



Socioeconomic Aspects of Muslim Child Laborer Involved in Informal Public Transport in Bangladesh

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ABSTRACT

Many children were involved in economic actions explicitly in the Informal Public Transport sector in Dhaka, Bangladesh. They were traced working under incomputable exploitive workspace, suffering from exceptional health conditions, and deprived of what they required and deserved. These children are deprived of equitable or stable wages equivalent to the extent of their deeds. Furthermore, holidays, health facilities, and recreational activities were specifically non-existent for these children. This present study aimed to explore the child labourer's status in terms of socio-economic deprivation, health, and abuses, which are deliberated as significant in computing the welfare of life. In a descriptive way, the quantitative research method was utilised, compiling data with a sample size of 45 respondents among child labourers.

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From the exploration of the data, it was vindicated that child labourers were viciously deprived of their socio-economic rights affirmed them in the resolution on the rights of child (CRC) through in adequate remunerations, amenities, bonuses, corporal, psychological, and pecuniary abuse. The partaking of children in the Informal Public Transport sector deprived them of the opportunities for attaining education, skills, and training indispensable for being furnished in the ruthless circumstances of contemporary society. Few researches were wielded in the past whilst they did not dig up the amalgamation of economic evolution, veneration for labors criterion, and social protection, along with a better cognition of the needs and rights of children. This study would assist in bringing a significant amputation in socio-economic deprivation of child labor. Data were also compiled from primary and secondary sources, relevant and related articles, peer-reviewed journals, and books.

I. Introduction

Labor mediators or labor recruiters are individuals or organisations that connect a person pursuing employment to the employer. They represent to both private and public entities that offer labor recruitment services (Yunus, R. M. (2020); Andrees et. al. 2015). In the context of child labor, the type and role of labor negotiators vary according to the job sector or industry in which the child is exploited or whether international vs internal migration occurs. Common types of the worst forms of child labor (WFCL) in Bangladesh, Nepal, and Myanmar occur in the agricultural sector, brick kilns, the seafood industry, garment factories, domestic work, CSE, army recruitment, and many other sectors. Each of these areas has its own dynamics of recruitment, with some degree of overlap (Yunus R. M. 2020). Child labor is damaging and violate children's rights as it hinders the harmonious emotional, physiological, and psychological growth of the child retarding the full fruition of his productive and creative talents (Khaleda, 2001). Despite this horrific effect and the existing legal bar, the practice of child labor is alarmingly increasing around the globe, especially in the poor and developing countries (Ramesh, 1991). It is estimated that around 150 million children aged 5 to in developing countries, about 16 percent of all children in this age group, are involved in child labor (UNICEF, 2011). The International labor Organisation (ILO) estimates that throughout the world, around 215 million children under 18 years age work, many full-time. In Sub-Saharan African one in four children aged 5 to 17 work, compared to one in eight in Asia Pacific and one in ten in Latin America (ILO, 2010). However, according to ILO's latest report child labor has decreased by 38 per cent in the last decade but 152 million children are still affected (ILO 2021). Bangladesh is a contested terrain in this context, and it has 7.4 million child laborers who constitute 16.6 percent of the total labor force of Bangladesh (Karim, 2011). The use of child labor in different fields of activities in Bangladesh is common and is also on the increase. The alarming rate of increase of child labor has attracted the attention of conscious citizens particularly social workers (Taher, 2006).

Participation of children in the labor market deprives them of the opportunities for acquiring education, skills, and training which are essential for being equipped in the competitive circumstances of the contemporary society. This deprivation of opportunity makes them ultimately unable to stand for the demand of life, so that they cannot unfold their dormant potentialities, nor can they contribute to their highest potential to society (Azom, 2010). These unfortunate children could have proved their merit if they had been given the chance to get education and training in the formative period of their lives (Singh & Verma, 1987).

With the aim of eradicating child labor, many national and international efforts have been made. In 1989, the ILO adapted the Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC) to eliminate child labor

worldwide. ILO also created the International Program on the Elimination of Child Labor (IPEC) in 1992. Countries participating in the IPEC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) outlining the development and implementation of IPEC activities and the efforts to be undertaken by governments to eradicate child labor progressively.

Bangladesh is signatory to the MoU (Khan, 2001). ILO has adopted other conventional rights in an effort to eradicate child work. In Bangladesh, there have been some efforts to eliminate child labor. Bangladesh was one of the first countries to ratify the Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC) in 1990 and was a member to first sign the declaration of the survival, protection, and development of children. Three national plans of action followed in 1992, 1997, and 2004. However, the reality of the child deprivation in Bangladesh is that children are experiencing scarcity of income, resources, and necessities meaningful to their life. In view of the overall miseries, economic sufferings of the children, and needs to be met, it is necessary to undertake scientific investigation in order to know the nature, causes, and magnitude of the problem of socio-economic deprivation, and to develop some measures effective to reducing socio-economic deprivation of children. The present study intends to unfold the intricacy behind the deprivation of the child laborers engaged in Informal Public Transport sector in terms of health, education and some basic amenities of life. Further, the study intends to explore the status of living standard and assess the level of the quality of life of the child laborers economically and socially deprived.

Rational

Child labor is now a global concern and, as such, attracted the attention of people in various sectors. In fact, it is the product of an unequal society. As Vittachi observes, child labor shows up, in exaggerated form, a labor problem deeply woven into the fabric of an unequal society (Vittachi, 1989). In Bangladesh, a large number of children are engaged in economic activities either in formal or informal, urban or rural settings. They are found to work under a myriad of exploitive conditions and deprived, in most cases, of what they need and deserve (Siddiquee, 2003). Their involvement in work is harmful to emotional and physical health and likely to hamper their normal development. This study intends to investigate the nature, causes, dimensions of socio-economic deprivation of child labour along with the intricacy behind the deprivation in Bangladesh, aiming to protect the children suffering from abuse, deprivation, and exploitation.

Child Labor

Child labor definition varies from country to country or even from one act to another in the same country (Taher, 2006). Bangladesh is a unique example of variations. The Factory Act of 1965 fixed the minimum age of 14 for admission to employment, the Shop and Establishment Act of 1965 set the minimum age of 12, the Employment of Children Act of 1938 set it at 15, and the Children Act of 1974 defined 'child' as a person under the age of 16 (Rahman, 1981). Due to a multitude of definitions and uses, the term child labor in this study will be used to refer to working children within the age between 5 and 18 years. In this research, Informal Public Transport sector has been used to refer to Leguna, minibus, track, bus, auto-rickshaw, and tempo etc.

Informal Public Transport

Informal public transport means the innovative and uncommon transport mode which are mainly used publicly all over Bangladesh. Informal public transport also same as public transport but people invent new mode for their own need because of poor economic condition and to get low-cost mode. Informal public transports offer a low-cost carrier in Bangladesh. However, middle income and low-income

group get benefited from these informal modes. The participants working in the Informal Public Transport sectors were interviewed in this study.

Socio-economic Status

In this study, socio-economic aspects refer to the social standing or class of an individual or group. It is often considered as a combination of education, income, and occupation. Assessments of socio-economic status often disclose inequities in access to resources, plus issues related to opportunity, power, and control. To extent, socio-economic factors and social class are fundamental elements of human functioning across the life span, including advancement, well-being, and physical and mental health (American Psychological Association 2007). In this study we are illustrating the socio-economic aspects of the child labor in Bangladesh.

An insight of the Child Labor in Bangladesh

A strong disapproval to child labor has illustrated by the USA which includes to boycott imports from countries appointing child labor (Wasserman, Miriam. 2000). Child labor is extensive in Bangladesh. According to the statistics, children between 4 to 14 ages are in labor force (Rahman. et. All 1999) Child labor is now a global concern and as such attracted attention of people in various sectors. In fact, it is the product of an unequal society. As Vittachi observes, child labor shows up, in exaggerated form, a labor problem deeply woven into the fabric of an unequal society (Vittachi, 1989). It can be said that poverty emerges from unequal distribution of wealth and this virtually leads children to go to work and while discussing the causes of child labor, this article considers poverty as one of its principal reasons.

However, child labor is work which impairs health, physical development, and education of children. Children's participation in economic activity that does not negatively affect their health and development or interfere with education can be positive. Indeed, light work that does not interfere with education is permitted from the age of 12 years under the International Labor Organization (ILO) convention no 138.

Bangladesh is the home to more than five percent of world's working child population (The New Nation, 2004). Besides, South Asia, which includes Afghanistan, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Srilanka, remains a child labor hotspot (World Bank, 2004). Further, most child domestics tend to be 12 to 17 years old (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), 2002-2003). But children as young as 5 or 6 years old can also be found working and a survey of child domestic workers found that 38 percent were 11 to 13 years old and nearly 24 percent were 5 to 10 years old (BBS 2002-2003). Child domestics work long hours, getting up well before their employers and going to bed long after them and 50% domestic workers work 12 to 14 hours a day (Rahman, 1994). Furthermore, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics estimated in 2004 that the total number of children of age group 5-17 years in January 2003 was at 42.4 million of which 35.1 million were in the age group 5-14 and 7.3 million were in 15-17 years age group. Out of the total estimated child population aged 5-17 years about 22.7 million were boys and 19.7 million girls (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, 2002-2003).

The above data show an enormous number of child workers who are working in the existing labor market and this clearly forces the society to pay attention to the child labor problem. Honestly speaking, when it is time to go to school with books in the hand, the ill-fated children of the country are being forced to work inhumanly only for the survival and income generation of the family. In the working places they are exploited more than the adult workers. It is for these reasons that child labor has been given some importance in Bangladesh and a great deal in the world.

II. Methodology

Dhaka is the capital city which is located in the south-central part of the country. The city is positioned amid latitudes 24°40' N to 24°54' N and longitudes 90°20' E to 90°30' E and the south of its defined by the Buriganga river and the east by Balu and the Shitalakhya; Tongi Khal and Turag river in the north and west respectively. The city has advanced on the higher eminent Pleis-tocene porch texture or Order Alluvium of the vital part of Bangladesh, else denoted to as the Madhupur-Bhawal Garh Region. Additionally, due to the enhanced frequency of the urban growth in Dhaka, a significant portion of the adjacent lowland areas have freshly been fetched under the planned areas of the city (Asaduzzaman and Rob, 1997; Hossain, 2006). The 21 million is the current population figure of Dhaka city with a 3.60% growth rate (World Population Re-view-2020). In this highly populated city of Dhaka, children who have been engaged are invisible to many eyes.

Study approach

The qualitative research method was utilised, compiling data by semi-structured, in-depth interviews with 45 children working in IPT. Child labourers, who were engaged in the IPT for more than six months, were selected using the purposive sampling and snowball technique. The present study was conducted in their natural setting, trying to make sense of or interpret facts in terms of the meanings child labours bring to them (Denzin & Lincoln, 2005). The informants of the present study were working children who reside either with their parents or relatives in Dhaka. Accordingly, Table 1 shows the characteristics of the informants from whom the primary data was collected.

Table 1 Characteristics of the child labourers

Variables	%
Age	
10-12	10
13-15	40
16-18	50
Educational attainments (grade)	
3-4	40
5-6	45
7-8	12
< 9	03
Types of IPT worked	
Bus	35
Leguna	65
Residence type	
Slums	70
Flats	30

N=45

The study involved male children aged between 12 and 18 years old. The mean age of these children was 15. 50% of the children were reported in the age group 16-18, and 40% were between 13-15. These children were illiterate as they dropped formal education between the ages of 10 and 13. The number of children who attended formal education above grade six was considerably low. The majority of the students dropped their education between classes 5-6. These children were engaged in IPTs, such as Busses and Leguna, run mainly by owners themselves. Interestingly three Leguna drivers were fathers

of working children. Most children had resided in slums and flats, which were build by Tinsheds, Mud, fence, and cement bricks. Some houses were very close to the river and canals.

Data collection

The present study considered both primary and secondary sources of data. The primary data source was the children who were working in the Informal Public Trasport sector in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Further, documents relating to socio-economic deprivation were consulted as a secondary data source. 45 Child labourers from three study areas (Sadarghat, Gulisthan and New Market) were selected as respondents. In order to obtain pertinent information from working children, a self-governed questionnaire was produced, and a general strategy was established with focusing on a balanced regional and ethnic composition of interviewed children. A questionnaire comprising a set of questions on the socio-economic deprivation of children and the quality of living, use of materials, and basic necessities, housing conditions was administered to the sampled population. Data have been collected using face-to-face interviews. A trained team of five social work graduate students interviewed child labourers guided by the questionnaire prepared in English. In-depth interviews, average 45 minutes in duration, lasted from August 2019-April 202. All interviews had been carried out within the child's working environment.

III. Data analysis

The present study adopted a thematic approach, descriptive analysis, to extend the discussion by investigating 45 child labourers and their responses. Demographic data of informants were presented using quantitative analysis software (SPSS). In the analysis process, a digital method (ATALS.ti) was used to organise the documents, such as interview transcripts, photographs, and field notes, code the data, create themes, and present the relationship with codes and themes in graphic formats.

IV. Findings

Child labourers before were recruited in IPT

The following section presents the pre-recruitment experiences of these children in the family. Particularly the section attempts to relate the uncertain condition that caused them to engage in labour force activities elsewhere. Code relationships show that family impoverishment is the cause of family breakups, natural disasters around their residence, and long-lasting poverty in the family. Firstly, the family impoverishment impacted their education. More than half of the children who gave up their education repeatedly opined that their family economy was poor. For example, Hassan described his family economy and how it compelled him to engage in the labour force as a solution for his family.

“I had to be a helper (assistant who usually collect fair from a passenger during travelling) as my family is unable to bear the expenses of my education. I wish I could go to school! The curse of river erosion made us so poor and vulnerable.”

Secondly, some children hold the role of breadwinners due to the loss of either parent or the family breakups. Jahid and his four siblings were suffering from their father's separation, which caused him to come forward to feed his family.

“I have grown up in a family that is always struggling to meet the basic needs of a person. I have four more siblings who are younger than me. My father left us five years ago, and since then, I had to come forward to feed my mother and the rest siblings.”

Raheem was a child from a slum area who lost his father at an early age and felt pain due to his

mother's responsibility towards the family. According to his except, he was the breadwinner of the family.

“My father had passed away when I was six years old, and since then, my mother started to work as a housemaid at neighbours' house to feed us. She was the only one who made bread and butter for my family. All of a sudden, one day, I realised that I should step out to earn some as well.”

According to some informants, their parents were not interested in spending for their education. They directly said that their parents forced them to give up their education.

“My father is working in the market as a cleaner. He spends more to drink but not for my education. He always pressured me to earn.”

The parents were not only the reason for giving up the education, but some children had given up their education deliberately. According to the observation, those children were more illiterate. Zaid answered the question of why he dropped the education as follows.

“I do not like to study, and even I cannot understand anything in the books. I wanted to earn money and enjoy.”

Child labourers following the recruitment

1. Earning and economic vulnerabilities

- Earning pressure
- Expenses (food and medical)
- Lack of power on deciding on expenses

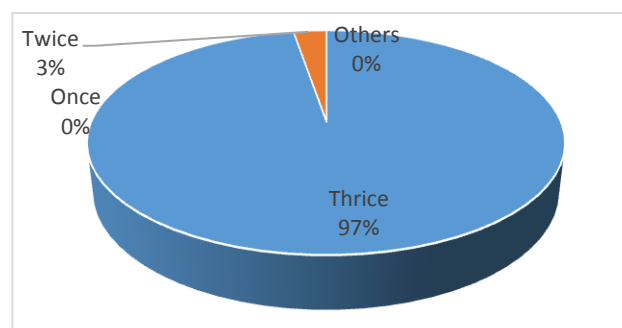
2. Working sector and abuses

- Physical abuses
- Verbal abuses
- Community humiliations

3. Psychological distress

- Satisfaction of the work
- Inability shine in the life
- Upward social mobility
- Recreation

Figure 1. Number of meals in a day



Regarding the number of meals in a day, chart 8 reveals that 97.33 percent out of 45 child labors have their meals three times a day and only 2.67 percent of child labors have their meals two times a day. This findings contradicts with the study of Kabeer in 1991 who finds that most poor people in Bangladesh seledomly eats more than three times a day.

Figure 2. Source of recreation

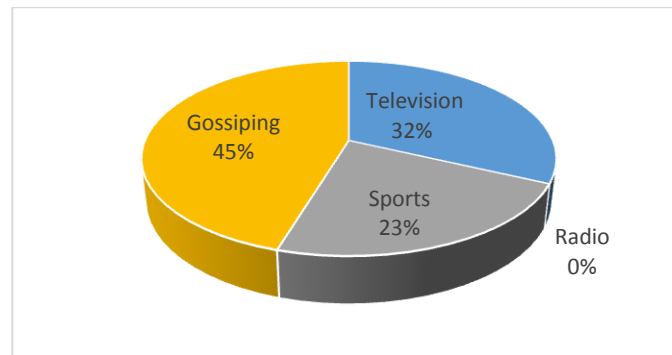
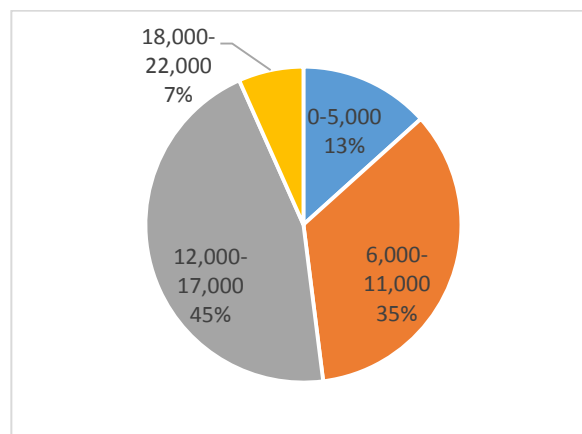


Figure 2 illustrates that child labors mostly recreate themselves through gossiping, while 22.67 percent through watching sports, apart from this, only 32.00 percent of child labors watch television as recreation. Shehen and BadshaAlam who did similar study in Rajshahi, Bangladesh finds the same major percentage distribution on gossiping. It implies that despite the advent of gadgets and advancement of technology as well as sports recreational activities, children in Bangladesh still prefer and enjoys to talk and tell stories to one another.

Economic and occupational information of the respondents

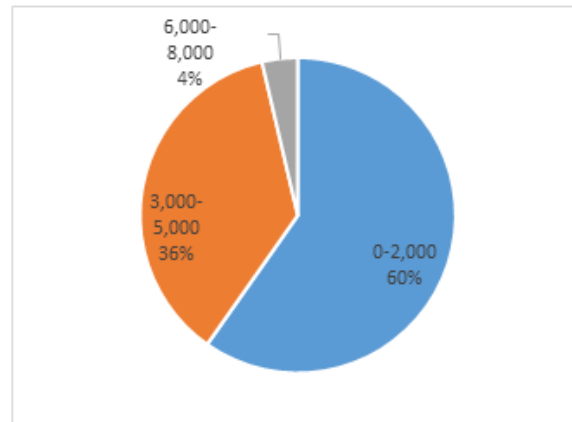
Figure 3. Monthly income of family



It is noticed from the data in figure 3 that there are 45.33 percent of child labors whose monthly family income is between Tk 12,000 and 17,000. Also, there are 34.67 percent of child labors whose monthly family income income is between Tk 6,000 and 11,000. Besides, the monthly family income of 13.33 percent of child labors is 5,000. And there are 6.67 percent of child labors whose family income monthly tk 18,000 to 22,000. With average family size of 4.59 in Bangladesh (Begum, 2004), it suggested that the research participants in this study combined altogether, were living at an average monthly income of Tk, 11,000 per family and an average of Tk 79.88 per head per day. It means that the respondents are living below the poverty line threshold of Tk 163.29 per day (*Poverty: Bangladesh /*

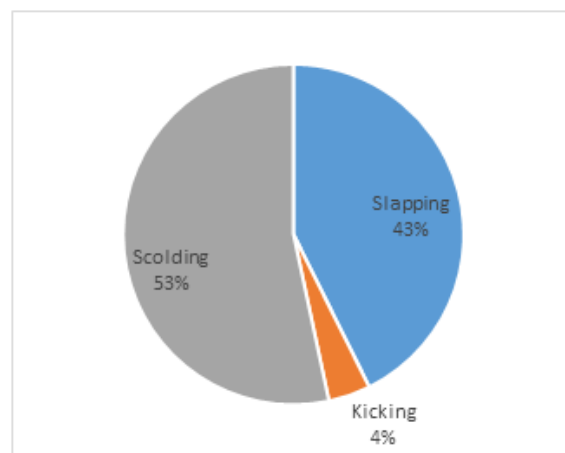
Asian Development Bank, n.d.).

Figure 4. Range of Monthly Income



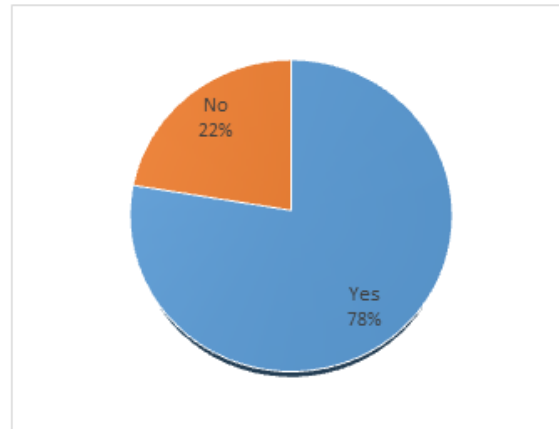
With regard to the monthly income of the respondents, figure 4 reveals that the highest percent (56%) of child laborers earn monthly Tk 0 to 2,000 while 40 percent of child laborers earn monthly Tk 3,000 to 5,000. In addition, there are only 4 percent of child laborers who earn monthly Tk 6,000 to 8,000. By comparison, according to Asian Development Bank, for an individual not to be considered poor he has to earn at least USD 1.90 or Tk 163 per day (*Poverty: Bangladesh / Asian Development Bank, n.d.*). The data shows that with an average monthly income of the participants amounting to only Tk 4,000.00 or Tk 133.3 per day, it suggests that child laborer in Bangladesh, even if they were to sustain only their own basic needs, still earns below what they need.

Figure 5. Facing deprivation in the workplace



It is noticed from data in figure 5 that the highest percent (53.33%) of child laborers are victims of being scolded by their owner in the work-place while 42.67 percent of child laborers become victims of being slapped. In addition, about 4 percent of child laborers become victims of getting kicked. It suggests that majority of the participants were experiencing physical abuses in the workplace. It jibes with the study of Shahan and BadshaAlam who finds that there are at least 36% of child laborer faced work-related physical abuse in Bangladesh.

Figure 6 Satisfaction with occupation



From the above figure 6, it is found that about 77.3 percent of child laborers out of 45 are satisfied with the occupation they are engaged in at present. While about 22.33 percent of child laborers are not contented. It suggested that even though they are not earning enough to sustain their needs on top of some work related abuses they experienced, they still express their feeling of satisfaction with their jobs.

2.7 Causes of dissatisfaction with occupation

Causes	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Less wage	31	41.33
Less facility	29	38.66
Less bonus	12	16.00
No bonus	35	46.66
No rest	17	22.66
	N=75	100

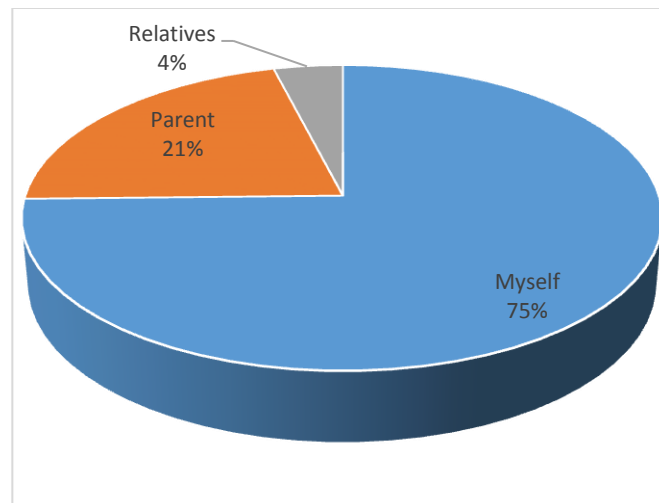
Table-2.7 reveals that the highest percent (46.66%) of child laborers out of 4575 are dissatisfied with their occupation due to no bonus and 41.33 percent due to less wage. There are 38.66 percent of child laborers who are dissatisfied with their occupation because of less facilities whereas about 22.66 percent due to no rest. Apart from this, about 16 percent of child laborers are dissatisfied due to less bonus.

2.8 Considering current wage to meet needs



As regards consideration of current wage to meet needs, table-2.8 shows that the highest percent (70.66%) of child labors consider their current wage so so while about 22.66 percent consider their current wage to sufficient. Besides, 6.66 percent of child labors consider their wage insufficient.

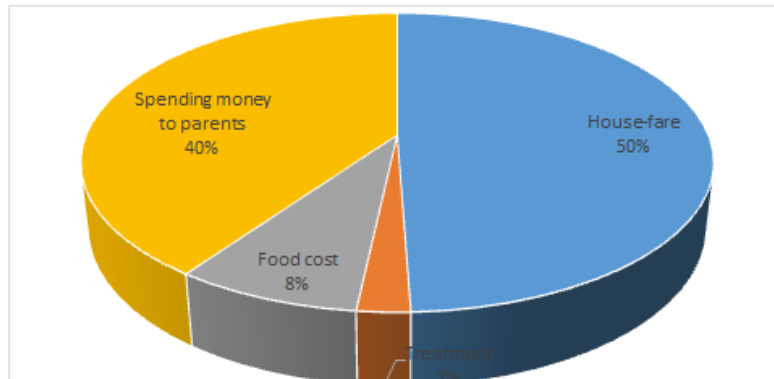
Figure 7. Decision maker of spending money



It is observed from the data in figure 7 concerning decision maker of spending money that about 74.66 percent of child labors spend money at their own willingness while about 21.33 percent spend their money according to their parents' decision. Moreover, only 4 percent child labors take decision from their relatives regarding how to spend their earned money. It implies that they have the power to decide for their own and consequently suggested that the decision to work at early age may have been due to their own desire and no one forced them to be in that circumstances.

Figure 8. Source of spending money

Source	Frequency	Percentage (%)
House-fare	43	57.33
Treatment	2	2.66
Food cost	7	9.33
Spending money to parents	35	46.66
	N= 75	100.00

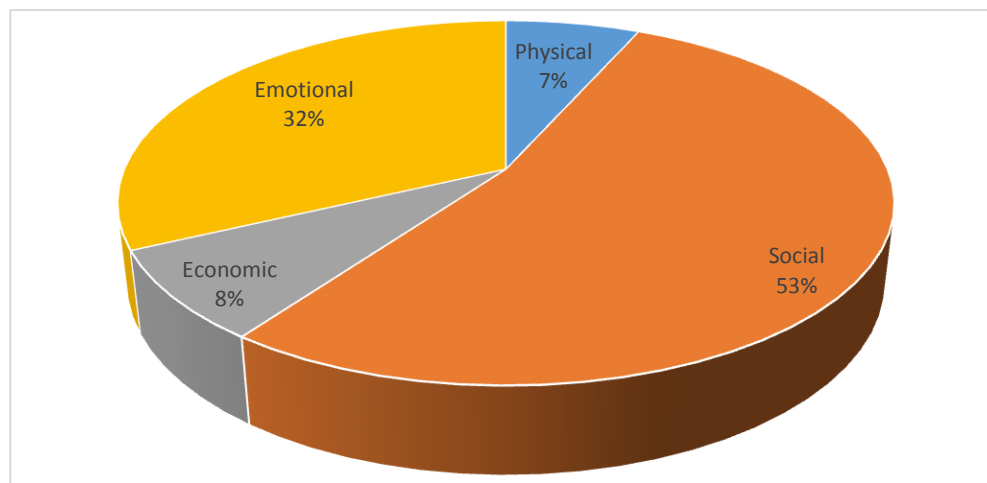


With regard to the source of spending money, figure 8 reveals that the highest percent (50%) of child laborers spend their money for house fare while percent for sending to parents, 8 percent for food cost and 2 percent for treatment. It reveals that even though the participants spend their money at their own discretion as found in the preceding chart, it shows here that they still help provide for their family needs and choose to be responsible member of their respective family.

Information on Abuse of Child laborers

Figure 9 Type of abuse in the workplace

Type of Abuse	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Physical	05	6.67
Social	40	53.33
Economic	06	8
Emotional	24	32



From the above figure 9, it is noticed that the maximum percent (53.33%) of respondents are victims of social abuse while about 32 percent are victims of emotional abuse, 8 percent are victims of economic abuse and 6.67 percent are victims of physical abuse. These type of abuses are common among children because they are easy targets, they are sometimes threatened, beaten, or raped. (Rashid Sheikh & Prodhan Mohit, 2013)

3.2 Physical Abuse in the workplace

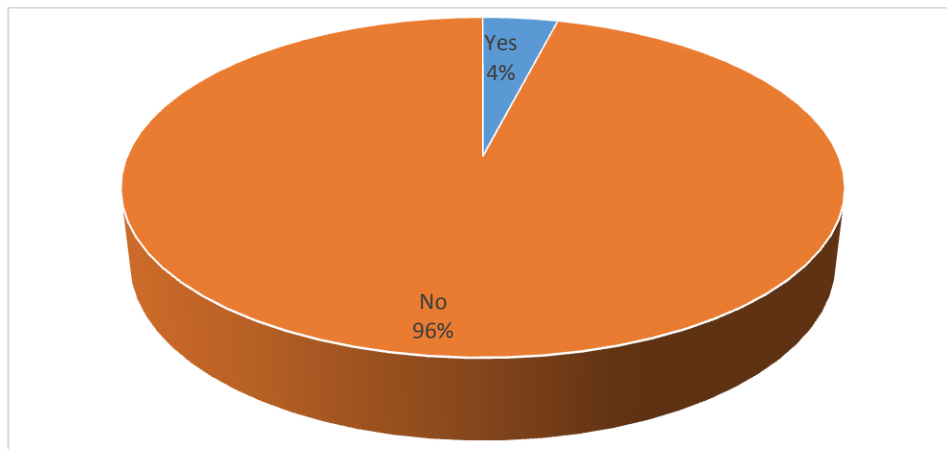
Physical Abuse	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	5	6.67
No	70	93.33
	N=75	100.00

Table -3.2 shows that the highest percent (93.33%) of child labors do not become victims of physical abuse while 6.67 percent child labors victims of physical abuse in their workplace.

Information on Health Problems of Child Labors

Figure 10 Suffering from disease at present

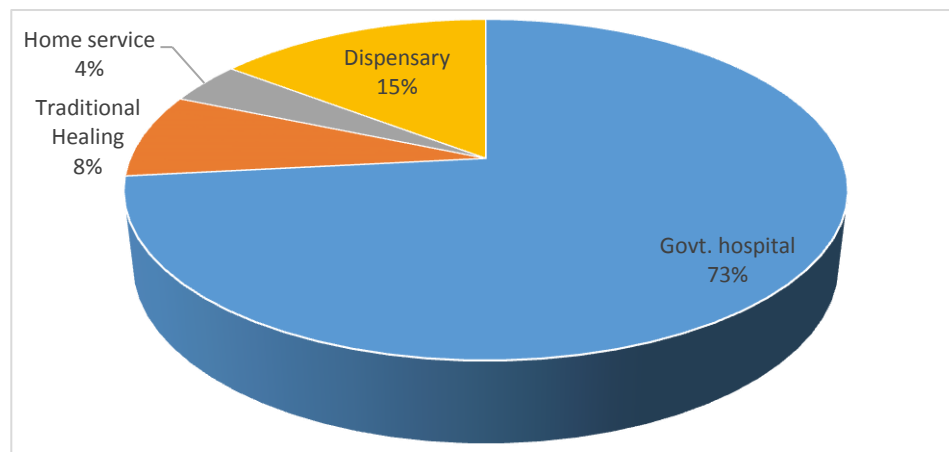
Suffering from disease or not	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Yes	3	4.00
No	72	96.00
	N=75	100.00



The above table- 4.1 shows that, the highest percent (96%) of child labors are not suffering from any disease at present. It can also be noticed that only 4 percent of child labors are suffering from disease at present. This suggested that the participants of this study do not have health issues despite working for their family at a very young age.

Figure 11. Place of receiving treatments

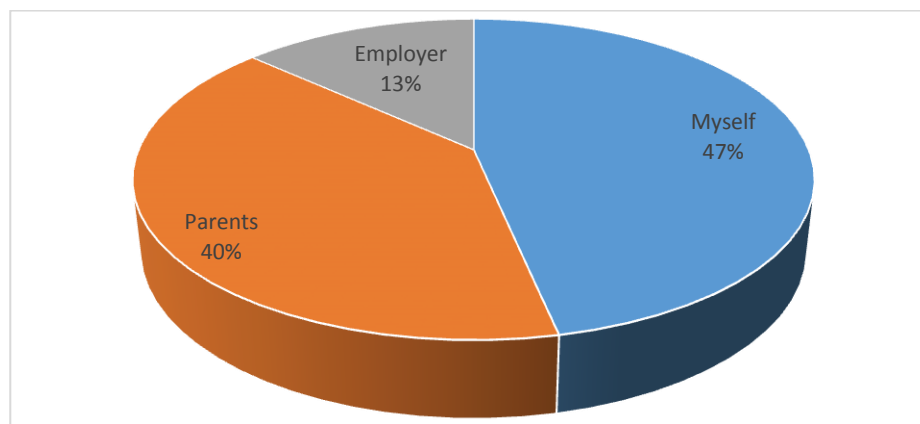
Place	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Govt. hospital	55	73.33
Traditional Healing	6	8
Home service	3	4
Dispensary	11	14.67
	N=75	100.00



It is observed from the data in figure 11 that the large percent (73.33%) out of 45 of child laborers receive their medical treatment from govt. hospital while about 14.67 percent from dispensary, 8 percent from Traditional Healing and only 4 percent from home service.

4.3 Responsibility of bearing medical treatment cost of the respondent

Bearer	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Myself	35	46.67
Parents	30	40.00
Owner	10	13.33
	N= 75	100.00



It is found from the table-4.3 that about 46.67 percent of child laborers bear their medical treatment cost by themselves while 40 percent by their parents, and 13.33 percent by their employer or owner of transport. The significant percentage of the response on 'myself' indicates that the family the participants may have not have no financial capability to bare the cost of medication. This supports the idea that children involvement in conveyance sector is due to their poverty of the parents.

V. Findings and limintiation

The present study tries to find out the child laborers's status in terms of socio- economic deprivation which is regarded as an important tool in measuring the well-being of life. This study is concerning the

child laborers engaged in Informal Public Transport sector in Dhaka city. Their children do not get reasonable or fixed wages according to their work. Besides, they do not have adequate meals, facilities or rest as they need for physical and mental growth and development. The present study has been conducted to know the nature, causes and magnitude of the problem of socio-economic deprivation. It also tries to reveal mysteriousness behind the deprivation closely related to child poverty, vulnerability, and marginality in terms of health, education, living standard social relationship and some basic amenities of life. In the study, quantitative methods and tools for data collection and analysis have been used. Well-organised questionnaire has also been used to collect data from the child laborers. The study participants have been selected from Sadarghat, Gulistan and New market in Dhaka city.

To find out the limitation of the research is an important task of research. However, the problems faced during the accomplishment of the research are cited below:

1. A good number of child laborers have got hesitated. Also, money of them have shown re during interview due to shortage of time.
2. Due to shortage of finance and time, 45 child laborers from three areas of Dhaka city, have been selected for research which might not be representative to the whole class of child laborers.
3. Illiteracy and foolishness of child laborers have been noticed while they provide information about their socio-economic condition.
4. A definite environment was not found for an intimate interview with child laborers.
5. It has not been possible to collect data from the population of the research owing to unfavorable environment.
6. Sound pollution and screaming by the roadside have disturbed the interview process.
7. Due to lack of time, data collection process has not been possible up to percent

VI. Recommendation

Ways of curbing child labor is a challenging and worthy task and requires financial, moral and political support from all the tiers of the society. In truth, child labor cannot be virtually removed from a country such as Bangladesh just now because the problem of child labor is indissolubly rooted in our society, so attempts must be made in the first place to decrease it. As mentioned earlier, poverty is the core reason behind child labor as it drives children to involve in employment in order to fight against starvation as well as to supplement the family income, so effective solutions to child labor must be based on the reduction of chronic poverty through broad based economic and social development, with a strong emphasis on human resource development Policy and legal instruments dealing with other issues such as child laborers are often narrow in focus and do not address the best interests of children experiencing violence. Law against child labor are applicable only to the formal economic sectors. But most children who work in the Informal Public Transport sectors, such as Leguna, bus are not regulated by law nor are these establishments monitored by any government agency.

The most important recommendations are therefore those that relate to the adoption of the establishment of an inter-ministerial National Taskforce on Child labor and education, a review and effective implementation of the labor Act (2006) and the urgent need to increase the capacity of the recently established Child labor Unit and to ensure that the Unit can bear its responsibilities and function effectively. It is also necessary to bear in mind that only the government can play an effective role in the progressive elimination of child labor but in case of awareness raising education programs

rehabilitation etc. the humanitarian and non-government organisations (NGOs) and in terms of financial assistance the donor countries have to come forward as it is impossible on the part of government to tackle all the matters single handed.

VII. Conclusion

Children come to labor market to earn a living for family and self. It is implied that under compelling circumstances of extreme poverty, parents send their children to labor market, although child labors get into this hazardous occupation deliberately in some cases. These children are to be the victims of exploitation since they do not get reasonable wages corresponding to the quantum of their work. Additionally, holiday or vacation days are virtually no existent for these children. This study found that the very nature of their work is some time inhumane and hazardous as well as detrimental to their growth and development. This study also found that child labors are deprived of all opportunities of growth and development and forced to remain satisfied with law wages throughout their lives as unskilled workers. In spite of all the odds, the study revealed that child labor is a harsh reality in Bangladesh socio- economic system as elsewhere in the world. According to the United Nations, every child shall have, without discrimination as to race, color, sex, language, religion, national or social origin, property, or birth, the right to such measures of protection as are required by his status as a minor, on the part of his family, society, and the state.

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