43.67% of them earn between 4,000- 6,500 taka per month. The lowest age of the key respondents were 7 years, Mean age 12.49 years. With standard deviation 2.26 years out of 300 child labourers. The data reveals that children categorized their work into 10 categories. Highest number of respondents 45.67% respondents works in bidi factory.

Only 69.67% children reach in primary level education. A segment of children even utterly deprived of getting education 11.33% children have been found who have no formal education. 2.33% children have found who can only sign. Less than 2% children are found as disable children among these 300 surveyed working children.

The data suggest that cumulatively 97% respondents have a perception of children which is different and below from the legal age of children. 95% respondents do not have any idea concerning child rights. The data show that about three fourth of the respondents

73.68% do not like their work. The highest number of children 36.33% works for four days in week. 26.33% children works for all days of the week that means they do not enjoy any sorts of holiday. The working hour of the children varies from 3 hours to 13 hours. On an average, children have to work 10.4 hours per day and standard deviation 2.59 hours. The monthly salary of the children varies for less than 500 taka to 4,500 taka. The highest number of children gets salary or earn between 500-1,000 taka per month; more than one quarter of the children 27.33% children earn 1-500 taka per month.

82.33% respondents inform that the toilet facility in their working places is not adequate, 75.67% informed they do not get safe water in their working places. The data reveals that most of employer 98.67% does not give any scope to working children in attending school in working period. The data shows that most of the surveyed children 93.67% consider their work as hazardous work.

The data inform that more than half of the children 70% eat fish /meat once in a week. 44.67% children are deprived of drinking milk. A considerable number of children 17.67% acknowledge that they use drug. 34.67% respondent's feels that nobody wants to mix with them, while 26.67% respondents identify parents do not allow them to go anywhere. A portion of children face obstacles in forming social relationship as they think everybody hate them. The data shows that 95.67% children feel that parents are the most important part in protecting child rights, 3.67% feel that community plays the most important role in protecting child rights. It seems to 1.33% children that civil society should play the most important role in protecting child rights.

Like all other social research, this one is not free from limitations. A few studies have been conducted in child's hazardous activity. So, there was not enough information on child labourers engaged in various hazardous sectors. This is why far as it is known no research has yet been undertaken in the field of Bidi factory child labourers. So, there is no scope of comparing the results of this survey with other available sources. However, limitations of the current study are briefly summarized below:

i. In most cases, employers of the working children did not allow enough time to interview child lanourers hampering the work. As the interview was carried out at the premises of the work place it was difficult for the children to voice their real opinions that may not be acceptable to their employers.

- ii. It was not possible to select a large number of respondents for data collection due to limitation of resources and time.
- iii. Some questions were very much sensitive both for the child labourers, It was difficult to put certain questions to the child workers such as abuses, hours worked, wages and salary, lunch interval etc, in front of the owner and child workers were found hesitant to answer.
- iv. In terms of Bidi factory labourer the manager in most cases did not allow to give interview, Besides time constraints was also a great problem there.
- v. To analyze the impact of hazardous child labourer's health, long term observations and medical instruments required to be used, but it was not possible for the investigator.
- vi. The owners had a tendency to overstate the age of child labourers to avoid possible harassment because there are government restrictions not to employ any one below 18 years of age.
- vii. Another limitation is that, the study has been centralized on the city area. So, the findings reflect the urban based child labour and its consequences.

After all, the study has carried out in a new field of knowledge. Besides the limitations it can be a first hand data for the researcher who will carry out similar type of investigation in the same field in future.

As childhood is the formative part of human life, children, should not therefore, be exposed to such work as is detrimental to their physical or mental growth. Unfortunately, as in other developing countries, the child labour situation in Bangladesh is frustrating. Extreme poverty is forcing many children to do any kind of work including hazardous one.

More studies are required to visualize the real picture of the country child labour situation and to innovate proper steps for eliminating child labour. The main recommendations of the study are following:-

i) Regular basis child labour survey at specific interval should be carried out to build up a reliable data base on the extent and nature of child labour in both

- the formal and informal sectors.
- ii) Reduction of poverty and removed of economic and social inequality from the society may largely help the elimination child labour.
- iii) Income generating program should be widely introduced by the government and NGo's for those needy families who are compelled to send their children to work instead of sending them to school.
- iv) Immediate action program should be formulated with a view to improving the quality of working children's life.
- v) Motivational program for ensuring education of working children.
- vi) Informal and vocational education must be some support for the creation of employment opportunities for skilled workers.
- vii) It is necessary to create a national platform for allowing children to express opinions on their needs, expectations and means of addressing those need and expectations.
- viii) Vulnerable children will have the right to protection from abuse, exploitation and violence.
- ix) Proper birth registration system cans protract of early marriage.
- x) Social Security both for the family and the children are immensely needed.
- xi) Socialization and mainstreaming is important to minimize the gap between those children who are excluded by the society and the people in the society who does not consider them as social elements.
- xii) Need to conduct actions on child rights education among parents and employers regarding child rights issue.
- xiii) Campaign among the employers for preventing most hazardous forms of work.
- xiv) Government should carry out activities to improve the working condition particularly improving toilet facility and supply of potable water in the

working place.

- xv) Awareness campaign should be carried out by government as well as NGO against the negative effect of using drug.
- xvi) In order to establish child rights and eradicate child labour, there should be a child- friendly justice system, and people involved in such areas should be trained about the rights of children.

Conclusion:

I understood from the study that, how the child labourer facing challenges against poverty, high population growth,natural diasarter etc. large family size, separation of parents, unattractive schooling environment are the main causes of the child labourers in rural areas. The problem of child labour is very complex and multi-dimensional in urban and rural areas.

The finding of this study reveals that the hazardous child labour is always harmful for the children's health and livelihood; it is also an important cause of drug addiction by child. Hazardous child labourer are probably the most neglected members of the society and hardly has any voice, within the home. As a result, they are consistently becoming easy victims of all sorts of violence

The study conducted some industrial areas only, so total child labourers situation is not covered here.

The study shown that neglency from the family and the soceiety is very hurmfull for the child.

This information help me to know the actual causes of addiction and violence. The study informed the proper rule of the gardians and the society.

Taher (2006) conducted a study on "Child Labour in Dhaka City Dimensions and Implications" which explores that many children are engaged in varities works in Dhaka city. But they do not know what is the empect of this work for his health and future development.

A critical review of the incidence of child labour in the socio-economic perspective of Bangladesh, may glare up both positive and negative impact. An additional income earned by a working child for a poor family in which immediate needs take precedence over everything, may be looked at with high priority from the micro level consideration of the family. In such circumstances, the incidence of child labour seems to bear positive connotation. But from macro level consideration, particularly in terms of deprivation of knowledge and skill acquisition, the incidence of child labour appears to be just like getting lost in the present ignoring the future of a nation and also denotes economic gains of employers at the cost of physical, psychological, Intellectual and moral development of children who comprise the posterity of the nation.

In the composition of Bangladesh population children below the age of 14 years represent a good proportion i.e., 39.4% (Population Census 2001). The composition of population, if looked at in terms of future, brings forward to the eyesight that like other countries of the world the children of Bangladesh are the future architects of the nation. This thinking, therefore, follows the logic that the children in Bangladesh deserve to grow up in an atmosphere congenial to their physical, mental, moral and social development. But in reality the situation in Bangladesh flashes a portrait, which is quite repugnant to any lofty idea for children.

A critical review of the prevailing circumstances in Bangladesh, in the context of grooming up facilities, reveals that children are deprived, in most cases, of what they actually need and deserve. On the contrary, in many a case, children are found to take up jobs under compelling circumstances for their survival although the jobs are detrimental to the growth of children in their growing age. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child|| adopted in 20th November, 1989 and its Subsequent endorsement by Bangladesh has of late, turned the issue of child labour in

Bangladesh into a burning question and thus reached and agitated the inner circle of national sentiment.

In the commercial establishments of the metropolitan City of Dhaka it is very common to see pale looking children swelling the ranks of unorganized and floating labour force. In this backdrop, the present study has been designed and proposed to make an in-depth inquiry about the Child Labour in Dhaka City highlighting the different aspects of their lives and living.

The main objective of the study was to know and understand the overall situation of the working children in the city of Dhaka and with this end in view information was sought from three different interrelated sources of inquiry namely i. Child labourers, ii. Guardians and iii. Employers, giving particular attention to the specific objectives as set out below:

- To gather information about the socio-economic background and living condition of the working children and to locate factors compelling child labour.
- ii) To enquire into the nature of work of working children, their working environment, income, pattern of expenditure and to identify the problems they face and also the legal support enjoyed by them.
- iii) To understand the educational status of the working children, their attitude towards education, their recreational habits and mobility and also to know their suggestions to improve their fate.
- iv) To get acquainted with socio-economic features of the guardians and to know their feelings regarding employment of their children and their suggestions related there to.
- v) To know about the socio-economic profile of the employers and to assess their awareness about and attitude towards child labour and their opinion for improving the fate of child workers.

Method:- This is an empirical study and therefore, by its nature the study requires indepth information . After collecting necessary data from secondary sources a sample survey was conducted to collect field primary data.

- i) Area of the study:- An observation survey was made prior to identify the location where the child labourers were available. After observation survey twelve locations were selected purposively considering the availability of child workers .The selected location were Saidabad bus terminal, Fulbaria, Sadarghat, Gulistan, Dholaikhal, Mugdapara, khilgaon, Kawranbazar, Maghbazar, Farmgate, New market(in clouding DU area) and Mirpur.
- ii) Population of the study:- After the selection of the locations the respondents were selected through accidental sampling i.e.,on the chance to meet or on the basis of their availability in the selected locations.
- iii) Study sampling:- In terms of selecting sample total 500 with a break up of 297 child labourers,101 guardians and 102 employers. Sample of child labourers was taken from nine different fields of employment taking 33 respondents from each field.
- iv) Technique of data collection:- It is an empirical study and in-depth investigation was required. To collect data formal interview and observation technique was followed. At first selecting the required area of investigation a questionnaire were prepared for respondents. Data was collected on the basis of the questionnaire. Emphasis was given on observation so that reliable and valid data could be attained.
- v) Data processing, analysis and interpretation:-After the completion of field study efforts were made to compile and edit the collected data to ensure the accuracy and validity of the information. Simple statistical methods such as percentage, central tendency, mode, median, mean and standard deviation have been applied in some cases.
- vi) The documentary or secondary sources of information, as mentioned earlier, comprising available published as well as unpublished materials on the subject mostly in the form of books, journals, articles and reports etc. were also consulted for shaping the theoretical frame of the study.

vii) Presentation of data:- The analyzed data have been presented attractively. Bar diagram, Column diagram, Pie chart, Line graph and other presentation tools have been used with the data table.

All the children under case study were found, to some extent, depressed after their retrenchment from employment in garment factories. To their lives jobs for earning are considered to be a blessing and they prefer it to any other jobs as it facilitates them, according to their opinion, to have a steady and better income and also provides them with the opportunity to acquire marketable skills and techniques while working and earning. The age of the children under study ranges from 10-13 years while their average age is 10.8 years. As regards academic learning, these children hardly had any chance to get enrolled in any academic institution. None of the children under case study could tell anything worth mentioning about their jobs before they joined garment factories and after their retrenchment from the same place as well. On an average the children under a case study worked for more than a year in garment factories and while in work in garment factories these child workers worked on an average 9.7 hours a day and their average monthly income was TK. 525.00. These children are not physically retarded but almost all of them bear the mark of malnutrition in appearance. The children reported that the jobs they happened to take up before and after their employment in garment factories are less rewarding and more troublesome. All the retrenched workers have migrated from outside Dhaka and are unmarried and Muslims by religion.

On the average, the family size of the retrenched children is 6.7 while it ranges from 4 to 9 members. None of the family members, as reported, possesses any academic qualification worth mentioning. Only in a few cases, academic qualification was reported up to beginning stage of primary level. The average monthly family income is TK. 1,710.00 only and per family it ranges from Tk.1,400.00 –2,300.00 per month. Unskilled manual labour cursed by illiteracy features the family members prominently. In all cases fathers are the breadwinners of the family. However, mothers are not passing idle days, rather they are also earning to supplement the family income as house helps or otherwise.

As regards job situation, it has been revealed that none of the jobs taken up by the retrenched children is free from troubles and difficulties. But considering the pros and cons of the job situation they are more inclined to have employment in garment factories as it is, in spot of being time consuming and demanding as good as other jobs more

rewarding in respect of wage and skill development. However, the children feel very strongly for jobs that will ensure them a permanent source of earning without facing any situation of redundancy whatsoever. The children need earning for survival under compelling circumstances. They are used to think in terms of earning and living. So, what they need today, they also think of that even for their tomorrow.

It is quite surprising that none of the female child workers retrenched from garment factories could tell anything about their proposed schooling facilities under the joint initiative of BGME, ILO and UNICEF, as has been agreed upon in the Memorandum of understanding. So far as the present condition of the retrenched under age female garment workers are concerned. A total uncertainty falls squarely on their lives, earnings and living. The future seems to be no less bleak than the present. So it is the future that can only determine what type of future awaits them.

In the context of present situation it is, therefore of no use to talk about abolition of child labour which is not only unrealistic but is also likely to bring about further misery than any good to millions of poverty inflicted people in the country who, by the exigencies of circumstances, are compelled to depend of the economic help of their children for survival. So, as per demand of the situation a realistic and pragmatic stand should be taken to create an environment in which working children shall not be deprived of learning while earning for survival and shall not face any hindrance to their growth and development.

Towards that end some measures as stated below may be taken into consideration:

- i. Commitment to the elimination of child labour and exploitation of children should be reiterated afresh.
- ii. Legislative enactment on employment of children should be reviewed afresh with a view to covering all sectors of employment of children and wherever necessary agricultural and domestic service sectors should be covered.
- iii. Comprehensive studies should be undertaken at national level on the situation of children and child labour.
- iv. A task-oriented commission at national level should be created to deal with the situation of child labour and to formulate plan of action as needed for the

- elimination of child labour.
- v. To gear up information campaign on the harmful effects of child labour and thus bring the issue to the focus of public attention.
- vi. To ensure community participation in the process of elimination of child labour a community based action programmer should be given paramount importance.
- vii. Universal primary education proramme should be restructured on the flexibly timed system so that all children including working ones can participate.
- viii. An income-generating programme may be thought upon for the able bodied members of those families being dependent on the income of child labourers.
- ix. To ascertain the extent of child prostitution and child victim's studies at national level should be undertaken. Rescue and rehabilitation programmes for child victims of sexual exploitation should also be initiated.
- x. Harsh possible legislative measures should be taken against child pornography and trafficking in children.
- xi. To raise the level of social awareness and public opinion in this regard information campaigns and social action should be given uppermost consideration.
- xii. Co-ordinated efforts between the Government and NGOs should be launched for promoting the interest of the disadvantaged poor in general and working children in particular.
- xiii. It is essential to provide the child labourers with proper knowledge and skills in accordance with their intelligence, attitude, mental disposition and aptitude.
- xiv. An organization exclusively for working children entitled —Working Children's Bureau|| should be set up to conduct survey and record the exact number of child workers in urban and rural areas of the country.

Conclusion:

I understood from the study that, the socio- economic background, living condition, nature of work, income and expenditure of the child labourers. It also known to me how they can get legal support and suggestions to improve their fate.

These findings help me to know and under-stand the overall situation of the working children in Bangladesh. It will helpful to know the socio-economic background and living condition, the nature of work of working children, their working environment, income, pattern of expenditure and to identify the problems they face and also the legal support enjoyed by them. To understand the educational status of the working children, their attitude towards education, their recreational habits and mobility and also to know their suggestions to improve their fate.

This study conducted the child labour of Dhaka city. So, the living patern, nature of works, expenditure sectore is different from the rural children. This is why it is not possible to collect the proper information about the rural child labourers from the study.

But the study informed me how the child labourer can play proper role for the family and the society. To know about the socio-economic profile of the employers and to assess their awareness about and attitude towards child labourer and their opinion for improving the fate of child workers in rural areas of Bangladesh.

Ahmed and Hasan (1998) conducted a study on "Migration of rural labour market: a study of two villeges in Bangladesh" which explores that since independence of Bangladesh in movement of rural labourers from agricultural sector has increased with the exodus of people in urban areas. Migration away from rural areas is beneficial to agricultural production and rural income. The most important elements of social structure are the patterns of ownership of land and organization of production for the predominant agricultural activities. Shifts in these elements create two types of pressure: stagnation pressure and enclosure pressure for out migration.

The experience of Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD) shows that the use of fertilizer, water and seed in the agriculture related activities is labour intensive. It needs more labour for cultivation of improved varieties of rice than local varieties. In particular, more labour per unit of land is needed in Boro season than in Aus and Amon season; on the other hand, labour shortage at the peak periods of crop cultivation increases the wages for which many farms cannot purchase labour. Many employment opportunities in urban formal and informal sectors have been created which attracted many rural labourers (both male and female) to migrate.

The specific objectives of the study were to:

- i) Conceptualize, estimate and know the characteristics of rural people who are residing in places other than their native village, and their migration process.
- ii) Identify the factors responsible for migration of rural people to the place of residence from their place of birth.
- iii) Find out the ways of sending wages and their uses by the migrants from their working places.
- iv) Identify and analyses various sectors and organization of rural labour market.
- v) Find out the extent of participation of different types of households in rural labour market, and
- vi) Find out the impacts of migration on the rural labour market and socioeconomic condition and other aspects of rural people.

The study was a survey of two villages on migration and rural labour market situation. The procedures of selection of sample villages, respondents, data collection for the study are given below:

- i. Selection of sample villages:- one village is selected as a high agricultural growth area and other village (Chowara in Comilla district and Nishan Baria in Patuakhali district) is selected as a low agricultural growth area respectively, because the extent of migration of people from rural areas is assumed to be higher in the low agricultural growth area than the high agricultural growth area.
- ii. Selection of the respondents:- each study village was surveyed to estimate migrants who are residing in places other than their native village. For this purpose each household of the sampled villages was considered as the respondents of the study.
- iii. Method of data collection:- to interview each respondent of the study areas a questionnaire consisting of different information relating to migration was used, the researchers themselves and two research investigators of the academy collected necessary information for the study. Moreover, observation of the researchers on many relevant issues of migration was also included in the study.
- iv. Period of data collection:- information relating to migration and the present labour market situation of the selected villages were collected from the respondents during April –May in Chowara and June-July in Nishan Baria in 1996 through structured questionnaires.

The findings of the study indicate that the concept of migration tin Bangladesh has been perceived as one from rural to rural and rural to urban centers. The young adults of age between 15-29 years in high agricultural growth area have migrated from their native village, Majority of the emigrants of low agricultural growth area and high agricultural growth area have level of education between class 1-V and class VI- X respectively. Most of the villagers in study areas are monthly income is less than TK. 5,000 and land size less than 0.50 acre. due to various reasons the people are compelled to migrate from their place of birth , of which —Searching Job|| to other places and —Marriage|| are most important. only an individual's own decision does not act on the process of migration, but other persons like parents, brothers and sisters, even relatives, friends and

neighbors also act on the same when the economic goal is concerned.

For earning high wages, the skilled labourers have migrated to other places. Although it could increase the wage rate, but due to having regular supply of migrant labourers in the study villages the wage rates remained the same or even less than the normal rate that prevailed in the two local labour markets.

Migration changes the economic condition of the migrant families by increasing their income and age structure of the child labour and old labour forces it also results in shortage of labourers and increases the wage rate in the market. The households use family labour when the migrant labourers are not found adequately for performing both agricultural and non-agricultural activities

There are some limitations of the study. They are as follows;

- i) The first limitation of the study is could not adequately address many issues on labour migration.
- ii) Could not address how the labourers get information to migrate.
- iii) What are the factors affecting migration propensity of rural labourers.
- iv) What are the impacts of migration of labourers on the labour force structure.
- v) Types of migrant entering into the rural labour market.
- vi) What are the changes in social status of the migrant families.

These are the limitation of the study, that cannot possible indicate properly.

Generation of on and off-season employment in the village is one of the major determinants of the migration pattern from rural areas to urban centers, this could be done by developing agriculture sector of the country. The study indicates that the agricultural productivity in Nishan Baria village of Patuakhali district is lower than the Chowara village of Comilla district. As a result, the farmers cannot pay satisfactory wages to the labourers for which many of them fare migrating elsewhere for seeking high wages. Of the other hand, the small farmers and the marginal farmers are not fully employed for the whole year.

For generating employment and improving the economic condition of disadvantaged

group of people the following points may be considered.

- i. Use of modern cultivation method:- Due to lack of irrigation facilities in Nishan Baria village the farmers cannot use modern cultivation methods in crops production. As a result, their income becomes low the respondents suggest that the government may take effort to introduce improved cultivation methods in the low agricultural growth areas, which will increase employment opportunities of the villagers. Thana agricultural officer may arrange training programme on modern cultivation methods for the farmers and provide them necessary services and supports.
- ii. Improvement of livestock and fish cultivation:- Introduction of cross-bred animal and improvement of livestock and fish cultivation will increase the productivity of animals and fish and also income of owners. With the availability of feed and fodder at low cost, more people will be involved in such business, but the major hurdle in this is lack of marketing facilities.
- iii. Setting up industries in rural areas:- The respondents suggest that if the government setting up industries in rural areas, the rural unemployed people do not migrate to the industrial areas.
- iv. Development of small towns and transportation system:- Most of the respondents of the study that the government should revive the upazilla system not only as the seat of administration of the thana headquarters but also as the township of the country
- v. This will contain surplus rural population and reduce the extent of rural urban migration problems. To extend the road network from than headquarters to remote villages necessary culverts and bridges should be constructed, if it is done the mobility of people and materials from one place to another and rural off-farm employment opportunities for the unemployed people will be increased which may also reduce the extent of rural-urban migration problem.

Conclusion:

The study known to me that the migration of the people is a social and human rights, situation of rural and urban people, different the facities of them. It kown the labour

market both rural and urban areas, known about various organigation of our rural society,

Migration of people either from rural to rural or rural to urban centers and cities cannot be checked, because, it is generally considered as a social and human right of an individual to move to any place from his place of birth. But the degree of migration from rural areas to other places can be reduced if the following suggestions are considered, all the suggestions, except the last one, were given by the respondents of the study areas when the discussions on the issue were made with them. The last suggestion is given on the basis of experience gathered by the researchers.

This study high light for migration only. So, educational, social, and other facities avoide here.

This findings can help me to know the characteristics of rural people, find out the ways of sending wages, identify and analyses various sectors and organization of rural labour market, find out the extent of participation of different types of households in rural labour market, and find out the impacts of migration on the rural labour market and socioeconomic condition and other aspects of rural people.

CHAPTER-THREE

- 3.1 Situation of Rural Child Labour in Bangladesh.
- 3.2 Different Dimensions of Child Labour in Bangladesh.
- 3.3 Causes of Child Labour in Bangladesh.
- 3.4 Effect of Child Labour in Bangladesh.
- 3.5 Child Labour Laws in Bangladesh perspective.

Situation of Rural Child Labour in Bangladesh.

The usual scenario in Bangladesh shows that girl children are engaged in activities within the inner 'female' spheres where boys work in the outer 'Male' spaces. This frequently results in high ratios of school dropout amongst girls. The potential labour power of children is a significant aspect for families as the survival of households depends on their ability to reproduce themselves. The perceived economic value attached to children greatly encourages people to raise large families. Expectations of assistance from children arise from the deep rooted concept sharing the burden amongst the adult members of the family. Early participation in income generating activities concepts children experience a fast transition through different stages of their childhood, this transition is important in conceptualizing children's productive life cycles. While children are occupied in both organized and unorganized sectors, the kind of work they do depends largely on where they live. Although children in organized sectors are covered by protective legislation, those working in unorganized sectors are not as fortunate. Working conditions there are far from congenial.

About 60% of the population in Bangladesh lives below the poverty line defined according to the living standard of the country which is the reason behind the children's starting from the age of 6 participating in various income generating activities to support the families. (Ahmed and Quasem, 1991) The use of child labour is quite extensive in the rural areas of Bangladesh. Most of the working children come from the lower state of the socio-economic scale. The children in the rural areas are engaged in agriculture, shop assistant, boat rowing, brick bearing, rickshaw/van pulling, household work etc. Maximum female child workers are involved in house hold work.

Most of the parents in the rural areas are not literate, so they do not encourage their children to go to school. Not only that, they enforce their children to go for work for extra income.

Bangladesh concluded the fact that child labour is a major factor perpetuating poverty in Bangladesh by keeping children from poor families out of school (Ravallion & wodon, 1999).

Like many other South Asian countries, child labour is also prevalent in Bangladesh. In childhood days when children are supposed to go to school with books, papers, pencils and play with their friends, many children have to work for their family livelihood. When a poor father becomes victim to the curse of persistent poverty, it is impossible for to keep his children safe, cradled and bonded with family by parental care. In this juncture once dislodged from the family, children become one of the mass of the society. Some of them start selling their labour as workers in hotel restaurant, factory, workshop and as domestic works. Besides, these children also are engaged in job of porter, begging, rickshaw pulling, boat rowing, brick bearer, household worker etc. Some turn in to street children being unable to manage a job. Some of the children become rootless and ruthless because they have been disintegrated from their families and nobody owns them as pleasing human beings. Eventually, they are deprived of all opportunities of proving themselves as good citizen. Another depressing side of child labour in Bangladesh is that some children are lured from their villages in to towns and cities and often trafficked abroad where girls are compelled to engage in prostitution and pornography while boys get involved in many antisocial and illicit activities. Approximately 7.4 million children are economically active in Bangladesh of which 3.2 million children between the ages of 5-17 years are engaged in employment and considered as child labours in Bangladesh and of this 2.4 million are attending school. Over 50% of all non-school going children in employment work in the service and manufacturing sectors of the country and 46% are employed in agriculture and of the total number of 5-17 years old children in employment 75% are male and 25% are female child workers.

Out of the 3.2 million working children, 1.3 million are in hazardous and worms of child labour, of which 90.4% are male child labour. (National Child Labour Elimination Policy 2012-2016)

Poverty is the primary reason why children are forced to work and give up on leisure, play and the possibility of a secure and happy childhood. Lacks of access to education and financial vulnerability lead to trans-generational transmission of poverty. Poor- law enforcement and inadequate social protection initiatives further fail to ensure the right of children. As a result, children who are forced to engage in employment become victim of trafficking, abuse, violence and exploitation.

Different Dimensions of Child Labour in Bangladesh

Child labour and education:

There is a visible link between child labour and education. A significant number of primary school students drop out before they complete the fifth grade to engage in work. In 2005, an estimated 45% could not attend school due to financial constraints, 19.5% due to the need to work and 9.8% are sent to school by their parents (ILO and BBS baseline survey, 2006).

Abuse, exploitation and violence:

The proportion of child workers' abuse is as high as 21.8% where 76.3% of them are verbally abused and 16.7% are beaten by employers. For instance 3400 children work in brick breaking, 123000 are working as rickshaw pullers, 153000 children working in restaurant, 56000 working in carpentry (ILO and BBS base line survey, 2006).

Trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation:

Working children, who live separately from their families, face situation of violence, abuse and economic exploitation.

Economical dimension:

Poverty remains the primary cause of child labour in Bangladesh. Not only do impoverished households send their children to work but in so doing prevent them from going to school.

A study conducted on the rural Bangladesh concluded the fact that child labour is a major factor perpetrating poverty in Bangladesh by keeping children from poor families out of school (Ravallion & Wodeon, 1999).

The Causes of Child Labour

There are some causes of child labour in Bangladesh. Most of the working children come from the lower strata of the socio-economic scale. The rural areas are less modernized compared to the urban areas of Bangladesh. They no facilities like urban areas, the majorities of people in the rural areas are uneducated and depend on agriculture as their main source of income. The children in the rural areas, apart from being involved in agriculture, girls are involved in household work. Children get involved in these activities either to assist their parents, to contribute to the family, or to learn certain skills, or purely for reasons of survival.

Some causes of the rural child labour given below:

Economic impoverishment:

The first and foremost cause of child labour in Bangladesh is the economic impoverishment. Poverty-ridden family cannot afford to carry the educational expenses because they are poor and pass their days in hardship. So, parents or guardians feel reluctant to send their children to school. Under such circumstances, parents consider their children better to assist their profession or engage in any other job to supplement the family income. On the other hand, the under privileged children not going to school and the drop-out children from school involve themselves in various occupations. The employers, owners, managers and concerned authorities prefer to engage children at work as they can easily be exploited to work longer hours with minimum wages.

Socio-economic adversity:

In case of death of a head of household, the family finds it very difficult to meet the basic needs, let alone children's education. In case parents get separated, their children face extreme hardships in managing bread and butter, nevertheless, poverty stricken families usually show less interest in adopting family planning measures which ultimately turns a family large in size with lot of sufferings in maintaining the family.

Inadequate school facilities:

Many children live in areas that do not have adequate school facilities, so they work. For much poor family it is very tough to send their children in school as they cannot bear educational cost of their children. As a result their children become child worker, this situation is compounded by the fact that governments fail to provide adequate resources for education, health and employment services.

Natural calamities:

Natural calamities like riverbank erosion, floods, droughts, storms and tidal surges, earthquakes etc. drive children towards greater risks of being engaged in physical labour.

Lack of awareness and embedded tradition:

Lack of awareness and the firmly established tradition also play an important role to prolong child lanbour. Indeed, most of the parents are unaware about the notion of child labour. They know neither what is meant by child labour nor the harmful effects of it or put any attention upon their children's needs pertaining to education. They neither understand nor try to realize that if their children enter work force without acquiring education. Again because of the embedded tradition in our society majority of the parents think that their children will earn from early ages and will contribute to the family budget, though there may be no compelling necessity. This also happens due to the ignorance, unawareness of the parents who imagine that their children are learning a useful trade.

Cheap labour:

In Bangladesh the low cost of children's labour is another reason behind the cause of child labour. In our country the children are not concerned about the wages, because the major concern of the children is their household survival strategy. This vulnerability of children gives the employer an added advantage of employing cheap child labour. Using cheap labour is profitable for the employer, because the low cost of children's labour makes it possible to use their labour in various activities in which adult labourer will not be willing to work with low wages.(Taher,1996)

For example, children are preferred as domestic workers as they can live at no additional cost in the employer's house and they can perform various household tasks. But in the same position if an adult was employed, then the higher cost of adults would make this an inefficient and costly use of their time . (Tariquzzaman and Kaiser, 2007)

But the cheap labour can be a substantial exploitation for children because they work for very long hours in tedious jobs and earn very little.

Violence:

Violence is an interesting reason behind the child labour issue in Bangladesh. The situation of economic hardship can contribute to the crisis within the households, which in turn pushes children out in to the streets and into a life of hunger, disease, violence, fear and exploitation.

Violence can be in the form of extreme and cruel treatment by parents, step parents, relatives and husbands. Adults in the Bangladeshi society have a huge authority and try to make decisions and take control of the children's lives. When the children do not follow the decisions of adults, they are being punished severely sometimes these punishments can take the form of violence. Due to violence the children come out on the street and both boys and girls find employment to engage them and take recourse to drugs, prostitution and criminal activities. Therefore the violence takes place due to the structure of the Bangladeshi society which in turn encourages child labour(Ahmed,2014).

Effects of Child Labour

The failure to recognize, respect, provide, protect and facilitate children's human rights and to provide adequate food, shelter, health services, education, information, livelihood skills, security, safety and for the realization of their full potential contributes significantly to the persistence of poverty and underdevelopment in a society. In short, the situation of children today is a good indicator of both the current status of development and how the society envisions its future development.

In the following some specific effects of child labour are being discussed in detail.

Health Hazards:

In Bangladesh children work very long hours in tedious job and hazardous work environment and earn a very little. A study on the hazardous work environment of children indicated that a little more than 40 percent of total child workers are engaged in these hazardous jobs in Bangladesh and there are more than 34 worst forms of child labour which are treated as hazardous for child workers engaged in different sectors (Ahmed,2014)).

The risky and dangerous work conditions create lots of health hazards for child workers because they are exposed to toxic chemicals, dusts, fumes and gases and various hazardous physical and biological agents. Therefore children suffer from various health problems such as bad posture, flat feet, cardiac problem, throat and lung infections, nerve difficulties and various types of injuries as well (Samad, 2006).

The health hazard of child worker in Bangladesh is eroding the much needed human resource of the country.

Economic Growth:

In Bangladesh cheap labour is used in various industries such as garments industry, agriculture, fishery and forestry, manufacturing, transport, clerical workers, sales workers, transport and production services and in various other services which are contributing in the national economy.

The readymade garment (RMG) industry of Bangladesh has employed a huge number of child labour because of the "nimble fingers" claim. The cheap child labour has boosted the garments industry of Bangladesh in initial years and contributed in more than three quarters of Bangladesh's export earnings. According to a study on Bangladesh RMG sector, in the financial year 2003-04 export earnings of the RMG sector was 5686.09 million US dollar, which constituted 74.79 percent of the total exports for the corresponding year and the level of employment has reached approximately 1.5 million (Majumder and Begum,1997).

However, in the absence of alternative work, a vast number of child labours, especially girls were employed in RMG providing some livelihood and freeing them from sexual abuse and criminal activities.

Lack of Education:

Child labour has a huge cost on children's education. In both the urban and rural areas of Bangladesh, due to child labour children are not receiving the benefits of education. This is the alarming for an underdeveloped country like Bangladesh which has a low literacy rate and has low quality of human capital. Despite educational reforms over the last fifteen years, Bangladesh remains a poor country with low educational attainment. The current adult literacy rate of Bangladesh is 41.1% and the youth literacy rate is 49.7% (Amin, 2006).

Education is needed for human resource development of a country. But if the country's literacy rate is low and also the trend of low literacy continues due to child labour then the country's development is halted. Children are the future of the country and they contribute to the country's advancement. If the schooling and education of the children of Bangladesh is suffering due to child labour, then not only the country's present development is hindered but the country's future development prospect is also at a stake; because country's future generation is not getting the advantage of proper education and schooling system. Therefore child labour is altering the process of skilled manpower and human resource in a negative way threatening the overall socio-economic development of the country.

Violence:

Violence induces child labour for which children in Bangladesh are involved in various forms of child labour. But getting involved in these forms of child labour allows the children to face with a lot of difficult and dangerous situations. The girls are often involved in prostitution. Also the other types of job for the children are; domestic servants, auto mobile workshop, begging, agriculture, brick bearing, boat rowing, rickshaw pulling and other things.

Children working as domestic servants also face a very irrational and oppressive working environment. They are very often scolded, abused and even physically beaten. Mistreatment of young child domestics by the members of the family, particularly by the mistress of the house, is very common. A study on prevailing opinions and attitudes towards child domestic workers revealed that 25 percent of housewives physically beat the child domestics as punishment for poor performance or ill behavior (Ghuznavi, 2001).

Therefore the children involved in the child labour faces a lot of violence and difficulties which affects their physical and mental well-being and often leaves them in a vulnerable situation.

Political Effect:

The child labourers in the cities constitute the most disorganized section of labour force. Their future political participation is beyond our prediction. It is not likely, However that they will make a highly productive and effective group of workers representing any work group interest within the boundary of disciplines. At present they are found participating in destructive activities e.g. damaging public properties while there is some political outburst and demonstration, etc. The present exercises are bad socialization of the children.

Moral Degradation and Antisocial Behavior:

The working children have more opportunity to know money rather than how to make best of it they learn little of the cultural and aesthetic values that teach the good meaning of money and the other values underlying a decent living. The result is the lowering of the moral standards of civilized society. It is plausible to argue that the working children have unbalanced mental development. Constant deprivation and frustration have such bearing upon them that they cannot appreciate values like morality, humanity, fraternity etc. In sum, they constitute an important sector of socially handicapped people.

Child labour An exploited class:

The working children together with their working parents who are used by the society for the benefit of its relatively well-off section represent an exploited class. This is not actually a deliberate exploitation of children by the wealthier class, nevertheless it is an unjust treatment from the side of the society to the labour potential of a particular section of people.

Child labour loses their future working potentiality:

In most cases, the children's income is not spent for their own development. Instead they are bound to work for feeding family members. The tragedy is that the child labourers lose their future working potentiality and may then become dependent on their own children.

Moreover, child labour is an immense impact on their future welfare and their future inability to generate a decent income, and it is an issue that stigmatizes the image of the state to outside world in the perspective of the concept of welfare economy and welfare state.

Child Labour Laws in Bangladesh perspectives

Regular up to date information is very much necessary to analyze the actual situation of child labour in Bangladesh. From the constitution of Bangladesh to the various laws, adequate provisions have been made to safeguard child rights and to restrict them from work. Bangladesh has ratified the several ILO conventions. But child labour is a common scene in Bangladesh. The constitutional and legal provisions to child labour in Bangladesh have been discussed from some specific points of view.

Articles 14 and 15 of the constitution protect the rights of children and the right of social security.

Article 17 establishing a uniform, mass oriented and universal system of education and extending free and compulsory education to all children to such stage as may be determined by law. Article- 18, the state is empowered to make special provisions for the benefit of children. Besides, by articles 27, 28, 29, 31, 34, 37, 38, 39, 40 and 41 fundamental rights of all citizen are ensured.

Moreover, the following are the domestic laws which are working for the protection of the rights of the child.

The children (Pledging of labour) Act - 1933 - Under this act, A person who under the age of 15 years is treated as a child. This act forbids parents or any person from compelling children to work.

The Employment of children Act - 1938.

This Act applies only to those occupations that are related to transport of passengers, handling of goods and processing work. A child is defined in this Act as a person under the age of 15 years.

The tea plantation ordinance - 1962

The Act does not define a child but provides that children under the age of 12 years are not allowed to work in any tea plantation.

The children Act - 1974

This is the only special act for children that principally applies to children who commit anti-social activities but various aspects of child exploitation ranging from begging, exposure to drugs and liquor, brothels and seduction are dealing with in section 34-43 of the Act. This Act also has penalties on those who exploit child employees.

The Bangladesh Labour Law-2006

This is relatively a new law enacted on October, 2006. Among others, it deals with some prohibitions related to child labour. Child labour, hazardous work by a person below in particular is prohibited by this law.

National Child Labour Elimination Policy-2010

The policy advocates a friendly world for the children engaged in work and provides a standard framework concerning education, health, working environment specific working condition, recreation, treatment and security. Social awareness building for managing and reducing risk of child abuse by employers.

The National Child labour Elimination Policy 2012-2016

The Primary objectives of this policy is to provide guidance and direction in initiating concrete intervention to make meaningful changes in the lives of the children by withdrawing them from all forms of child labour including the hazardous work and worst forms of child labour.

CHAPTER-FOUR

- 4.1 Findings of the Study
- 4.2 Highlight of the Study Findings

Findings of the Study

The poverty situation of rural areas does not show any satisfactory picture. The unfortunate working children who should have been in school like their age group fortunate have to end up as child labours due to pressure or unfavorable circumstances. It is also a fact that many of these children had to leave school and take odd jobs during the prime time of their life just for bare survival. Employers also employ child labourers with greater degree of preference. The reason behind it may be to exploit the under-age workers by paying them minimum wages. In most cases, these children are not treated with sympathy and are given only frugal food and often a cash payment in the range of Tk. 30-90 per month (Ali a and quasem 1991). It is a well-known fact that the international labour organization (ILO) has a convention restricting the employment of children below the age of fifteen years, but in spite of this restriction of the ILO, we see in Bangladesh that a large number of children below fifteen years of age are to work on extremely unfavorable terms and conditions either for their families or for their own survival.

The sample of the study consists of all the working children employed in different fields of employment in Debidwar and Muradnagar Upazilla in Comilla district. In total, the size of the sample is so considered as the respondents and among them 40 from each upazilla is taken sample of child labourers is taken from the eight different fields of employment.

To know the actual situation of child workers in rural areas a sample survey has been carried out. In the findings, I have tried to demonstrate present condition of the child workers specifically in Debidwar and Muradnagarr upazilla on the basis of their age, sex, family size, education level, working sector, working condition, service duration, income, expenditure, monthly savings health care, recreational activities, leisure types, violence etc.

Table 1: Frequency Distribution of Respondents Regarding their age.

Age	Frequency	Percent
4 6	1	1.25
4—6	1	1.25
7—9	3	3.75
10—12	15	18.75
13—15	34	42.50
16—18	27	33.75
Total	80	100

Child labour is a common phenomenon in our country. In this study we get maximum child workers (42.50%) are age of 13—15 years, on the other hand 3.75% are age of 7—9 years, and 18.75% of child workers are age of 10—12 years. So, the tender age of child workers is not admissible by any existing labour related laws in the country. It means that compolsory schooling and banning of children are not working perfectly here. It effects the earning capability of the poor families depending on their children and they are the substitute for adult workers of the family. Although these children should be in school, but they are working as a child labourer. It is really a threat to our country for future development of the child.

Figure 4.1

The age status of child labourers can be shown by the following table:

Statistics	Age
Mean	14.11
Median	13.35
Mode	14.69
Range	12
Minimum	6
Maximum	18

The lowest age is 6 and highest age is 18 years, the average age is 14.11 and maximum age is 14.69 years of the respondents

Figure 4.2

The age status of child labourers can be viewed by the following graph:

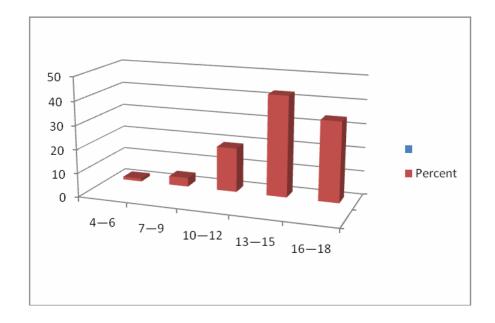


Table 2: Frequency Distribution of Respondents on the basis of their sex.

Sex	Frequency	Percent
Male	55	68.75
Female	25	31.25
Total	80	100

Among 80 respondents, it appears that most of respondents of this study are male. A few number of female has found for direct interviewing. Among the child labourers that are interview 68.75% are male where as 31.25% are female. This table shows that the employers are more interested to engage male children in work, because the males are hard-working and toilsome.

Figure 4.3

The sex status of child labourers can be viewed by the following chart:

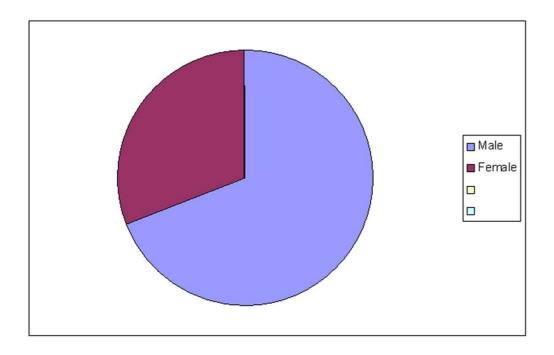


Table 3: Distribution of the data of Respondents regarding their religious.

Religion	Frequency	Percent
Muslim	68	85.00
Hindu	12	15.00
Total	80	100

Most of the number of respondents are Muslim (about 85%), and few of the number are Hindus (only 15%), out of 80 respondents. Other religion respondents are not found of this study.

Figure 4.4

The religious status of child labourers can be viewed by the following graph:

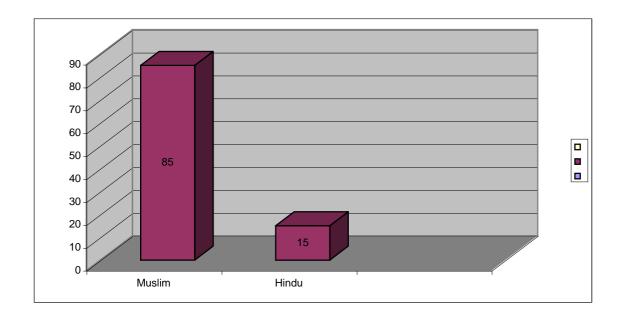


Table 4: Percentage Distribution of the respondents relationship with their parents:

Relation	Frequency	Percent
Good	64	80
Very Good	15	18.75
Bad	01	1.25
Total	80	100

Most of the respondents (80%) of this study bear good relation with their family, few number of respondents bear very good relation as 18.75%, only 1.25% respondents bear bad relation with their parents. It is true that, family bond of the people of rural areas are very good

Table 5: Frequency Distribution of the respondents on the basis of their present guardian.

Guardian	Frequency	Percent
Father	62	77.50
Mother	17	21.25
Brother	01	1.25
Total	80	100

This table shows the present guardian of the child labourers. Among the 80 respondents appear the most of the respondents present guardian are their father (77.50%), 21.25% their mother and only 1.5% present guardian are their brother. It is clearly maintain that most of the respondents family decision maker are their father. It is important that none is found to live independently, because these children are tender ages and school going also, they do not live without others help.

Figure 4.5

The present guardian status of child labourers can be viewed by the following graph:

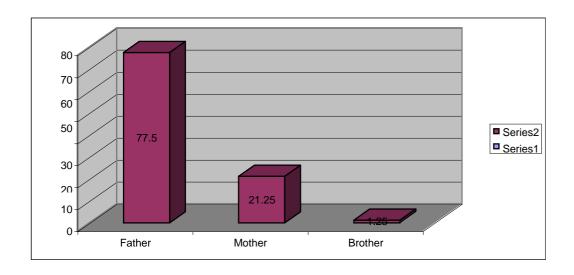


Table 6: Percentage Distribution about the educational facilities of the respondents.

Chance to education	Frequency	Percent
Yes	67	83.75
No	13	16.25
Total	80	100

This table shows that most of the child labourer (83.75%) of the rural areas have to chance to taking education and only few member (16.25%) have no chance to take education. But present educational picture of the respondents are very painful. It will show the next table.

Table 7: Present Situation about education of the respondents are showing on the table.

They have continue their study	Frequency	Percent
Yes	10	14.93
No	57	85.07
Total	67	100

This table shows the painful result of the respondents, who can continue their study. Only 14.93% child labourer can continue their study, on the other hand most of them (85.07%) cannot continue their study. Although education is the basic need for human being. The previous table, we can see that a major portion of the rural child labourers (83.75%) have opportunities to take part in educational facilities, but they failed to continue their study.

Table 8: Educational status of the respondents.

Class	Percent
1—3	20
4—6	30
7—9	10
10—12	40
N=10	

This table shows that, 20% child labourer are studding class 1—3, 30% are 4—6 class, 10% are class 7—9 and 40% are 10—12 class, who can continue their study. Total number of the respondents are very poor, only 10. It is painful picture that, only 10 number of respondents can continue their education out of 80 respondents. Poverty is the main factor for this present picture. Because gardian force their children to go to work for extra income to survival the family needs, they are not interested to sent their children to school for their illiteracy.

Table 9: Daily study hours of the respondents.

Study Hours	Percent
1—2	40
3—4	60
5—6	00
N=10	

This table shows that 60% of the respondents get 3—4 hours, 40% get 1—2 hours for study. It is not enough for a student of any level or class.

Table 10: Educational expenses bearer of respondents.

Bearer of educational expenses	Frequency	Percent
Father	5	50
Mother	2	20
Others	3	30
Total	10	100

This table shows about the bearer of educational expenses of the respondents who can continue their study. Major portion (50%) bearing their father, their mother 20%, and other persons 30% are bearing their educational expenses.

Table 11: Distribution of the stage of education of the respondents.

Stage level	Frequency	Percent
Primary	46	80.70
Secondary	11	19.30
Higher Secondary	00	00
Total	57	100

We can see from this table, major part of the respondents (80.70%) are study at primary level, 19.30% are secondary level and there is no respondent of higher secondary level, who is get opportunities to take part of education. Remember that, 83.75 percent child labourer have been gotten opportunities to take education out of 80 (table-6). The literacy rate for 15-45 years age in national level is 51.30 percent. Other study in Comilla district shown that primary pass is 31.30 percent, secondary pass is 40.80 percent and higher secondary pass is 5.8 percent.(Ahmed,2014).

Figure 4.6

The educational level of child labourers can be viewed by the following graph:

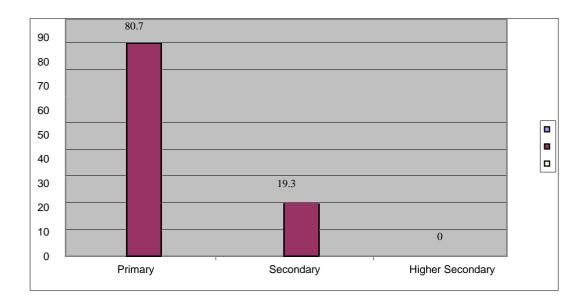


Table 12: The causes of dropout of the respondents.

Causes	Frequency	Percent
Poverty	39	68.43
Father forced go to work	01	1.75
Intentionally	17	29.85
Total	57	100

This table shows the painful picture about causes of dropout the children from the school in rural areas. Drop out rate is higher among rural working children (68.43%) becase of poverty, 29.82% are dropout for intentionally, and 1.75% dropout for forced of father. We can see that, the poverty is the major cause of dropout in rural areas.

Figure 4.7

The causes of dropout of child labourers can be viewed by the following graph:

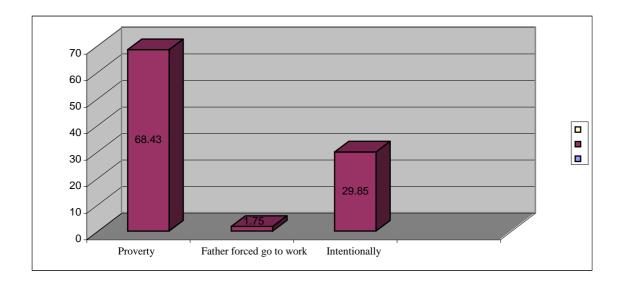


Table 13: Distribution of the respondents' daily required meal.

Fulfill of	Frequency	Percent
required Meal		
Yes	62	77.50
No	18	22.50
Total	80	100

The table shows 77.50% rural child worker can fulfill their daily meal. But 22.50% child worker cannot it. Remember that, they eat some food but it is not enough for them and it is not balance died.

Table 14: The Number of daily meal of the respondents that they can eat every day.

Times of meal	Frequency	Percent
2 times	25	31.25
3 times	55	68.75
Total	80	100

Generally people have meal three times in a day. This table shows that, most of the rural child labourer (68.75%) can take their meal 3 time, 31.25% can 2 times in a day. Although they take meal whatever there is.

Table 15: Types of the residence of the respondents:

Living Place	Frequency	Percent
Damp	16	20
Dirty	4	5
Clean	3	3.75
Building	3	3.75
Tinshed Building	52	65
Others	2	2.5
Total	80	100

This study conduct in rural areas. So, most of the child labourer (about 65%) live in tensed building, 20% live in damp places, 5% live in dirty places as their working place (such as shop or others), 2% live in here and there. Only 3.75% live in clean places and building. Most of the respondents have to live in unhygienic places.

A study in urban community of Dhaka city, Abdul Hakim Sarker shown that 17.5 percent urban people live in pacca building, 30 percent semi- pucca, 45 percent live in tin-shed and 7.5 percent people were found thatched on made of mud and bamboo. (Abdul Hakim Sarker, 2005).

Figure 4.8

The residence status of child labourers can be viewed by the following graph:

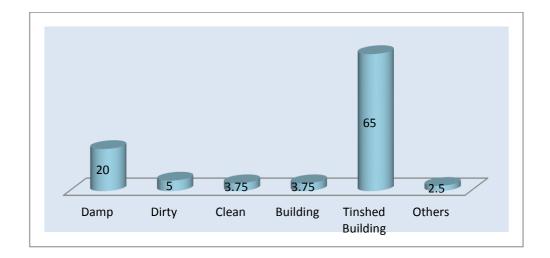


Table 16: Percentage Distribution of the number of the respondents' sleeping each bed:

Number of Person	Frequency	Percent
1—2	27	33.75
3—4	39	48.75
5—6	14	17.50
Total	80	100

The finding of the study shows about living condition of the respondents. Major number of the respondents (48.75%) are sleeping 3—4 person, 33.75% sleeping 1—2 person and 17.50% respondents are sleeping 5—6 person in a bed at a time. So, we can see the living condition is not satisfied of the child labourer in rural areas.

Figure 4.9

The number of sleeping partners statistic of child labourers can be shown by the following table:

Statistics	Number of partner
Mean	3.18
Median	3.17
Mode	3.15
Range	5
Minimum	1
Maximum	6

Maximum child labourers sleeping 3.15 person at a time in a bed, the average number is 3.18, and the highest number of the bed partner is 6 of the rural child labourers.

Table 17: Present health condition of the respondents:

Present condition of health	Frequency	Percent
Good	72	90
Bad	08	10
Total	80	100

The table shows that 90% respondents require good health condition and only 10% require bad health condition. Generally it is showing satisfy structure about their health condition. But remember that, when collect the data most of them are working their working places. So, they were fit for the work that time.

Table 18: Percentage Distribution of the respondents on the pattern of taking medical care.

Taking places of medical care	Frequency	Percent
Hospital	11	13.75
Clinic	4	5
Homeo	12	15
Kabiraj	1	1.25
Shop of medicine	52	65
Total	80	100

This table represent that most of the rural child labourer (65%) collect their medicine from the shop of medicine without any doctor's prescription. Only 13.75% go to hospital, 15% go to homeo doctor, 5% go to clinic and 1.25% go to kabiraj for their treatment. Although Upazilla Health Complex always ready to give free treatment for them, but only 13.75% have gone there.

Figure 4.10

The taking medical care status of child labourers can be viewed by the following graph:

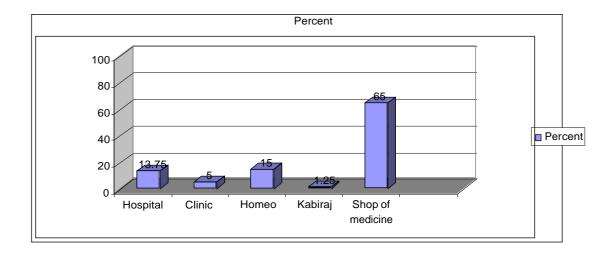


Table 19: Distribution of the respondents' sources of the finance for the treatment:

Finance for treatment	frequency	Percent
Self	34	42.5
Father	27	33.75
Mother	4	5
Elder Brother	2	2.5
Sister	1	1.25
Owner	12	15
Total	80	100

This table shows that, major portion of the respondents (42.5%) bear expenses for their treatment by their own source. 33.75% respondents maintain their medical care expenses from their father, 5% their mother, 2.5% their elder brother, 1.25% bear their sister. Only 15% bear their medical care expenses from owner of working places.

Table 20: Distribution of the respondents' causes of being child labour.

Causes	Frequency	Percent
Poverty	63	78.75
Mother illness	5	6.25
Father illness	5	6.25
Others	7	8.75
Total	80	100

Poverty is a major problem of all sectors in our country. That also causes of other problems. This study finds that, poverty is the main cause of a child to engage in earning work. Almost 78.75% of the respondents inform that, they have to engage in work due to poverty of their family, 6.25% engage for father illness, 6.25% engage for mother illness and 8.75% engage for other problems.

Figure 4.11

The causes of being child labour can be viewed by the following graph:

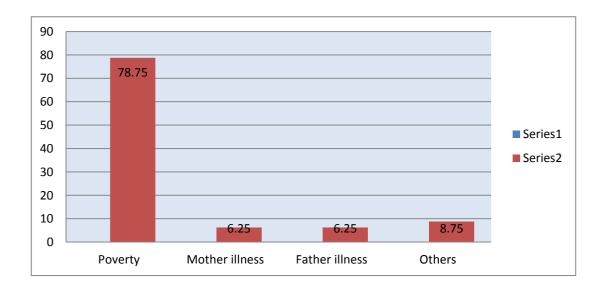


Table 21: Frequency Distribution of the age of the respondents at the time of inception:

Age level	frequency	Percent
7—9	17	21.25
10—12	40	50
13—15	23	28.75
Total	80	100

This table shows that most of the child labourer (50%) age level is 10—12 years, 28.75% is 13—15 years, and 21.25% is 7—9 years, when they start as a child worker. So, it is known that major number of child labourers age level is 10—12 years in rural areas, when they can stay with study in primary level.

Table 22: Distribution of the respondents' motivators to join at work:

Who encourages	frequency	Percent
Father	24	30
Mother	53	66.25
Brother	03	3.75
Total	80	100

The child labourer of rural areas are encourages mainly three ways. Father, mother and brother encourage them to go to work. The finding shows that major portion (66.25%) child labourer encourage by their mother, 30% by their father and 3.75% encourage to join the work by their brother.

Table 23: Frequency Distribution about the types of work of the respondents.

Types of work	Frequency	Percent
Shop Assistant	22	27.5
Brick bearer	6	7.5
Agriculture Assistant	12	15
Rickshaw/Van Puller	3	3.75
Boat Rowing	7	8.75
Helping house hold work	17	21.25
Others	13	16.25
Total	80	100

From the table it is observe that child labourer of the rural areas in Bangladesh are mainly engage in 7—8 types of work. Highest number of child labourer (27.25%) engage in shop as a shop assistant, 21.25% of child labourer are engage in house hold work, 15% are engage in agriculture sector. 7.5% are brick bearing, 8.75% are boat rowing, 3.75% are engage as a rickshaw pulling and 16.25 are engage in other type of works.

The study indicate that most of the female child labourers work as a house hold worker. Normally we can see most of the rural child worker work in agriculture field but they work in their own field/ work so they can not earn money. This is why guardian are most interested to involve their children in work where they can earn money. So shop assistant is the highest number where the child workers involve in rural areas.

Figure 4.12

The types of work status of the respondents can be viewed by the following graph:

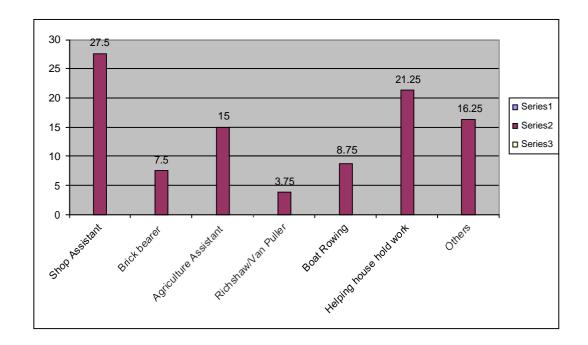


Table 24: Percentage Distribution of the respondents' satisfaction or dissatisfaction about their works:

Opinion	frequency	Percent
Satisfied	16	20
Highly Satisfied	02	2.50
Some-what satisfied	54	67.50
No satisfied	08	10
Total	80	100

Working condition is an important factor for a worker that encourages him/her to perform their work properly. This table shows that 67.50% respondents some-what satisfy, 20% satisfy, only 2.5% highly satisfy about their working condition. On the other hand 10% child labourers are dissatisfy. Their felling actually indicates that, they are not mentally prepared, but they are compelled to do these types of work.

Table 25: Distribution of the respondents working hours per day.

Hours	frequency	Percent
3—4	2	2.5
5—6	20	25
7—8	25	31.25
9—10	26	32.50
11—12	07	8.75
Total	80	100

This table represents that 32.50% child labourers work above 8 hours in a day, which severely contradict with the ILO convention. In this case child labourers are not pay their salary on the over time basis as per labour related laws. 31.25% respondents working time is 7—8 hours, 25% with in 5—6 hours, 2.5% is 3—4 hours per day. It is a painful picture that 8.75% respondent's duration of working hours is 11—12 hours per day.

Figure 4.13

The time of working hours per day status of child labourers can be shown by the following table:

Statistics	Working hours
Mean	7.92
Median	8.45
Mode	9.10
Range	9
Minimum	3
Maximum	12

Highest number of the respondents work 9.10 hours per day. Average 7.92 hours, minimum 3 and maximum 12 hours they work in the working places.

Table 26: Distribution of the respondent's number of the working days in a week.

Name of the day	frequency	Percent
3—4	1	1.25
5—6	12	15
7	67	83.75
Total	80	100

The finding shows that 83.75% child labourers work 7 days in a week, 15% work 5— 6 days and only 1.25% respondents work 3—4 days in a week. So, there is no holiday of 83.75% child labourers. Recreation of the child labourers is fully avoided here.

It is really a painful picture that 83.75 percent child workers are working through all along seven days in a week. They have not any holiday or recreation. On the other hand 72.50 percent child workers work eight or above hours in a day (Table- 25).

Other study Ali Khan shown that 67.5 percent child workers work seven day in a week (Ali Khan,2011).

Table 27: Facilities received at the cost of work.

Facilities	frequency	Percent
Housing and Feeding	6	7.5
Housing, feeding and salary	30	37.5
Only Salary	44	55
Total	80	100

Most of the child labourers (55%) get only salary, 37.5% get housing feeding and salary, and 7.5% respondents get housing and feeding facilities by their work.

Figure 4.14

The types of facilities of the respondents can be viewed by the following graph:

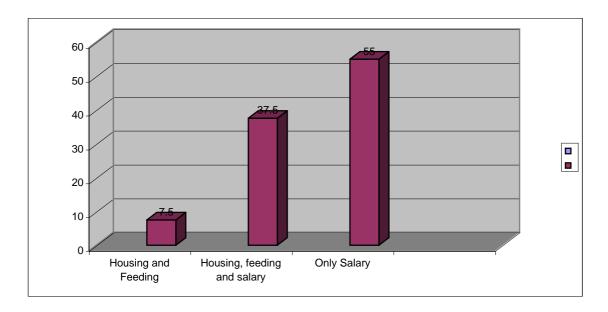


Table 28: Distribution of the respondents' benefits at the time of illness.

Benefits	frequency	Percent
Diet serving	7	8.75
Diet serving and salary	10	12.50
Salary	13	16.25
Nothing	50	62.50
Total	80	100

This table shows as a painful picture of rural child labourers. Most of the number of respondents of the study (62.5%) do not get any facilities by the owner, when they get sick. 16.25% get salary, 12.5% get diet serving and salary, and 8.75% get only diet serving in the illness period.

Table 29: Frequency Distribution of the respondents feeling about their masters behavior.

Opinion	frequency	Percent
Good	31	38.75
Some-what good	45	56.25
Very good	2	2.5
Bad	2	2.5
Total	80	100

From the finding it is observe the feeling of the child labourers' about their masters' behavior. Maximum respondents (56.25%) are some-what satisfy, 38.75% respondent's opinion is good, and 2.5% are bad about their master's behavior.

Table 30: Frequency Distribution of the respondents defect if better chance.

Opinion	frequency	Percent
Yes	73	91.25
No	7	8.75
Total	80	100

91.25% child labourers want to change their work, if they get better chance. Only 8.75% respondents do not want to change their work. This table shows that, most of the child labourers of the rural areas are not satisfy about their present work because of various causes.

Table 31: Frequency Distribution of the respondents' benefits required for defection.

Benefits	frequency	Percent
Do not want to change	7	8.75
Hand some salary	55	68.75
Much leave	2	2.5
Others	16	20
Total	80	100

This table shows that 68.75% rural child labourer want to change their work if they get handsome salary, 20% for other benefits (as like easy work, much food etc.), 2.50% respondents want to change their work to get much leave. Total 91.25% (table-30) respondents want to change their work. So, it is true that their present salary and other benefits are not sufficient for them.

Table 32: Frequency Distribution of the respondents' monthly income.

Taka (monthly)	frequency	Percent
1000 or less	19	23.75
1001- 1500	21	26.25
1501- 2000	18	22.50
2001- 2500	03	3.75
2501- 3000	06	7.50
3001- 3500	00	00
3501- 4000	03	3.75
4001 – 4500	01	1.25
4501 + Above	07	8.75
Total	80	100

This table shows the monthly income of the child labourers in rural areas. The working children of the rural areas are employ with the salary range Tk. 1000 or less. Even some children are employ for no wages, but for food and shelter only. Maximum number of children (26.25%) are pay within Tk. 1001-1500, only 8.75% of the respondents are pay Tk above 4500. These are not handsome remuneration for bearing the minimum living cost in our country.

Figure 4.15

The monthly income of the respondents can be viewed by the following graph:

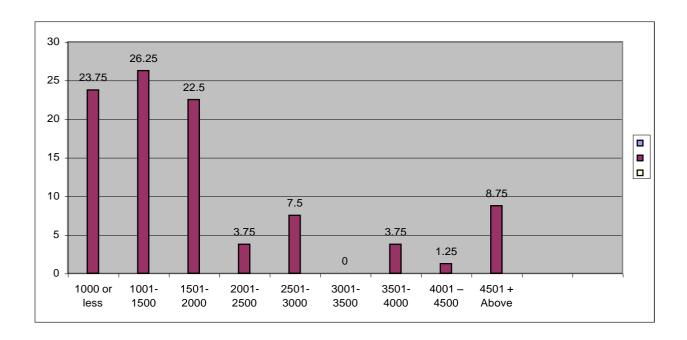


Table 33: Frequency Distribution of the respondents' expenditure.

Taka (monthly)	frequency	Percent
00 – 1000	21	26.25
1001- 1500	23	28.75
1501- 2000	19	23.75
2001- 2500	02	2.5
2501- 3000	04	5
3001- 3500	02	2.5
3501- 4000	03	3.75
4001 – 4500	02	2.5
4501 + Above	04	5
Total	80	100

The finding shows the regular expenditure of the respondents. Most of the child labourers (28.75%) expend Tk. 1,001-1,500 per month, 5% respondents expend Tk. 4,500 or above.

Table 34: Frequency Distribution of the respondents' expenses in different sectors:

Section	frequency	Percent
Feeding	24	30
Shelter and Feeding	17	21.5
Schooling of brother and sister	22	27.5
Home need	72	90
Smoking	6	7.5
Others	2	2.5

This table shows that most of the respondents expend their income for home need (90%), second position (30%) spends their income for feeding. 27.5% spend for schooling of their brothers and sisters, 21.5% respondents spend their income for shelter and feeding, 7.5% spend for smoking and only 2.5% spend their income for fulfill other needs.

Figure 4.16

The types of expenditure sectors of the respondents can be viewed by the following graph:

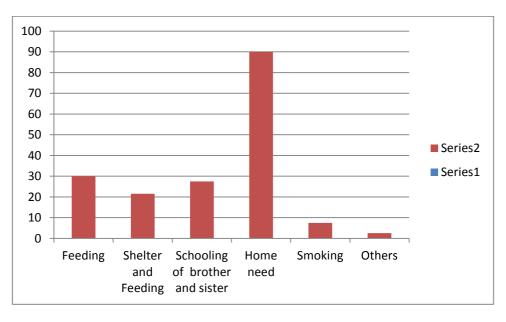


Table 35: Frequency Distribution of the respondents' monthly savings.

Taka (monthly)	frequency	Percent
No savings	62	77.5
600 – 1000	12	15
1001 – 1500	04	5
1501 – 2000	02	2.5
Total	80	100

The finding shows that maximum respondents (77.5%) have no savings. 15% respondents can save Tk. 600-1000, 5% save Tk. 1001 – 1500 and 2.5% can save Tk. 1501- 2000 per month only. This little savings cannot ensure future of the respond's or their family, when they will sick or create any other problems.

Table 36: Frequency Distribution of the respondent's places of their deposits/savings.

Saving places	frequency	Percent
With bank	02	11.11
With Self	12	66.66
With Relatives	01	5.56
Others	03	16.67
Total	18	100

The table represent that, 66.66% respondents deposit their savings withself,11.11% deposits with bank, 5.56% with relatives, and 16.67 deposit with others. But it is remember that 62 responds have no any savings out of 80 respondents.

Table 37: Frequency Distribution of the respondents' leisure facilities and types of leisure.

Leisure Types	frequency	Percent
Do not have leisure	15	18.75
Watching TV	23	28.75
Listening Song	6	7.5
Go to Cinema	7	8.75
Outing	8	10
Playing games and sports	21	26.25
Total	80	100

Leisure is very important factor of a child for mental and physical development. But most of the child worker can-not get proper opportunity for passing their leisure time. This table shows that 18.75% respondents have not any leisure time. 28.75% respondents passing their leisure time by watching TV, 26.25% passing by playing games and sports, 10% passing by outing, 8.75 go to Cinema and 7.5% are passing their leisure time by listening song.

Table 38: Frequency Distribution of the respondents' passing leisure time.

Recreation Types	frequency	Percent
Regular	11	16.92
Irregular	10	15.38
Some times	42	64.62
Few and far between	02	3.08
Total	65	100

The table shows that maximum (64.62%) child labourer passing their leisure for sometimes, 16.92% for regular, 15.38% irregular and 3.08% are passing leisure time few and far between.

Table 39: Frequency Distribution of the respondent's types of addiction:

Types of Addiction	frequency	Percent
No addiction	51	65.75
Cigarette	22	27.50
Opium	02	2.50
Others	05	6.25
Total	80	100

The finding indicate a pleasant result that 63.75% respondents are not addicted by any types of addiction. But few numbers of respondents (29 out of 80) addicted some types of addiction. 27.50% respondents addicted by smoking, 6.25% addicted by gool or others and 2.50% addicted by opium.

Figure 4.17

The types of addiction of the respondents can be viewed by the following graph:

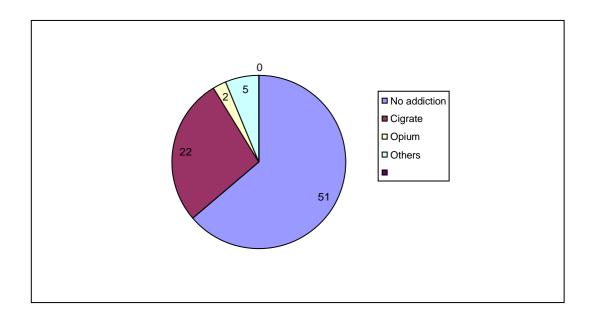


Table 40: Frequency Distribution of the respondents' known/unknown about harmful effect of addiction.

Known/ Unknown	frequency	Percent
Known	15	51.72
Unknown	14	48.28
Total	29	100

Out of 29 addicted respondents 51.72% are known about the harmful effect of addiction and 48.28% are unknown about it. Although most of the respondents know the harmful and dangerous affection of addiction, but they do not comeback from it.

Table 41: Frequency Distribution of the respondents' suffering from child abuse.

Abuse by Whom	frequency	Percent
Not abuse	43	53.75
Owner	22	27.5
Wife of owner	11	13.75
Son of owner	3	3.75
Others	1	1.25
Total	80	100

The table represent that 37 respondents punish or abuse by the owner and others out of 80. 27.5% respondents abuse by the owner, 13.75% by the owner wife, 3.75% abuse by son of the owner and 1.25% abuse by the work mate or others. Although 53.75% respondents have not faced abuse.

Total 37 child workers abused by any one out of 80 respondents (Table-41).

32 percent have faced sexual abused, 48.65 percent abused by beating. So it is shown that working places of rural child workers are not suitable or not safe for work this is why 67.50 percent respondents are some-what satisfied about their present work. (Table-24). For this reason 77.5 percent respondents do not want to continue their present work. (Table-45).

Table 42: Frequency Distribution of the respondent's types of abuse.

Type of abuse	frequency	Percent
Beating	18	48.65
Abuse words	5	13.51
Curtailing Salary	2	5.41
Sexual abuse	12	32.43
Total	37	100

This table shows that 48.65% respondents are abuse by beating, 13.51% respondents by abuse word, 5.41% abuse by curtailing salary and 32.43% faced sexual abuse. They abuse by their owner, wife of owner, son or daughter of owner and some time their workmate also.

Figure 4.18

The types of abuse of the respondents can be viewed by the following graph:

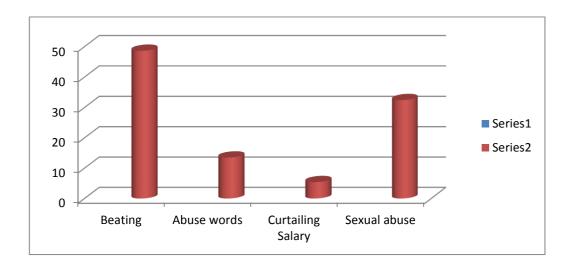


Table 43: Frequency Distribution of the instruments use during abuse for the respondents.

Instruments	frequency	Percent
Hand	17	45.95
Stick	01	2.70
Others	19	51.35
Total	37	100

This table represent some information about the instruments which are used for the child labourers during punishment. 45.95% child labourer are punish by hands, 51.35% are punish by other instruments (as like abuse words or sexual abuse), 2.70% are punish by sticks.

Table 44: Frequency Distribution of the respondents bad effect of child labour.

Effects	frequency	Percent
No schooling	65	81.25
Broken health	33	41.25
Addicted	04	5
Others	03	3.75

This table shows the bad effect of child labour. The respondents give several answers about the affection of child labour. 81.25% respondents remember that, they have failed to go to school for joining as a child worker, 41.25% give answer for broken health, 5% to addicted verities addiction and 3.75% give answer for others affection. We can see from the table, our future nation is destroying for child work every day and every time. It is very much painful picture for the nation.

Table 45: Frequency Distribution of the respondent's opinion about continue or discontinue of their work.

Opinion	frequency	Percent
Want to continue	18	22.5
Discontinue	62	77.5
Total	80	100

The table data shows that 77.5% child workers want to change their work if they get better chance, and 22.5% do not want to change their work because of well facilities. This result shows that the maximum child worker cannot accept their work mentally.

Table 46: Frequency Distribution of the respondent's opinion of the way to reduce child labour from rural areas in Bangladesh.

Opinion to reduce child labour	Frequency	Percent
Staying with parents	10	12
With schooling	64	80
With religious education	35	43.75
No family conflict	15	18.75
Parents having a single spouse	03	3.25
Others	12	15.25

This table shows the opinion of the respondents the way to reduce child labour from our country. Most of the respondents (about 80%) remember that, with schooling can reduce child labour. 43.75% give their opinion with religious education, 18.75% for no familiar conflict, 15.25% others, 12% remember staying with parents and 3.25% remember parents having single spouse can reduce child labour from Bangladesh.

The child labourers of rural areas have firm determination and ability to improve the conditions of their living if minimum opportunities are given to them to nourish their latent qualities. They need some food, shelter, minimum clothing and educational facilities along with some tolerable occupation. Their basic rights should be given to them in the greater interest of the nation. We should remember the fact that if their wretched conditions are allowed to continue and their number is allowed to increase, they would create the worst situation in the society.

Highlights of the Study Findings

The findings indicate that, a large number of children in rural areas of Bangladesh are found to get involved in economically gainful work. The increasing trend of poverty has made the situation. Information on child labour available from different sources indicates that child labour constitutes a substantial portion of labour force in Bangladesh.

The findings informed that the unfortunate working children who should have been in school like their age group fortunate have to end up as child labourers due to pressure unfavorable circumstances. It is also a fact that many of this children had to leave school and take odd jobs during the prime time of their life just for bare survival.

Employers also employ child labourers with grateful preference by paying their minimum wages. In most cases, these children are not treated with sympathy are given fully frugal food and often a cash payment in the range of Tk. 1,000 or less per month. 90% respondents expend their income for home need. So most of them (about 78%) have no savings.

The mean age of the children are about 14 years, 50% respondents had 10 to 12 years old when they started as a child worker.

The child labourers of rural areas have engaged in agriculture, brick bearing, shop assistant, rickshaw/van pulling, boat rowing, house hold work, catching fish etc. Most of the respondents work above 9 to 10 hours in a day and about 85% respondents work 7 days in a week. Only 17% respondents have enjoying regular leisure facilities but maximum child workers don't have enjoy it. 55% have got only salary without no wages. Most of the respondents don't get any facilities by the owners when they got sick.

Maximum child labourers in rural areas are had got chance to take primary education but they cannot continue their study. There is no respondents have found (out of 80 respondents) of higher secondary level. The poverty is the major cause of dropout in rural areas.

Most of the respondents have to live in unhygienic places and about four persons sleep in a bed at a time. Maximum child labourers in rural areas have collected their medicine from shop of medicine without any doctor's prescription when they got sick.

Above 50% respondents have abused in their working places, about 19% female workers have sexual abused by the owner/wife of owner or son/daughter of owner.

So, deprivation for educational facilities, long working hours, lack of congenial and unhealthy working condition, lack of proper recreational facilities, inadequate wages are the negative impact on the physical, mental, social and moral development of the child labourers in rural areas of Bangladesh.

Therefore, child labour in rural areas is a serious threat not only the child but also to the society and the country.

CHAPTER-FIVE 5.1 CASE STUDY

CASE STUDY

The working children are therefore, the teenagers who live in remote areas or villages in inhuman condition. Their parents are poor and uneducated. The above findings strongly indicate that those working children are forced to undertake any earning activity for poor remuneration along with their parents and other members in the families for the purpose of survival. They are not in a position to cater to the need of their families. These children are the most neglected and deprived section of our population. In addition to empirical findings four case studies have been conducted which are described below.

Case One

Case Identity:

Name : Md. Hredoy

Father's name : Mr. Soleman

Mother's name : Rowshonara Begum

Age : 15 years

Sex : Male

Religion : Islam

Present Address : Sailchor, Debidwar, Comilla.

Permanent Address : Same

Rationale of taking as a case:

Hredoy comes from a very poor family. They have no land. There are seven members in his family. He has two sisters and one brother. His brother reads in class 4 but Hredoy is illiterate because of poverty. He has been supporting his family for 4 years. After knowing that, I have wanted to know and identify his problems with a great interest and also to help him mentally.

Historical background:

Hredoy and his family live in a village. He has two sisters and one brother. His grandmother also lives with them. So, he lives in an extended family. He is the elder child of his parents. Poverty is the main problem of his family. Md. Soleman is his father who is only earning member of his family. His income is too small to maintain that, family. So his mother gets involved as a household worker. But it is not sufficient for them. This is why, his father has encouraged him to do something. He has started as a child worker when he was only 11 years old. Now he works in a CNG garage.

Physical condition:

Hredoy is physically not fit enough. No diseases or unconditional situation have affected his body. But sometimes he falls in to normal fever in various seasons. His weight is not perfect according to his age. He is suffering from malnutrition also.

Psychological condition:

Actually, psychological condition of Hredoy is not good. He is frustrated; he has remembered his childhood again and again and felt sorry because of his illiteracy. Now, he has understood that literacy is very important for a life, but the time is over.

Economic Condition:

There are seven members of his family. Most of them are dependent. His father is a day lebourer, he does not find work every day. His mother is now a house hold worker but her income is too small. Hredoy earns Tk. 2000 per month. It is also not sufficient for their large family. So, they do not get three times meal every day. It is very painful for a human life.

Recreational Condition:

Hredoy works as a worker in a CNG garage. So, he has not enough recreational opportunity. Some time, he has gone to watch TV in a tea stall near his garage. Some time, he listens song and goes to play with other children.

Identification of the problem of the client:

After psychosocial study I find out some problems such as:-

- i. His parents cannot maintain their family properly because of poverty.
- ii. They have some familiar problems. His father always tortures his mother.
- iii. His grandmother is very much ill. So, she needs treatment but they cannot do it because of poverty.
- iv. His parents don't take care of them properly.
- v. Anxiety and anger are great psychological problem. Suddenly, he become angry without any causes.
- vi. He also feels frustrated because of his illiteracy.
- vii. Most of the time he sleeps in the garage with one of his workmate. So, he has felt lonely.
- viii. His parents cannot fulfill their basic needs and demands.
- ix. His sister is 14 years old. She is also a burden to his family.
- x. He has been addicted to smoking cigarette.

Concluding Remarks:

I have given some advice that can help to solve those problems, such as:-

- i) I have told him to take care of his health and eat nutritious food.
- ii) Try to motivate him to start non-formal education.
- iii) I counsel him how to remove his frustration.
- iv) I have told him to spend time in recreation beside his work.
- v) I have told him to avoid smoking.

Case-Two

Case Identity:

Name : Alpona Rani Das.

Father's name : Sanjet Das.

Mother's name : Kalpana Rani Das.

Age : 18 years

Sex : female

Religion : Hindu.

Present Address : Boroalompur, Debidwar, Comilla.

Permanent Address : Same

Rationale of taking as a case:

Alpona Rani is a symbol of a female child labour in rural areas of Bangladesh. She does not like other child labour of Bangladesh. She was a student of Class five in Boro Alompur Government primary school. But she cannot continue her study, because of poverty. She struggled in the journey of her life. I have wanted to know and identify her problem and give solutions.

Historical background:

Her family consists of 5 members, father, mother, two younger brothers and she herself. She lives in a poor residential area of Debidwar upazilla in Comilla district. Her father is a day labourer and her mother is a house wife and she is very much sick affected by serious disease. She is fortunate enough that her two elder brothers were school goers. Her father is only earning member of their family. He cannot maintain his family properly because of his small income. This is why he is encouraging her to join as a child labourer. When she has joined the work she was 12 years only. For this tragic history, I have wanted to know about her problems and give proper advice to her. So, I take her as a case.

Physical Condition:

Physically Alpona is not fit enough. She suffers from some diseases like cold fever and headache often. Her weight is not balanced according to her age. But she is physically fit after she has been engaged as a child worker. She was the second girl in her class when she was reading in class 5. She is the elder daughter of her parents. She dreamed that, she would be a doctor, but her mother illness had broken her all dreams.

Psychological condition:

Her psychological condition is not good. She is always frustrated because her mother is ill. She goes to her work in the morning and comes back in the evening. Her mother is lonely all the day long. This is why, she always thought about her lonely mother. She is near about 18 years old; so she thinks that when she will get married, her mother will be lonely actually and what will be done then.

Economic Condition:

Her father is only earning member of her family. Her two younger brothers are read in class 5 and 3. It is necessary for her mother's treatment but her father cannot fulfill their basic needs in this condition. Alpana has decided to go to work. As a result, she involved as a household worker. Now she can support little to her family, but their economic condition is very bad. Some-times there is no food when she goes to work. So, she takes meal in 2 times in a day.

Social Condition:

Because of poor economic condition, Alpona's social status is not good but for their parents honesty their neighbor helps them during their crisis. They have helped her brothers also. This is why, they can continue their studies.

Familiar Conditions:

Because of her mother's illness, their familial condition is not good. All the members of the family are suffering from many other crises. This is why her family is not a happy one at all.

Problems identification:

After psychosocial study, I have identified some problems of Alpona's family such as:-

- i. Alpona's physical condition is not good. She doesn't bear a balanced physical fitness required for her age.
- ii. Sometimes, she suffers from cold fever and headache.
- iii. Anxiety and depression are also her physical problem for his frustration.
- iv. Because of her mother's illness all the member of her family, are suffering from some problems.
- v. Their economic condition is not good at the moment.
- vi. Specially, she has frustrated about the future of her family.

Concluding Remarks:

- i. I suggest her to take care of herself.
- ii. Advise to take nutritious food.
- iii. Suggest taking better treatment for her mother from Government hospital.
- iv. I counsel her to create self-awareness.
- v. Logical conversation to stay away from mental pressure and frustration. I suggest her to try to be free from mental pressure.

Case-Three

Case Identity:

Name : Md. Murad Sarker.

Father's name : Md. Mokbul Hossain.

Mother's name : Taslima Akter.

Age : 15 years

Sex : Male.

Religion : Islam.

Present Address : Shatmora, Jahapur, Muradnagor, Comilla.

Permanent Address : Same

Rationale of taking as a case:

When I wish to talk with Murad, he was very tired and was taking rest under the shade of a tree. It was hot day also. He had served as a shop assistant two months ago. His master discharged him for the absence of work some days for his illness but his master didn't want to listen anything. Meantime, he lost his father. His family has faced critical problem at that moment. This is why, I have decided to take him as a case to find out the causes of his problems and to help him to solve the problems.

Historical background:

Murad is an agriculture assistant now. There are five members of his family (mother, one elder brother, one younger brother and sister). His father was only earning member of his family. His elder brother has gone to learn tailoring for shelter and food only. Murad was working as a shop assistant for shelter and food only. Now, he lost his father suddenly two months ago. His elder brother came back home and held the steering of the family. Murad also was discharged from his shop by this time. Then he had joined in a agricultural field. He engaged himself as a child worker and continued his work till today.

Psychosocial Study:

Psychosocial Study is very important for a case study. That's why, it has been done by the following.

Physical Condition:

The physical condition of Murad is not good. His weight and height are not sufficient for his age. He is suffering from malnutrition. Some-times he has felt normal fever and headache. Now he is not physically fit. He has been attacked with cold fever, so he is sick and weak. Although he has come to work.

Psychological condition:

Frustration and anxiety are his mental problem because he lost his father recently. He feels loneliness always. He does not talk well with others. He is shocked of his father's death. So, he is not good about this psychological condition.

Economic Condition:

Economically, his family is not well now. His elder brother earns something and Murad's little earning is spent to bear of their family needs. They cannot fulfill the basic needs of their family by it. They live a very miserable life.

Social Conditions:

They are economically poor. So, their social status is not high in the society but their social relation is very good. This is why, their neighbor have come to help them cordially during their family crisis. They have helped Murasd's family by financial and mental support.

Problems identification:

I can identify some problems of Murad's after psychosocial study. These problems are:-

- i) His age is only 15 years but he has faced very much critical situation.
- ii) Murad is very frustrated about his life.

- iii) He is addicted to smoking cigarette to release his frustration.
- iv) His present physical condition is not good, he is attacked by fever.
- v) He has been shocked for his father's death.
- vii) Anxiety and depression are also his physical problem.
- viii) Because of his father's death, all the member of his family are suffering some physical economical and mental problems.
- ix) Sometimes, he is tortured by the soon of the owner.

Concluding Remarks:

- i. I have suggested him to take proper treatment from the upazilla health complex.
- ii. I counsel him to create self-awareness.
- iii. I also counsel his family member's to support him mentally.
- iv. I have talked to his master's wife for his physical and mental support.
- v. I have suggested him to involved the non-formal education school.
- vi. Logical conversation to be free from mental pressure and frustration.
- vii. Have Motivated to be involved games and sports with other children in his free time.
- viii. I have suggested him talk to other children.

Case-Four

Case Identity:

Name : Anna Akter.

Father's name : Md. Mizan.

Mother's name : Baby Begum.

Age : 15 years

Sex : Female.

Religion : Islam.

Present Address : Korkotia, Ghorashal, Muradnagar, Comilla. Permanent

Address : Same

Rationale of taking as a case:

Anna Akter symbolizes the struggle in the journey of a female child labour in Muradnagor upazilla in Comilla district. She is not like other economically active children of Bangladesh. She is a girl of huge mental strength. Her family consists of seven members. She lives in a poor residential area of Muradnagor upazilla. She is fortunate enough that her three sisters and one brother are going to school. But they cannot continue their study except younger brother and sister. Anna also has been admitted in a government primary school, but she cannot continue her study for poverty. Sometimes, she is tortured by the wife of owner. She is frustrated about her life. This is why, I take him as a case to identify her problems and help to solve her problems.

Historical background:

Anna Akter is the second daughter of her parents. He has been admitted to Ghorashal Govt. primary school. He cannot continue her study for poverty. Her father was only earning member of the big family. So, it is difficult for him to maintain the family by his little income. He cannot fulfill their basic needs at all. This is why, Anna's mother

has encouraged her to join in a work for extra income. When she is engaged as a child worker, she was only 12 years old. She has faced some struggle and been frustrated about her life.

Psychosocial Study:

Psychosocial study can identify the main causes of problems that can help the proper solution of the problems also. So, it is very important for a case study. That is why, it has been done by following.

Physical Condition:

Anna's family size is large. On the other hand, only two rooms have in their house to live. So, five persons have gone to sleep at a time in a room. They live in a tin-shed So, health facilities fully absent there. Anna's physical condition is not good. Some-times, she is attacked normal fever. Her weight is not perfect according to her age.

Psychological condition:

She is tortured by the owner's wife. She also has faced sexual abuse, as a result she has frustrated about her work. Mentally, she cannot accept her work by herself. She has wanted to change her work, but she cannot take decision where she will go. This is why Anna's psychological condition is not good at all.

Economic Condition:

Her family always suffers from poverty. Her father cannot maintain such a large family by his little income. Anna's income is very small also but it can-not support her father. So, it is known that her economic condition is not good.

Social Condition:

Anna's father is 55 years old now. So, he is also a senior person in the society. But their economic condition is poor; so this is why, their social status is not so good. On the other hand, the person who holds strong economic condition everybody likes him and his social status is very high in the society. But her family maintains good relation with the neighbors and relatives.

Identification of problems:

After diagnosis, I can find out some problems of her family. Such as:-

- i) Anna's parents cannot maintain their family properly because of povert.
- ii) Her father cannot get proper and enough care of his family.
- iii) Anna is always frustrated during of their poverty.
- iv) Her father cannot fulfill their demand with little income.
- v) She has been admitted to a primary school in class one, but she cannot continue it.
- vi) She is frustrated about her future life.
- vii) She cannot resolve his mind in his work because of some tortures.

Concluding Remarks:

I have given her some advice to solve problems such as:-

- i) I have told to take care of her health.
- ii) I try to motivate her to spend time for recreation beside his work.
- iii) I counsel her to start non formal education also.
- iv) I counsel her to remove his frustration.
- v) I try to create self-awareness.

Under the circumstances stated above, it is discernibly clear that the situation of the child labour in Bangladesh is not only dismal, its prevention is also gigantic and time taking. Yet a beginning is to be made to address the problem from the right perspective of the situation. The pertinent information based on empirical studies on rural child labour may be a boost for the purpose. The present study is a humble attempt towards that end.

CHAPTER-SIX

- 6.1 Major Findings of the Study
- 6.2 Limitations of the Study
- 6.3 Recommendations
- 6.4 Conclusion

Major Findings of the Study

To make a clear understanding about the life condition of the rural children engaged in verities work in Bangladesh, A sample survey has been carried out under this study. The survey was conducted to rural children involved in verities activates.

Total 80 children between the ages of 4-18 years, involved in verities work were purposively selected and surveyed. The study has been carried out seven types of works where the child workers involved as like- Shop assistant, Brick bearer, Agriculture assistant, Rickshaw/Van Puller, Boat rowing, Helping house hold work, and Other types of work.

80 respondents have been selected with equal ratio from different villages of two upazillas. The major findings of the study are given bellow:

- child labour is a common phenomenon in our country. In this study we get maximum child workers (42.50%) are age of 13—15 years, on the other hand 3.75% are age of 7—9 years, and 18.75% of child workers are age of 10—12 years. So, the tender age of child workers is not admissible by any existing labour related laws in the country. Although these children should be in school, but they are working as a child labourer. It is really a threat to our country for future development of the child.
- ii) Among 80 respondents, it appears that most of respondents of this study are male. A few number of female has found for direct interviewing. Among the child labourers that are interview 68.75% is male where as 31.25% are female. This result shows that the employers are more interested to engage male children in work, because the males are hard-working and toilsome.
- iii) Most of the number of respondents are Muslim (about 85%), and few of the number are Hindus (only 15%), out of 80 respondents. Other religion respondents are not found of this study.
- iv) Most of the respondents (80%) of this study bear good relation with their family, few number of respondents bear very good relation as 18.75%, only

- 1.25% respondents bear bad relation with their parents. It is true that, family bond of the people of rural areas are very good.
- v) The data shows the present guardian of the child labourers. Among the 80 respondents appear the maximum of the respondents present guardian are their father (77.50%), So, most of the household of surveyed children are headed by male. 21.25% their mother and only 1.5% present guardian are their brother. It is clearly mention that most of the respondent's family decision maker are their father.
- vi) Most of the child labourer (83.75%) of the rural areas have to chance to taking education and only few number (16.25%) have no chance to take education. But present educational picture of the respondents are very painful. 20% child labourer are studding class 1—3, 30% are 4—6 class, 10% are class 7—9 and 40% are 10—12 class, who can continue their study. only few number of respondents (14.93%) can continue their education out of 80 respondents. We can see that, major part of the respondents (80.70%) are reading at primary level, 19.30% are secondary level and there is no respondent of higher secondary level, who has gotten opportunities to take part of education. Remember that, only 57 child labourers get opportunities to take education out of 80. But most of them (85.07%) cannot continue their study. Although education is the basic need for human being. We can see that a major portion of the rural child labourers (83.75%) have opportunities to take part in educational facilities, but they failed to continue their study.

The data shows about the bearer of educational expenses of the respondents who can continue their study. Major portion (50%) bearing their father, their mother 20%, and other persons (as like their brother/ sister/owner/ uncle etc.) 30% are bearing their educational expenses.

vii) The data shows the painful picture about causes of dropout the children from the school in rural areas. 68.43% respondents are dropout for the case of poverty, 29.82% are dropout for intentionally, and 1.75% dropout for torture of their father. We can see that, the poverty is the major cause of dropout in rural areas.

- viii) 77.50% rural child workers can fulfill their daily meal. But 22.50% child worker cannot it. Remember that, they eat some food but it is not enough for them and it is not balance died. Most of the rural child labourers (68.75%) can take their meal 3 time, 31.25% can 2 times in a day. Although they take meal whatever there is.
- ix) This study conduct in rural areas. So, most of the child labourer (about 65%) live in tin-shed building, 20% live in damp places, 5% live in dirty places as their working place (such as shop or others), 2% live in here and there. Only 3.75% live in clean places and building. Most of the respondents have to live in unhygienic places.
- x) The finding of the study shows about living condition of the respondents. Major number of the respondents (48.75%) are sleeping 3—4 person, 33.75% sleeping 1—2 person and 17.50% respondents are sleeping 5—6 person in a bad at a time. So, we can see the living condition is not satisfied of the child labourer in rural areas.
- xi) The data shows that 90% respondents require good health condition and only 10% require bad health condition. Generally it is showing satisfy structure about their health condition. But remember that, when collect the data most of them are working their working places. So, they were fit for the work that time.
- xii) The data represent that most of the rural child labourers (65%) collect their medicine from the shop of medicine without any doctor's prescription. Only 13.75% go to hospital, 15% go to homeo doctor, 5% go to clinic and 1.25% go to kabiraj for their treatment. Although —Upazilla Health Complex || always ready to give free treatment for them, but only 13.75% have gone there. So, it is essential to buildup awareness of the rural people to take proper treatment from government hospital.
- xiii) This table shows that, major portion of the respondents (42.5%) bear expenses for their treatment by their own source. 33.75% respondents maintain their medical care expenses from their father, 5% their mother, 2.5% their elder

- brother, 1.25% bear their sister. Only 15% bear their medical care expenses from owner of working places.
- xiv) Poverty is a major problem of all sector in our country. That also causes of other problems. This study finds that, poverty is the main cause of a child to engage in earning work. Almost 78.75% of the respondents inform that, they have to engage in work due to poverty of their family, 6.25% engage for father illness, 6.25% engage for mother illness and 8.75% engage for other problems.
- xv) This table shows that most of the child labourers (50%) age level is 10—12 years, 28.75% is 13—15 years, and 21.25% is 7—9 years, when they start as a child worker. So, it is known that major number of child labourers age level is 10—12 years in rural areas, when they can stay with study in primary level.
- xvi) The child labourers of rural areas are encourages mainly three ways. Father, mother and brother encourage them to go to work. The finding shows that major portion (66.25%) child labourer encourage by their mother, 30% by their father and 3.75% encourage to join the work by their brother. Poverty is the main problem of the rural families. So, children of rural areas encourages to join work by their family members.
- xvii) The data reveals that child labourers of the rural areas of Bangladesh are categorized their work in to 8 categories. Highest number of child labourers (27.25%) engage in shop as a shop assistant, 21.25% of child labourer are engage in house hold work, 15% are engage in agriculture sector. 7.5% are brick bearing, 8.75% are boat rowing, 3.75% are engage as a rickshaw pulling and 16.25 are engage in other type of works.
- xviii) Working condition is an important factor for a worker that encourages him/her to perform their work properly. This data shows that 67.50% respondents some-what satisfy, 20% satisfy, only 2.5% highly satisfy about their working condition. On the other hand 10% child labourer are dissatisfy. Their felling actually indicates that, they are not mentally prepared, but they compelled to do these types of works.

- xix) The highest number of rural child labourers 32.50% work above 8 hours in a day, which severely contradict with the ILO convention. The second position 31.25% respondents working time is 7—8 hours, 25% within 5—6 hours, 2.5% is 3—4 hours per day. It is a painful picture that 8.75% respondent's duration of working hours is 11—12 hours per day. In this case child labourers are not pay their salary on the over time basis as per labour related laws.
- The finding shows that the highest number of child labourers 83.75% work 7 days in a week, 15% work 5—6 days and only 1.25% respondents work 3—4 days in a week. So, there is no holiday of 83.75% child labourers. Recreation of the child labourers is fully avoid here.
- xxi) Most of the child labourers (55%) get only salary, 37.5% get housing feeding and salary, and 7.5% respondents get housing and feeding facilities by their work. This study shows as a painful picture of rural child labourers. Most of the number of respondents of the study (62.5%) do not get any facilities by the owner, when they get sick. 16.25% get salary, 12.5% get diet serving and salary, and 8.75% get only diet serving in the illness period.
- xxii) From the finding it is observe the feeling of the child labourers about their masters' behavior. Maximum respondents (56.25%) are some-what satisfy, 38.75% respondents' opinion are good, and 2.5% are bad about their masters' behavior.
- The working children of the rural areas are employ with the salary range Tk. 1000 or less. Even some children are employing for no wages, but for food and shelter only. Maximum number of children (26.25%) is pay within Tk. 1001- 1500, only 8.75% of the respondents are pay Tk. above 4500. These are not handsome remuneration for bearing the minimum living cost in our country.
- xxiv) Most of the respondents 91.25% want to change their work, if they get better chance. Only 8.75% respondents do not want to change their work. Maximum child labourers of the rural areas are not satisfied about their present work because of various causes. 68.75% want to change their work if they get handsome salary, 20% for other benefits (as like easy work, much food etc),

- 2.50% respondents want to change their work to get much leave. Total 91.25% respondents want to change their work. So, it is true that their present salary and other benefits are not sufficient for them.
- The finding shows the regular expenditure of the respondents. Most of the child labourers (28.75%) expend Tk. 1,001-1,500 per month, 5% respondents expend Tk. 4500 or above. Maximum respondents expend their income for home need (90%), second position (30%) spends their income for feeding. 27.5% spend for schooling of their brothers and sisters, 21.5% respondents spend their income for shelter and feeding, 7.5% spend for smoking and only 2.5% spend their income for fulfill other needs.
- xxvi) The finding shows that maximum respondents (77.5%) have no savings. 15% respondents can save Tk. 600-1000, 5% save Tk. 1001 1500 and 2.5% can save Tk. 1,501- 2,000 per month only. This little savings cannot ensure future of the respond's or their family, when they will sick or create any other problems 66.66% respondents deposit their savings with self, 11.11% deposits with bank, 5.56% with relatives, and 16.67 deposit with others. But it is remember that 62 responds have no any savings out of 80 respondents.
- respondents provide leisure time by their owners but 64.62% child labourer passing their leisure for sometimes, 16.92% for regular, 15.38% irregular and 3.08% are passing leisure time few and far between. 28.75% respondents passing their leisure time by watching TV, 26.25% passing by playing games and sports, 10% passing by outing, 8.75 go to Cinema and 7.5% are passing their leisure time by listening song.
- xxviii) The finding indicates a pleasant result that 63.75% respondents are not addicted by any types of addiction. But few number of respondents (29 out of
 - 80) Addicted some types of addiction. 27.50% respondents addicted by smoking, 6.25% addicted by goal or others and 2.50% addicted by opium. Out of 29 addicted respondents 51.72% are known about the harmful effect of addiction and 48.28% are unknown about it.

- xxix) The finding represent that more than half of the respondents (37 out of 80) punished or abused by the owners and others. 80. 27.5% respondents abused by the owner, 13.75% by the owners wife, 3.75% abused by son of the owner, and 1.25% abused by the work mate or others. 48.65% respondents are abused by beating, 13.51% by abuse word, 5.41% abused by curtailing salary and 32.43% respondents sexual abused. Who abused by beating, 45.95% child labourer are punished by hands, 51.35% are punish by other instruments (as like abuse words or sexual abuse), 2.70% are punish by sticks.
- xxx) This finding shows the bad effect of child labour. 81.25% respondents remember that, they have failed to go to school for joining as a child worker, 41.25% give answer for broken health, 5% to addicted verities addiction and 3.75% give answer for others affection.
- xxxi) 77.5% child workers want to change their work if they get better chance, and 22.5% do not want to change their work. This result shows that they cannot accept their work mentally.
- xxxii) Most of the respondents (about 80) remember that, with schooling can reduce child labour. 43.75% give their opinion with religious education, 18.75% for no familiar conflict, 15.25% others, 12% remember staying with parents and 3.25% remember parents having single spouse can reduce child labour from Bangladesh.

The child labourers of rural areas need some food, shelter, minimum clothing and educational facilities along with some tolerable occupation. We should remember the fact that if their wretched conditions are allowed to continue and their number is allowed to increase, they would create the worst situation in the society. So, family, society or community, civil society, media etc. can play the important role to protecting child labour in our country.

Limitations of the Study

Research is a critical, skilled and practicable experimental work. Specially, social research is very much critical because social situation is always changeable. Day by day, it will be changing and this is a common nature of the society. So, data collection from the primary level is not easy for any purpose. It has some limitation like many others studies of social science. In Bangladesh, research on "Situation of Rural Child Labour" is a new phenomenon, this is why this research has some limitations too, such as:-

- i) The first limitation of the study is to select rural child labourers only. But maximum child labourers are living in the urban and city areas.
- ii) The second limitation of the study is the small sample size (N=80) and it is not covering the total child labourers in rural areas of Bangladesh.
- iii) The study has conducted in two upazillas of Comilla district, which is not a wide coverage of total areas of Bangladesh. So, it might not be representative of the whole country situation.
- iv) The respondents sometimes have provided information from their memory by recall method and they might be some distortion of information.
- v) In Bangladesh research on "Situation of Rural Child Labour" is a new phenomenon and for this reason the review of literature has been prepared with limited facts.
- vi) When I have collected data from the respondents, at that time, maximum number of respondents is busy for their work. As a result, I cannot collect data properly from them.
- vii) As I am a new researcher, I am not properly capable to acquire proper knowledge, skill and practices that's why there are some limitations, also, that has hampered this research.
- viii) A favorable environment is very important for a good research. But, I cannot get such an environment when I have gone to my respondents for collecting data.

- ix) When I have collected data, some respondents have been busy for work; so, some-times master of the respondents has inspired them to give answer.
- x) Children are always intentional, So, it is difficult to maintain them for collecting data properly.
- xi) All child workers come from poor family So, when I have gone to them for data collection, they expect some material help but when I have failed to do this, they are not eager to give answer of the questions.
- xii) I have faced difficulties to know the personal issues of the respondents because they have kept themselves away to hide their personal problem. So, the research has been hampered.
- wiii) When we ask the question about sexual abuse, especially female respondents, they have felt uneasy and gone to avoid the answer of this question.
- xiv) Some respondents are not eager to give perfect answer because of the torture of their masters.
- Most of the children are of rising ages. But, they are missing from school. So, they are becoming illiterate and ignorant. They are not able to understand our all question properly. All problems of the respondents are not clear at all.
- xvi) Children working as domestic servants also face a very irrational and oppressive working environment. But, they are not interested to give perfect answer for losing their services.

Recommendations

Based on the study finding in respect of child worker in the study areas, the following recommendations might be considered for reducing child workers in the country. All the suggestions are given by the respondents of the study areas when the discussions on the issues are made with them. As the problem is so complicated and deep rooted in the society, solution is not easy. But in the battle against child labour, in my opinion, different causes of action as described may be considered.

- i) Landless family and small farmers are the producer of child labourers in rural areas for earning high-wage. So it is very important to improve their family income.
- ii) The constitutional obligation of providing basic needs of life should be ensured through planned economic growth and distribution system. So, it is essential to fulfill their basic needs of the study areas. That can reduce growing child labourer in our country.
- iii) The number of child labour is increasing day by day which should be minimized. Earning adult member of family should be given an opportunity to earn through proper coordination of government and NGOs efforts.
- iv) The step of rehabilitation for the family of working children should be taken through enlisting of the child
- v) The government should take proper step for implementing of Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper|| because the number of child worker is increasing day by day all over Bangladesh.
- vi) Successful result of any work depends on proper supervising or monitoring so it is essential to properly supervise, coordinate and monitor all the programs for welfare of child worker by government or NGO's.
- vii) There is not enough employment in Bangladesh. But thousands of students in general education sector are passing every year. They cannot earn for their family. This is why it is necessary to develop the vocational education program in rural areas.

- viii) Employment opportunity for the poor class people of rural areas should be increased, so that economic crisis and the number of child labourers can be reduced.
- ix) The policy implications should not be just to remove child labour. The option is to come up with policies that would try to minimize the negative impact of child labour creating situation where children do not have to work and enable children to get education and health care to make them worthy citizen.
- x) Health and nutrition status of child worker are seriously neglected like other developing countries. Bangladesh has no special nutritional program on working children. But the situation is alarming for a good health policy. To overcome the situation by taking necessary steps.
- xi) Sports and games, Art, Recreation etc. are very important part of life. The opportunities for practicing games and sports, arts, literature and some other recreational items should be ensured for the working children which will play vital role in development of our country.
- xii) Improvement of fish cultivation can increase the income of the poor family in rural areas. The respondents suggests that if the concerned government department of Bangladesh actively take part in providing necessary input and services to rural people, many of them may be involved in this business for increasing their income. Then, children of that family will not go to work. Thus, child labour can be reduced in rural areas.
- xiii) Most of the industries are set up near cities which have generated employment opportunities for the people of these areas. If the industries which need more workers are established in rural areas the guardian of the child worker will get employment in those locations and they will have much income. This is why; they should send their child to school for study.
- xiv) To fulfill ILO conventions ensuring the wellbeing of all children including child workers, it is an urgent need to employ as per the national action plan about the children.

- xv) There is a great variation or weakness of existing law related to the rights of child labour that should be reformed through proper reviewing of those laws.
- xvi) There is variation also in the definition of child labour in Bangladesh. To avoid this problem the govt. should identify its efforts to finalize the labour code to define a uniform minimum age of 14+ years for access to work. In addition, Proper and regular birth registration for every new born baby should be ensured in order to regulate the economic activities of children on the basis of age limits.
- xvii) A big number of new faces are being added with the total population every day. So, it is essential to control birth rate and effective family planning program also is needed to reduce the big number of child worker in Bangladesh.
- xviii) Traditional learning is not effective for the poor people. They do not know about the future of education, child law, child rights etc. So, learning through earning should be focused for special school for working children where tiffin, dress, stipends and vocational training will be improved.
- xix) Govt. mechanisms are yet to prove effective to deal with the child labour. Enactment and enforcement of law can play an effective role in overcoming the present unwanted child labour.
- xx) It is essential to prepare an institutional framework to improve conditions in respect of wages, working hours, working conditions, minimum salary, overtime benefits etc. Trade union as the bargaining organization of the working class people, may be involved in dealing with the issue of working children. It can save child labourer from the whims and exploitation of their employers.

Conclusion

Child labour is a complex and often intractable problem and it remains a serious problem in the world today. Child labours are found everywhere throughout the country from rural to urban areas. There are deep relationships among poverty, fertility, child work, health and nutrition, schooling and economic development. Many working children, especially girls, are also subjected to sexual abuse and harassment. Risky child labour also creates an obstacle for their future growth.

Child labour is rather a great social evil that gives birth to many of the social evils in the society. In terms of growth and development of human beings, in any social system, child labour is a direct anti-thesis to the potential development not only of the child concerned but also of the society as a whole. By all counts, the incidence of child labour does not bring any good for the society . It rather indicates a direct threat to the development of potential human resource of a society, be it Bangladesh or any society else.

In Bangladesh Poverty of parents has been the main cause that has forced children in to the labour market, large family sizes, separation of family, irresponsible parenthood, unattractive or uncongenial schooling environment are also major factors of child labour. The problem of child labour is very complex and multi-dimensional.

Monitory inflation, stagnation in wage rates and declining employment opportunities in the rural area of the country have caused heavy influx of rural migrants to industrial areas resulting in the tough competition among unskilled job seekers. This situation has ultimately declined employment opportunities for the migrant job seekers, thus economic needs of the migrants as well as poverty stricken families have increased the economic value of their children as income earners to supplement family income for survival. The economic value of children thus turns out to be essential and has direct influence on fertility behavior, as it enhances the desire for having more and more children as an insurance against the threat of poverty.

In order to formulate interventions and eliminations of rural child labour, it is hoped that empirical data on their socio-economic and demographic conditions, employment and working conditions, health hazards, perception, abuses and other important aspects of the rural child workers will be helpful for reducing rural child labour and make the rural children as future human resources.

It is hoped that the study will facilitate and influence in assisting policy makers, researchers, constituents, sociologists, Government, NGO's and other interested stakeholders to effectively combat the problem of rural child labour in this country.

National poet of Bangladesh, Nazrul wrote that "Every father lives in the heart of children". But in view of the present socio-economic conditions of Bangladesh, the child labourers of today cannot be able to become the leaders of the country tomorrow. Child labour is very common sight in Bangladesh, both in rural and urban areas. The main tragedy is that population is increasing, the number of children is increasing and simultaneously the child labourers are joining that figure (estimated yesterday). Many of them are illiterate, facing serious malnutrition and under-weight. In view of the present situation of child labourers in Bangladesh, it is not possible to solve the harsh reality of life overnight. However, it is expected by all concerns that the constitutional obligations, legal provisions, international help and strong political commitment will reduce the increasing trend of child labour in this country and all basic needs and child rights will be ensured in near future. (Ali, khan, Dr. Mohammad, p-86).

ANNEXURE

- i. References and Bibliography
- ii. Interview Schedule

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Interview Schedule

Situation of Rural Child Labour in Bangladesh (A Study in Two Upazillas)

(This schedule will be used only for research and confidentiality will be maintained)

*	Personal Information of the respondents:		
	1.1 Name of the responder	nts:	
	1.2 Father's Name of the re	espondents:	
	1.3 Mother's Name of the r	respondents:	
	1.4 Age : Ye	ear Month.	
	1.5 Sex: M	ale Female.	
	1.6 Religion: Isl	lam Hindu	Christian Others.
	1.7 Present Address:	Vill.	Post.
		Upazilla:	Dist.
	1.8 Permanent Address:	Vill.	Post.
		Upazilla:	Dist.

... Information about the family of the respondents:

2.1 Details Information of the family members:-

Sl. No.	Name	Age	Relation with the Respondents	Educational Qualification	Monthly Income
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					

7					
2.2	2 Is your father aliv	e? Yes	No		
2.3	2.3 Is your mother alive ? Yes No.				
2.4	Present relationsh	ip with	the parents:		
	Good	Very	Good BadV	ery No re	lation.
2.5	Who is your prese	nt guard	lian?		
I	Mother others.	Fath	ner Elder	Brother	Sister
Infor	mation About the	Educati	onal Issues:		
3.1 H	ad you gotten any	opportur	nity to study?		
[Yes] No (If	the answer is 'No	o' then ask the qu	estion 3.8)
3.2 A	Are you continuing	your stu	dy?		
[Yes	No (If	the answer is 'No	o' then ask the qu	estion 3.6)
3.3	What class are you	in? Cla	ss		

*

3.4 Duration of your study everyday hours.	
3.5 Who does bear your educational cost?	
Mother Elder Brother Sister	
Others.	
3.6 What was the level of your study?	
Primary Secondary Higher Secondary.	
3.7 Name of your last Institute	
3.8 Why you cannot continue your study?	
Poverty Torture of father torture of mother.	
Torture of step mother No School nearby	
Intentionally.	
❖ Information about health & resident.	
4.1 Have enough meal everyday? Yes No	
4.2 How much time to eat?	
One Two Four time.	
4.3 How is your living place?	
Damp Dirty Clean Building Tin shed Oth	er
4.4 How many person sleep in a room /bed at a time?person.	
4.5 Are you physically fit now? Yes No.	
4.6 Where from you take service/collect medicine when you sick?	
Hospital Clinic Homeo Kabiraj	
Shop of Medicine Have no treatment Others.	

	4.7 Who bears your treatment cost ?
	Owner Self Father Mother
	Elder Brother Sister Friend Others.
*	Information about the causes of Child Work:
	5.1 Why have you become a child worker?
	Poverty Mother illness Father's illness.
	Torture of Parents Torture of step mother Others.
	5.2 How old were you when you join this work?
	years months.
	5.3 Who encouraged you to join this work?
	Mother Brother Sister Friends Others
	5.4 What types of work are you performing?
	Shop assistant Brick bearer Van helper
	Agriculture assistant Rickshaw pulling Boat Rowing Helping in house hold work Others
	5.5 Are you satisfied about your work?
	Very much satisfied Satisfied Some what satisfied
	No satisfied
	5.6 How long time do you work everyday? Hours.
	5.7 How many days you work in a week? Days.

5.8 What types of facilities do you get against work?
Only feeding Housing and feeding
Housing, feeding and salary Only monthly salary.
5.9 What types of facilities do you get in your sick period?
Diet serving Diet and salary Salary Nothing.
5.10 How is your masters behavior?
Good Some what good Very good Bad
5.11 Do you want to change this work for better chance?
Yes No.
5.12 What type of opportunities will you need to leave this work?
Better diet Handsome salary Much leave
Much relaxation Recreation facilities others.
Information of Monthly Income and Expenditure.
6.1 Monthly income Tk.
6.2 Monthly expenditure Tk.
6.3 Sector of expenditure.
Feeding Shelter and feeding Schooling of brothers and sisters.
Home needs Smoking Others.

6.4	Have you any savings? Yes No
	(If the answer is yes, then ask question 6.5 and 6.6)
6.5	How much savings in monthly? Tk.
6.6	Where have you saving?
	With bank With self with relatives others.
*	Information about recreation:
7.1	Do you get any leisure times Yes No.
	(If the answer is 'No' then ask question 7.4)
7.2	What do you do in your leisure time ?
	Watch T.V Listening song Go to Cinema Outing
	Playing games and sports.
7.3	Are you enjoy it regular?
	Regular Sometimes few and far between.
7.4	Have you addicted by smoking or others?
	Yes No.
	(If the answer is 'No' then ask question. 8.1)
7.5	What types of addiction ?
	Cigarette Opium wines others.
7.6	Do you know it is harmful for health?
	Yes No.

*	Information about effected of child labour.
8.	1 Have you faced any abuse ? Yes No.
	(If the answer is 'No' then ask question 8.5)
8.	2 Who was the abuser?
	Owner Son of owner.
	Daughter of owner others.
8.	3 What types of abuse you have faced?
	Beating No feeding Abusive words Curtailing salary
	Sacking.
8.	4 What was use for torture ?
	Hand Stick Mhunte Others.
8.	5 Have you faced any sexual abuse ?
	Yes No.
8.	6 What is the problem have created for joining this work?
	No schooling Broken health Addicted
	Others.
*	Information about the way of reduces child labour.
9.	1 Have you want to continue this work in future? Yes No
9.	2 What types of work do you want?

9.3	What do you want to say for other children, who are interested to do work?
9.4	What is the way to reduce child labour?
	Staying with parents With schooling With religious education
	No familiar conflict Parents having single spouse others.
9.5	What can we do for reduce child labour from the society?
Signatu	re of data collector
Date:	