

## Situation of Slum's Children in Dhaka City, Bangladesh: A Sample Survey

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### Abstract

Impact of industrialization and urbanization, the whole social system has changed sharply. This industrial revolution also does more critical to the urban people, especially to the slum dwellers. The high birth rate of mega city Dhaka has introduced a main problem now these days. As a result of tremendous birth rate, slums are increased drastically. In fact poverty, class discrimination, lack of equal opportunity and natural disasters are the terms for making the slum life miserable as well as unbearable. Due to disability fulfillment of the basic needs, they have to fight always to survive themselves. Especially, the lives of slum children are more vulnerable. Though they are being considered as the next generation of the country, future prime of the state, as well as doctor, leader, engineer, the most valuable resource of the state respectively, they have not gotten their basic needs which are pragmatic thing. To remain their existence, they have to do risk child labor from hand to mouth. In addition, they are brought out as neglected, illiterate, and destitute and they are not being socialized.

**Keywords:** Slum areas, Industrialization, Dhaka city.

### 1. Introduction

Slum problem is one of the most acute obstacles and a universal problem in modern life. Basically, Slum is a result of industrialization, urbanization, high birth rate of population and migration. It is said, slum is a worldwide social problem, and because of the impact of industrialization and urbanization, the problem is also going rapidly in Bangladesh. Now these days slum is considered as a worldwide problem due to improper urbanization.

The dwellers who live in slum areas are absolutely deprived of modern living facilities and conveniences. The population of the cities is rising alarmingly because of slums. Some experts have expressed their opinion that migration of population from rural to urban is the main cause of increasing slums. A high portion of population who are under developed and deprived of modern facilities, broken and unhygienic is called slum.

In the last three decades the growth rate of slum in urban is 6.7%; at the same time it is 2.3% in rural area. A survey shows that 20- 6% of its total population lives in capital Dhaka and in different 6 big cities. It is also the common phenomenon of the south Asian zone.

The role of social research is crucial to analyze the social situation and aspects. The main task for knowing deeply about social condition is searching information. Because if finds the cause of problem, it can be solved properly as per the information. For this reason proper measures have to be taken to solve problems. Those facilities which should be given are absent in the slum. Besides, the lives of the slum children are inhuman, no social rights reach to them. Most of them live under the poverty line. They struggle every moment to survive with proper care and proper education. They can be the future of the state and can a play vital role for the development in the country. Then, they will be a resource, not a burden. By conducting the research it was tried to know the real features of the under privileged children of the slum in Bangladesh. In this study we will show the existing problems of the children of slums like education, their activities and attitude to overcome these problems. Finally, this result will assist to form new policies and planning for the betterment of the country.

### 2. Objective of the Study

#### a. General Objective

The general objective of the study is to determine the socio-economic conditions of Slum's Children in Dhaka City.

#### b. Special Objectives

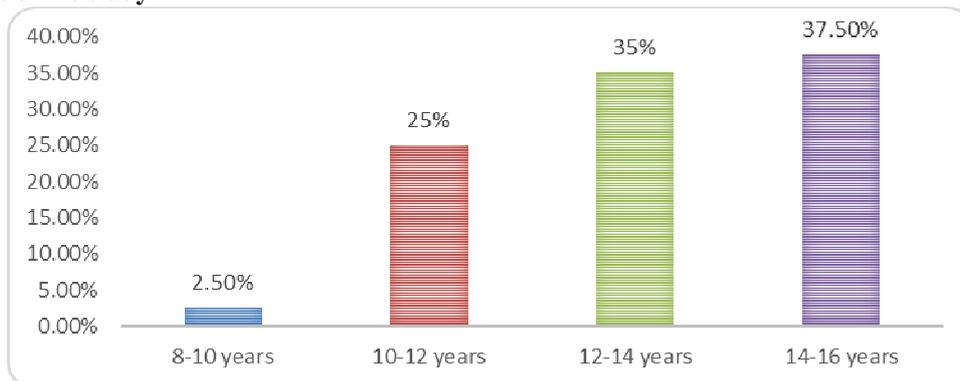
The special objectives of this study are as follow:

To know the livelihood of slum's children, their education, health system, recreation, the exiting problems of their slum life and taken measures to remove these problems etc.

### 3. Methodology

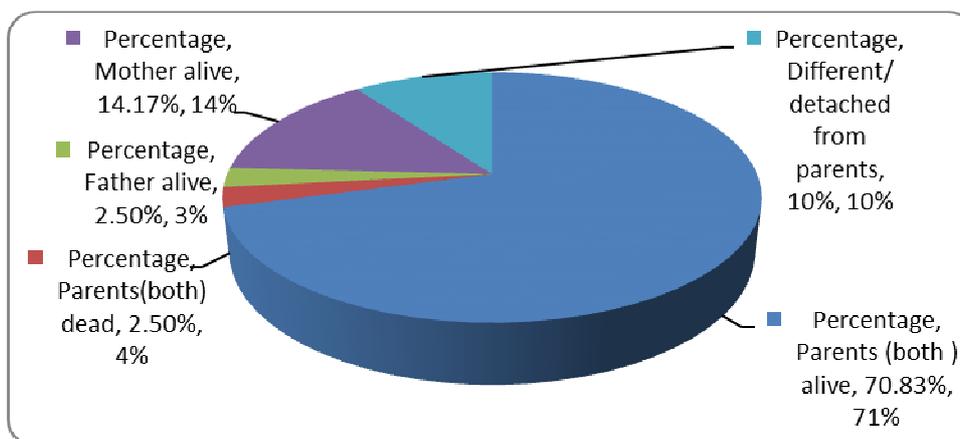
This study is a data collecting sample survey. It is done on the children who live in slums in Dhaka city Bangladesh. The research has been conducted by sample survey method at Rayer bazaar bosti (slum), pallabi bosti, katal bagan bosti and shekher tek bosti in Dhaka city. All the children of slums were treated as population and a single child as the unit of analysis. Manipulative sampling method was applied here. The total 120 children taken as sample from the mentioned 4 slums as 30 from the each (30x4). Whose age range was 8 – 16. The 79 of them were male and 41 female. Race, religion, caste were not factors for taking them as sample. Direct interviewing method had been applied for collecting data from specific areas. An open and structural questionnaire were used to get the data from the sample.

### 4. Findings of the study



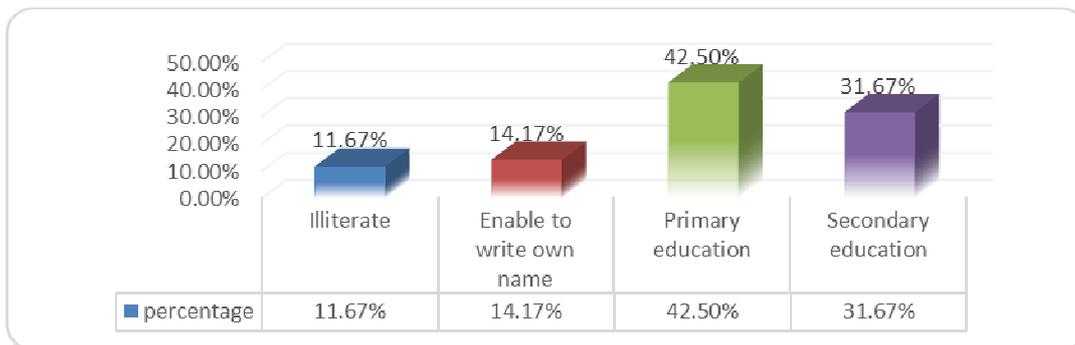
#### Personal & family information of the respondents

In this analysis it has been shown that highest portion that is 37.5 % respondents have an age limit of 14 to 16 years whereas the lowest part 2.5% ranging between 8-10. The age range of 35 % respondents was 12 to 14 years. At the same time, this survey depict that 25% children has an age limit which was 10-12. So, as per the findings it is seen that the children ageing between 14 and 16 constitute the biggest portion.



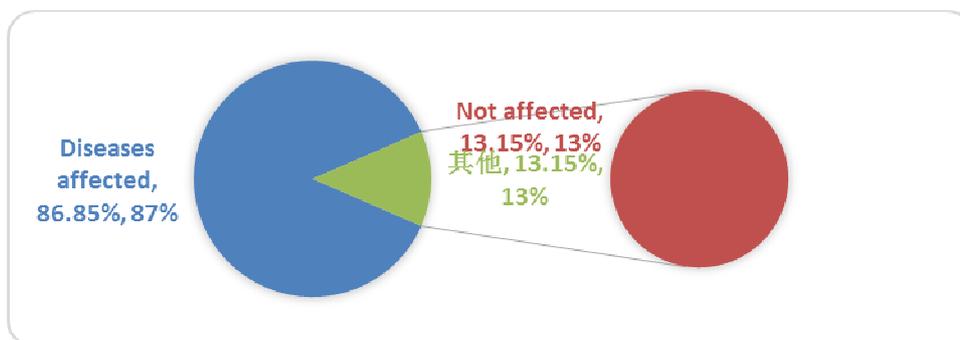
#### Situation of Parents of respondents

This chart represents whether the parents of the respondents are alive or expired. According to the graph 70.83 % parents of the respondents are alive and 2.5 % are dead. 14.17 % children have mother and only 2.5% fathers are alive. There are 10 % respondents who are detached from their parents. So, according to the data children having living parents constitute the biggest portion.



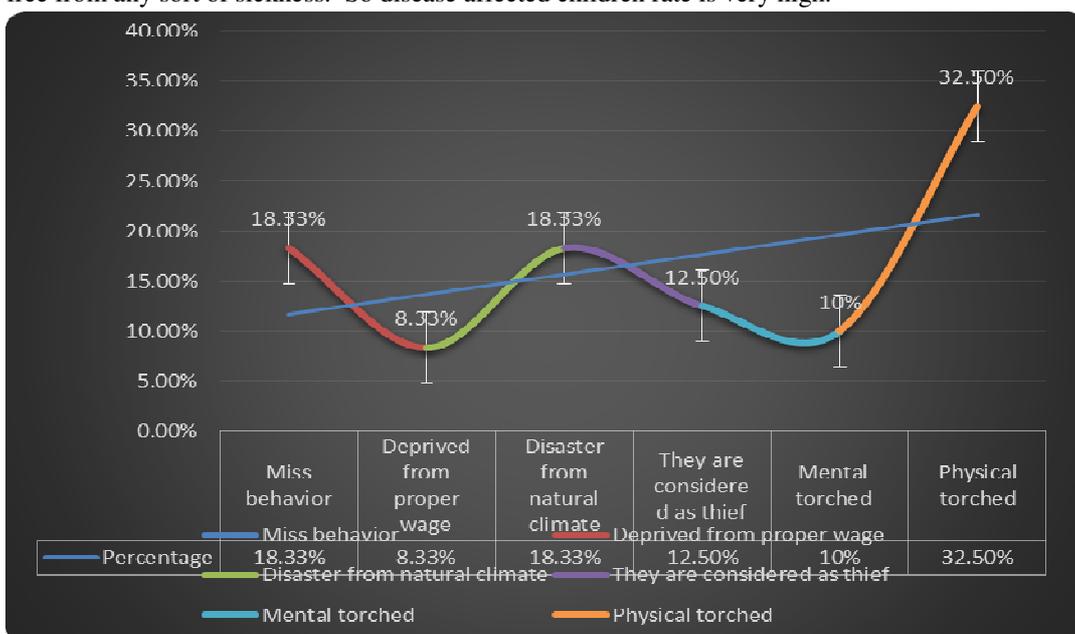
Education Qualification of respondents

In this analysis, it has been noticed that education system is so much vulnerable. Around 31.67 % respondents do not know how to read or write where only 14.17 % is literate. However a big portion of the respondents of about 42.5 % have received primary educations though only 11.67 % have secondary education. So, in explanation it shows that the number of primary education receiver is greater.



Respondents who are affected by different diseases

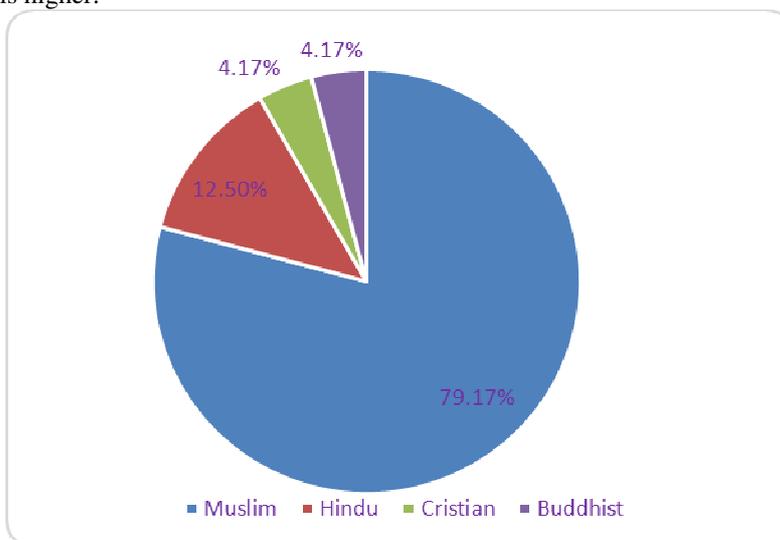
In this analysis, it has been depicted that 86.85 % respondents are affected by various diseases and the rest 13.15 % are free from any sort of sickness. So disease affected children rate is very high.



Inconvenience of respondents at job areas

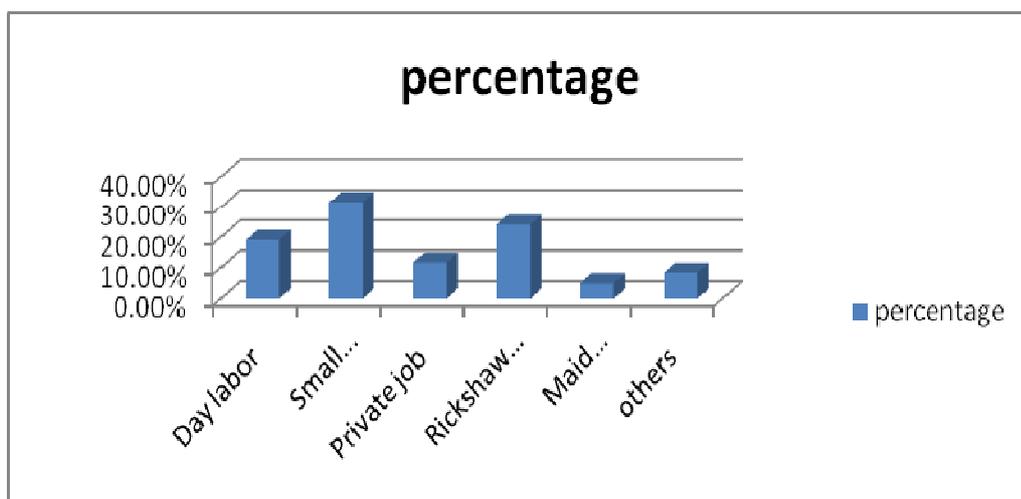
In this analysis, it has been found the highest portion 32.5% is physically tortured by their master. They who

have been rudely behaved and affected by disaster are 18.33 %. Moreover 12.5 %, 8.33 % and 10 % being accused of theft did not get wages properly and tortured mentally. So, in explanation it shows that the number of physically tortured is higher.



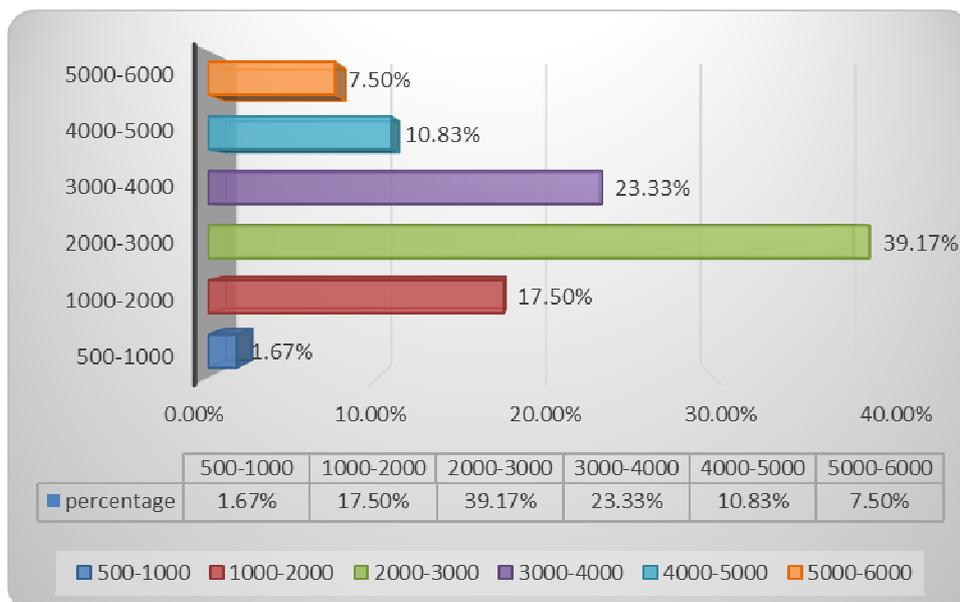
Religion status of respondents

It has been analyzed that 79.17 % respondents are Muslims where Hindus are only 12.5 % and both Christian and Buddhist 4.17%. So, in explanation it shows that the highest respondents are Muslims.



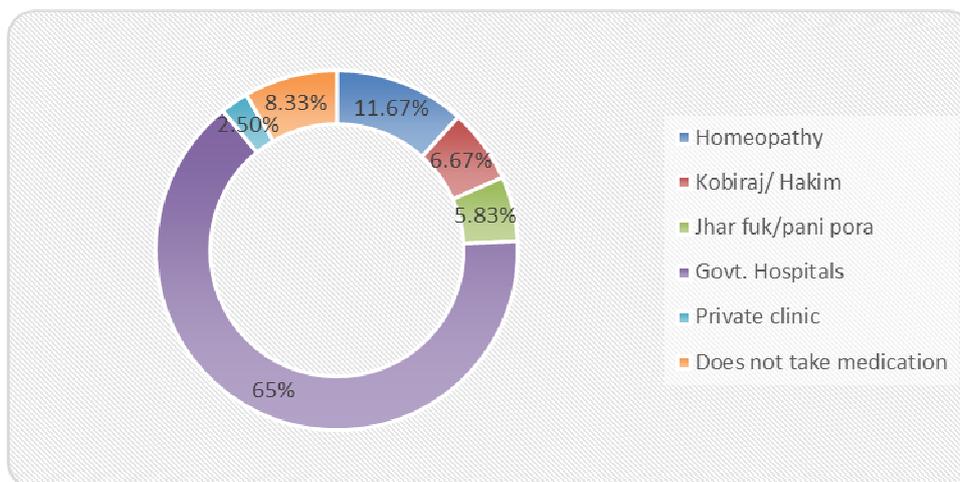
Occupation / Profession of the respondents and head of their family

In this analysis it has been shown that day labor respondents comprise 19.17 %, where small business comprise 31.67 %, private jobs 11.67 %, rickshaw puller and driving 24.17 %, maid servants 5.00 % and others 8.33 %. So, the explanation indicates a high percentage respondents doing small business.



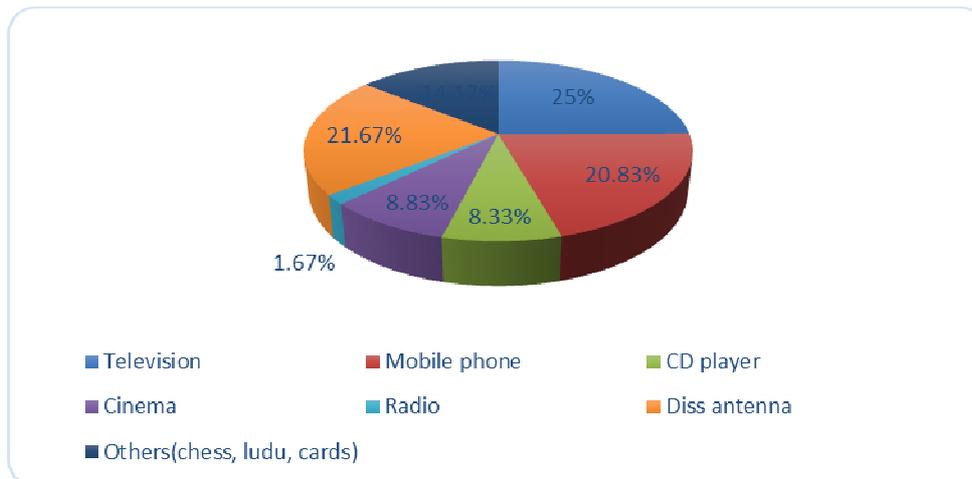
Monthly basis income

The line graph focuses on 39.17 % respondents having an income ranging between 2000 and 3000. The income range 500 to 1000 is the least. There are 17.5 %, 23.33 %, 10.83% and 7.5 % respondents having an income range 1000-2000, 3000-4000, and 4000-5000 and 5000-6000 tk. respectively. So, the income range between 2000-3000 refers to the highest number respondents.



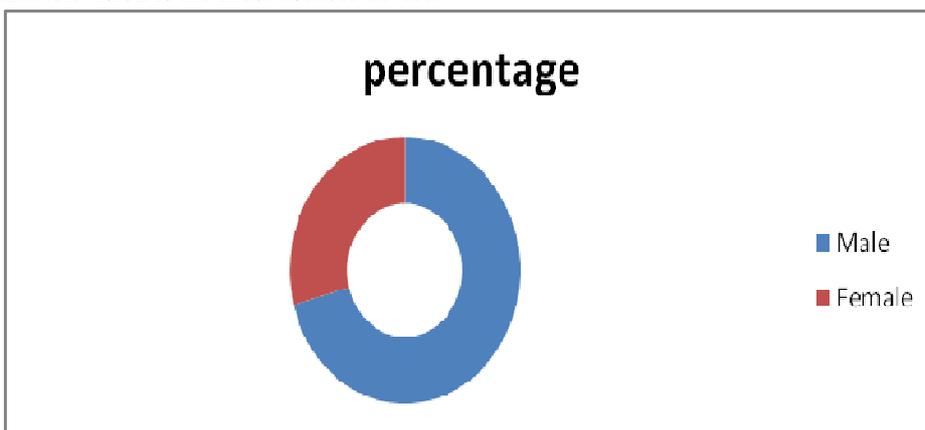
Health/ treatment situation of the respondents

In this analysis it has been found the 11.67% respondents take homeopathy treatment, 6.67 % takes kobiraj, 5.83 has trust in panipor/Jharfuk, 21.67% takes Govt. hospitalized treatment and only 2.5 % has the ability to take private clinical treatment and 8.33 % does not take any sort of medicine. So, the chart shows that most of them receive treatment from govt. hospital.



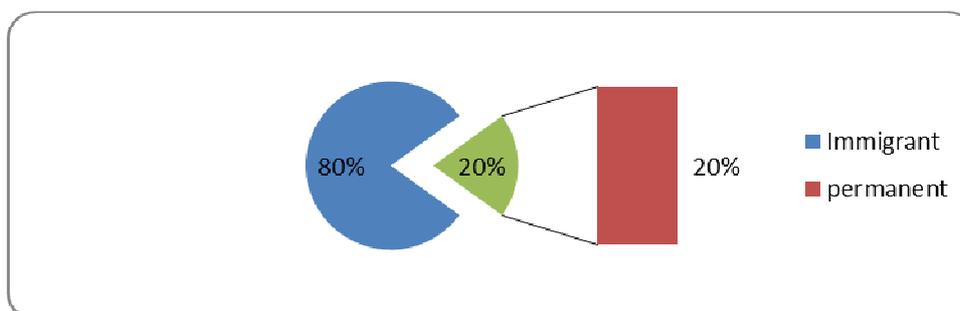
Source of recreation of the respondents

This pie chart presents that the big 25 % gets recreation through watching television. 20.83 % uses mobile phone, 8.33% uses CD player, and 8.33% goes to cinema hall, 1.67 % listens to F.M radio and 21.67% uses satellite TV as sources of music. Besides, 14.17 % receives recreation by playing chess, ludu, cards etc. so, the chart shows that television is the most useable device.



Gender distribution of respondents

This pie chart demonstrates that 70.84 % respondents are male and 29.16 % are female which indicates that 85 respondents are male out of 120. So, the pie chart indicates the male children are big portion.



Settlement situation of respondents

This pie chart depicts that 80% respondents are emigrated from different remote areas of the country and only 20 % are permanent residents in slum areas. So, that chart shows that migrated respondents are greater in number.

## 5. Conclusion

Slum is a tremendous problem in the urban area especially in Dhaka city. Generally, after the independence of Bangladesh, a trend is found that people are migrating from rural to urban area. As a result, lack of residence,

basic education, treatment and nutrition are common features in urban area. Due to lack of awareness and knowledge, urban migration is being increased over the years. In fact, this problem is an obstacle for achieving development goal of the country. Government has taken different endeavors for resolving this problem through various ways. Besides, many programs and projects are being executed by non-Government national and international organizations. As it is a big problem of the country, it is not possible to reduce it drastically. Hopefully, Bangladesh has experienced the growth of a per capita income in the last one decade which has influenced the life of slum children. These children will represent themselves as lawyers, doctors, presidents in future. We all should have a responsibility to ensure a good atmosphere for bringing out more convenience of the country.

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