



Socio-Economic Condition of Vegetable Street Vendors : A Study on Dhaka City

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Abstract: *The study focuses on the socio-economic condition of vegetable Street vendors in Dhaka. Special emphasis has been given on reasons of entering women vegetable vendors into vending job and their problem. For this purpose, a survey was conducted in 2018 to know the socio-economic condition of vegetable street vendors in Dhaka. This survey covered 150 vendors in those streets, footpath and roadside of 5 specific areas as Mirpur, Mohammadpur, Farmgate, Dhanmondi and Azimpur in Dhaka. Based on this study has found that the socio-economic condition of street vendors is very poor. Their income and saving is very low. Both they and their children's education is very poor. Vegetable street vendor is one of the better informal job opportunities for poor. The study explores that 88.67 percent vegetable vendors are male and 11.34 percent of them are female. 42 percent of them have age range 26-35 years old. Among them 74 percent got married. 52 percent of them maintaining a family member at least 6 or above. Almost 65.34 percent vendor's academic qualification is below SSC. More than 24 percent of them and 12 percent of their children are illiterate yet. Per day average sale is Tk. 2475. The average monthly income of per vendor is Tk. 23435. Almost 61.34 percent had started with an initial investment lowest Tk.10000. 50.67 percent of them could earn profit per day lowest through Tk. 400. If a comparison is made between male and female, we see that the condition of women vendors is more vulnerable than male vendors. Women vendors in Dhaka choose this trade because of poverty and also because the male members in the family do not have jobs and even if they earn money, they spend that money mostly on liquor. Their low income, double burden of having to work on the streets and look after the home and low level of unionization make them the invisible section of street vendors. Less or no Public toilet in the streets of Dhaka has an adverse effect on women vender's health and many suffer from various infection. The mobile women street vendors also face security issues.*

Keywords: *Vegetable, Street vendors, Poverty, Stakeholders, Employment.*

1. Introduction

Poverty is multidimensional in nature having originated from a diverse range of conditions. The poor exist both in rural and urban areas of developing economies. Rural poverty is in fact directly related to land ownership and control over land. On the other hand, urban poor depend on different informal sector. Bangladesh is a developing country located in South Asia with large number of population. According to the latest census figures, the total population in Bangladesh was estimated at 161.8 million. Looking back, in the year of 1960, Bangladesh had a population of 50.1 million people. Now population growth rate is around 1.20 percent. Dhaka is the capital city of Bangladesh has shown population growth of about 3.72 percent up from a year ago annually. It is one of the most densely populated areas in the world, with a density of 47,400 people per square kilometer within a total area of 300 square kilometers. Government estimates say at least 1,418 people are adding to the population of Dhaka every day, with the current population at over 17 million marking the city as the densest city on the globe.

Bangladesh is one of the countries of the world that has been experiencing very rapid urbanization over the last four decades and more. Around 28 percent of total population of the country was living in urban area in 2011. Dhaka is a strong

contributor to the population growth because of migration from rural areas of the country to urban. This rural migration accounted for 60 percent population growth throughout the 1960s and 1970s. While this growth has slowed since that time, Dhaka continues to show steady growth, with estimates placing the 2020 population at almost 21 million, while 2030 may see as many as 27.3 million residents.

Around 32 percent of total urban population of the country was living in Dhaka city in 2014 (UNDESA, 2014). It is causing the extra burden to the population of this city. Because of rapid and unplanned urbanization in Bangladesh, threshold capacity of urban employment in urban areas surpasses its limits. A major cause for rural-urban migration is surplus labor in the rural agriculture sector and poor economic condition. Land does not expand, while population keeps on growing. There is a very little space for the poor pushed out from villages by poverty and social degradation. Most of them live in unhygienic condition in unending security as they can be displaced any time by local authority or other powerful groups. Poor people are always unorganized and often remain invisible.

Moreover, a large number of populations who are now coming in urban areas do not have sufficient education and skills to be engaged in urban formal employment. Instead of returning to the rural sector, however, they simply stayed where they are between the urban modern sector and the rural traditional sector (Haque Mondal, M. 2017). The urban poor consist largely of overflow of the rural that migrate to towns in search of job. Ultimately, they engage urban informal sector. Urban informal sector can generate more employment than formal sector. As a result, informal sector has been growing in spite of obstacles and a lack of external support. Around 75.2 percent of urban population engaged in informal economy in 2013 (BBS & ILO, 2015).

Informal sector plays a vital role in the economy of 3rd world countries. A major section of the self-employed in informal sector are working as street vegetable vendors in Bangladesh. Street vending survives not merely because it is an important source of employment in informal sector but also because of the services it provides for the urban population. Moreover, due to closure of many small and medium factories and no new opportunity for employment and closure of ancillary industries in Dhaka, many workers are out of job and have to depend on vending in order to survive. For the urban poor, street vegetable vending is one way of earning a livelihood, as it requires a very little capital and minimum skills though the income is too low. Because of vegetable street vendors, other city dwellers can purchase certain commodities lesser than market price. They sometimes provide necessary commodities at doorsteps, thus further saving time, money and energy.

There is no clear picture of the number of men and women street vegetable vendors in Dhaka. The male vendors are more visible than women vendors as the male vendors sell greater varieties of goods. The women vendors are seen to sell vegetables than other goods and if we compare among vendors, we see that vegetable vendors are more in number. There is also gender dimension to poverty, since the poor woman has to shoulder the double burden of being disadvantaged by being female and doubly disadvantaged by being poor. Most of the vendors are males as female vendors constitute a small section of the profession where, they are hardly unionized.

Hence, it is found that vegetable street vendors subsidize the existence of the other sections of the urban poor by providing them cheap goods. Yet, they are popular because they provide the urban population with much needed services that neither the municipalities nor the larger retailing outlets can provide. Although they live in poverty, they are generating employment as well as income and thereby, contributing towards our economy. So, street vendors are found to be crucial to Bangladesh's development as a source of income, employment and service to millions of people.

2. Literature Review

This part of the study reviewed available literature both locally and internationally to find out the research gap and ways to contribute in to the body of knowledge.

Akharuzzaman and Atsushi (2010) showed in their findings Street vendor is one of the better informal job opportunities for poor though they create problems in urban areas to produce street garbage and crowd the footpath and concluded the formalization and public management systems will be beneficial participated by street vander community itself.

Dabir-Alai (2004) A study on "Street trading in urban areas", Delhi, India. It was found that bullying is the most vulnerable element of vendors. Most of the street vendors use self financing for their business.

Çargoklu and Eder (2006) said that among other informal workers in urban areas, the street vendor in general is the poorest and economically vulnerable.

A.H. Subratty P. Beeharry, M. Chan Sun (2004) - A survey of hygiene practices among food vendors in rural areas in Mauritius. It was found that generally food vendors were quite aware of hygienic conditions. But majority of them were not implementing their knowledge into practice. It highlights the need for further health education of food vendors.

Faruque and Haque (2010) found their study in Dhaka city there is no policy that can facilitate access to street entrepreneurship but as an alternative source for neighborhood-specific goods or an economic entry that does not require

extensive capital, urban street selling can also foster social mobility and local economies.

Fiona Pang (2008)-Hawker food Industry: food safety/public health strategies in Malaysia-The purpose of this paper is to explore the socio-demographic factors affecting food safety strategies of hawkers in an urban and less urban setting of Malaysia. It is found that of all types hawkers with higher educational levels and hawkers in an urban setting scored the highest on food safety knowledge. This study found inadequate guidelines for hawkers, ambiguities with licensing procedures, weaknesses in training programmers and significant complaints of designated sites by hawkers.

Monir Z (2013) reported that there are more than 5,000 regular street vendors in Sylhet city. City mayor circulated a public notice to free the city footpaths and evicted the hawkers within a week from city streets. Such eviction may lead an inhuman life along with the families after losing their earning sources owing to the drive conducted against the street vendors. 'Step to refurbish the hawkers market will be taken soon after discussing the matter in the city corporation meeting in order to rehabilitate the evicted street vendors,' Mayor said.

Muzaffar and Huq (2009) in their study attempted to highlight the problem areas and identify some key factors that positively affect their sales revenue and found that the problem areas are related to business operation, business knowledge, extortion, and product and production. Found that business experience, and initial capital is two key factors that positively affect sales revenue.

Mullah S and Islam Z (2014) reported that there are over 5 lakh hawkers in the country and each of them on an average pays Tk. 50 every day to linemen, who are private agents of extortionists. The rates vary depending on the location of the stalls, hawkers trading busy streets buzzing with commuters have to pay more. Around Tk. 850 crore is extorted from hawkers every year claimed hawker leaders in a press conference. If the hawkers are unable to pay the extortion money, they are tortured, and their makeshift stalls and goods are damaged.

Raman Rakesh (2010-11) has conducted a study on women food and vegetable vendors in northern India and found that women vendors, most of whom come from the socially backward and economically deprived sections of the society.

Suraiya and Noor (2012) showed the businesses of street vendors as well as their impacts on society and constituted three central messages like, a large number of people are generating income through street vending, and street vendors occupy a large part of informal sector in Dhaka city, street vendors offer intense services for the city dwellers within reasonable cost range.

Not only in Bangladesh, in Kathmandu, Nepal, street vending rendered as a prominent source of earning livelihood for rural people in urban area along with serving urban poor providing goods in cheaper price. In addition to these benefits, it strengthens the economy by providing products to the markets that are produced in small and large scale industries. Street vending plays a vital role in economic development contributing in reducing poverty, generating employment and increasing social mobility. Thus, it is seen that though street vending is expanding rapidly, there is a very few research on this issue, especially in Dhaka. So, there is an urgent need to encourage more research on this important segment of the urban vendors and special focus must be on women vendors (Adhikari, 2011).

3. Objectives

The specific objectives of the study are as follows:

- a) Identify the socio-economic profile of vegetable street vendors in Dhaka city
- b) Know the reasons of entering women into vegetable vending and explore the major problems which women face in the vegetable vending.
- c) Identify the problems and recommendations to develop vegetable street vendor's micro enterprise development in study area.

4. Statement of the Problem

Dhaka, the most densely populated megacity of the world, is home to 8.5 million people (World Population Review, 2016). Of them, a large number engage themselves in informal income generating activities like street vending. According to the Labor Force Survey 2002-03 of Bangladesh (BBS, 2004:138) 1.41 percent of all the working people (older than 15 years) in Bangladesh's cities are street vendors by major occupation. Haque *et al.* (2010) noted that a census in 2003 in Dhaka City Corporation areas found that there were 90,000 street vendors in the city. But the data from the Labor Force Survey suggests that at least 110 thousand hawkers roam the streets of the wider megacity Dhaka as an informal trade in the main urban transaction points. Most of the street vendors are rural-urban migrant due to lack of work facilities and public services in rural area. Although the city authorities of Dhaka city see that, the street vendors a Problem for their urban areas as they constraint the regular movement of the city dwellers in the footpath and so on. Without street vending in the urban areas a large number of urban dwellers fall into a critical situation in their lives. Not only the low-income group but also the middle-income group of urban dweller depends on vegetable street vendor for daily kitchen shopping in their life. In addition, poor urban dwellers cannot fulfill their basic need without those informal activities in urban areas. According to Dhaka City Corporation records, around 60 percent of the city dwellers lead an impoverished live who mostly depend on street vending for their living.

Street vending is an essential factor for a large number of urban dwellers to maintain their livelihood. For most street vendors, trading from pavements is full of uncertainties. Large number people are entering in Dhaka city from the rural area and most of those rural migrants engage themselves in street vending. These people have no place to go but to the cities, hoping to improve their lots. With low skills and in most cases, no education, no ability to find better paid and secured employment in the formal sector, they have to work in this informal sector. They are constantly facing many problems by city authorities (such as conduct eviction to clear the footpaths, confiscation of merchandise etc.) that make their livelihood at stake.

In most cities street vending is regarded as an illegal activity. City authorities impose restrictions on the use of urban space for vegetable street vending. Informal sectors are unregistered and government pays little attention to this sector. But they are not socially and economically mainstreamed. Hence there is a need to study the nature of the livelihood and different employment risks associated with vegetable street vending.

5. Methodology of the Study

The study was descriptive in nature. It was conducted based on primary as well as secondary data. Primary data was collected through a well structure questionnaire included both open and closed end questions will in accordance of the objective of the study exploring the current situations of vegetable street vendors.

Selection of the study area: The study area fall within the Dhaka city the capital of Bangladesh 5 specific place of street vending were selected based on their availability. The study mainly focused on their vending point and the convenient way to meet with them. The study chooses the places purposively to meet the research objectives started from Mirpur, Mohammadpur, Farmgate, Dhanmondi, Azimpur. These places include bus station, parks, busy market places and other such public spaces. The population of the study was vegetable street vendors in the study area.

Sampling technique: Random sampling is used for this study.

Sample Size: Considerable effort was made to develop the appropriate sample plan. To meet the researches objectives 150 street vegetable vendors were randomly selected within the study area where each specific location contained 30 street vegetable vendors. The preliminary survey and discussion with the street vegetable vendors helped a lot to construct an appropriate sample size.

Sources of Data: The study is involved in collection of data both from the primary and secondary sources. Different types of data and their sources are discussed under the following heads:

Primary Data: Primary data from respondents were collected through face to face contact. During data collection the objectives of the study were clearly explained to the respondents.

Secondary Data: For the research purpose secondary data would also be collected from different sources like books, journals, newspaper, and document of BBS.

Study Period: Data would be collected by survey method with the help of pre-designed and pretested interview schedule during November 2018 to February 2019.

Processing and analysis of data: After collecting information, the filled up schedule were scrutinized and checked to avoid irrelevant information. After having the collected data from the field the researcher made the data sheet with proper caution and check. Data was descriptive analyzed using SPSS 16 software.

6. Results and Discussion

Age wise analysis of vegetable street vendors

Table 1: Age wise analysis of the street vegetable vendors

Age Categories	Vegetable street vendors	
	Number	%
15-25 years	41	27.3
26-35 years	63	42.00
36-45 years	27	18.00
46-55 years	13	8.70
56-65 years	6	4.00
Total	150	100

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Table 1: shows that the frequency as well as the percentages of the vendors in accordance of their age groups. Notice that, most of the vendors engaged with vegetable vending are in the average age of 26-35 years 42 percent. And about one third (27.3 percent) of them are in the age of 15-25 years. Only 4 percent of them are in the age of 55-65 years old.

Table 2: Marital Status wise analysis of the vegetable street vendors

Marital Status	Vegetable street vendors	
	Number	%
Married	111	74.00
Unmarried	28	18.67
Separated	11	7.34
Total	150	100

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Table 2: shows that the frequency as well as the percentages of the vegetable street vendors in accordance of their marital status. Notice that, most of the vendors are married. Among the respondent's 74 percent vegetable vendor are married, 18.67 percent are unmarried and 7.34 percent are separated.

Table 3: Gender wise analysis of the vegetable street vendors

Gender	Vegetable street vendors	
	Number	%
Male	133	88.67
Female	17	11.34
Others	-	-
Total	150	100

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Table 3: shows the frequency as well as the percentages of the vendors in accordance of their gender. Notice that, most of the vegetable vendors are male. Here, 88.67 percent vegetable vendors are male and 11.34 percent vegetable street vendors are female. It is notice that female vegetable vendors are increasing day by day. Male vegetable street vendors are dominated in Dhaka city.

Table 4: Gender wise analysis of the vegetable street vendors

Religion	Vegetable street vendors	
	Number	%
Muslim	137	91.34
Hindhu	13	8.67
Total	150	100

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Table 4: shows the frequency as well as the percentages of the vendors in accordance of their religion. The majority (91.34 percent) of the vegetable street vendors are Muslim whereas only 8.67 percent are Hindu.

Table 5: Education wise analysis of vegetable street vendors

Education	Vegetable street vendors	
	Number	%
Below SSC	98	65.34
SSC	4	2.67
HSC	-	-
Diploma	-	-
Madrasha	12	8.00
No Education	36	24.00
Total	150	100

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Table 5: shows the frequency as well as the percentages of the vendors in accordance of their educational status. It suggests that almost 65.34 percent vegetable street vendors' academic qualification is below Secondary school certificate and 24 percent of them did not complete primary schooling; only 2.67 percent of them completed SSC level. Madrasa education belongs to 8 percent.

Table 6: Gender wise analysis of the vegetable street vendors

Family Size	Vegetable street vendors	
	Number	%
1-3	23	15.34
3-6	49	32.67
6 & Above	78	52.00
Total	150	100

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Table 6: shows that 52 percent street vendors are maintaining a family size between 6 to above members, while 32.67 percent of them having a family size between 3 to 6 members.

Table 7: Residence of vegetable street vendors

Residence	Vegetable street vendors	
	Number	%
Own House	10	6.67
Rented House	117	78.00
Slum	23	15.34
Total	150	100

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Table 7: shows the frequency as well as the percentages of the vendors in accordance of their residence. It shows that street vendors of 78 percent lived in rented house and 6.67 percent lived in their own house. Among vendor's 15.34 percent lived in Slum.

Table 8: Experience of Vegetable Street Vending

Experience	Vegetable street vendors	
	Number	%
0 - 5	24	16.00
6 - 10	27	18.00
11-15	32	21.34
16 - Above	67	44.67
Total	150	100

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Table 8: shows the frequency as well as the percentages of the vendors in accordance of their residence. It shows that street vendors of 78 percent lived in rented house and 6.67 percent lived in their own house. Among vendor's 15.34 percent lived in Slum.

Table 9: Average Working Hour of vegetable street vendor

Average Working Hour	Vegetable street vendors	
	Number	%
02 – 04 Hour	-	-
04 – 06 Hour	5	3.34
06 – 08 Hour	5	6.68
08 – 10 Hour	21	20.68
10 – 12 Hour	119	79.34
Total	150	100

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Table 9: shows that 79.34 percent vegetable street vendor is working 10 to 12 hours per day. 14 percent work 8 to 10 hour in a day. Only 3.34 percent vendors work lowest 4 hour in a day.

Table 10: Daily sales in Taka of vegetable street vendors

Daily Sales	Vegetable street vendors	
	Number	%
500 – 1000	22	14.7
1000 – 1500	34	22.7
1500 – 2000	31	14.7
2000 – 2500	22	14.7
2500 – 3000	22	14.7
3000 – above	19	12.7
Total	150	100

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Table 10: shows that the daily sales of the respondents. Much of them have the daily sales Tk.1000-Tk.1500 (22.7 percent) and 20.7 percent sale Tk.1500 to Tk.2000. The average sale of per vendor per day is Tk. 2475.

Table 11: Vegetable street vendor's profit per day

Profit	Vegetable street vendors	
	Number	%
Lower TK. 400	76	50.67
401 – 600 TK	35	23.34
601 – 800 TK	16	5.34
801 – 1000 TK	8	2.67
1001 – 1200 TK	4	1.34
1200 – above TK	2	6.00
No response	9	100
Total	150	

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Table 11: suggests that as almost 61.34 per cent (table 11) of the street vendors had started with an initial investment lowest Tk.10000, 50.67 percent of them could earn profit per day lowest through Tk. 400 and 23.34 percent of them could earn profit per day of Tk.401 through Tk. 600.

Table 12: Vegetable street vendor's savings per month

Savings per month	Vegetable street vendors	
	Number	%
Lower TK. 1000	25	16.67
1001 – 2000 TK	37	24.67
2001 – 3000 TK	5	3.34
3001 – 4000 TK	3	2.00
4001 – 5000 TK	2	1.34
5000 – above TK	-	6.00
No response	78	52.00
Total	150	

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Table 12: shows the initial investment made by the individual vegetable street vendors while starting their business reveals that, 61.34 percent of them started their business with an amount of lowest through Tk. 10000, 11.34 percent with Tk. 10001– Tk. 20000, and 8 percent of them had started with Tk. 20001 and above. 7.34 percent of them didn't response about investment.

Table 13: Startup capital of vegetable street vendors

Startup Capital	Vegetable street vendors	
	Number	%
Lower TK. 1000	92	61.34
1001 – 2000 TK	17	72.68
2001 – 3000 TK	12	80.68
3001 – 4000 TK	9	86.68
4001 – 5000 TK	5	90.02
5000 – above TK	4	92.69
No response	11	100.00
Total	150	

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Table 13: shows the initial investment made by the individual vegetable street vendors while starting their business reveals that, 61.34 percent of them started their business with an amount of lowest through Tk. 10000, 11.34 percent with Tk. 10001– Tk. 20000, and 8 percent of them had started with Tk. 20001 and above. 7.34 percent of them didn't response about investment.

Table 14: Fulfillment of basic needs of vegetable street vendor

Drinking water	Frequency		%
Get pure drinking water	73		48.7
Get water but not pure	55		36.7
Don't get water	22		14.7
Total	150		100.0
Sanitation			
Hygienic	83		55.3
Moderate	55		36.7
Not Hygienic	12		8.0
Total	150		100.0
Treatment			
Have well treatment	105		70
Don't have	45		30
Total	150		100.0
Electricity use			
Use	148		98.67
Don't use	2		1.33
Total	150		100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2018

The fulfillments of some basic daily needs of the street vegetable vendors are divided into four major dimensions: drinking water, sanitation, electricity use and treatment (which are shown in the table 14). It is found that, about 15 percent of the respondents don't get water (don't get means they don't have well arrangement of collecting water rather they collect water from the different leak point of WASA or sometimes from another's house everyday) and 8 percent of them don't have hygienic sanitation. It is found that about 70 percent respondents get well treatment, 30 percent vendors don't have well treatment. It is also found that about 98.67 percent respondents use electricity and only 1.33 percent doesn't use electricity.

Economic Contribution

Employment Effect: Vegetable Street vending is an important source of income and employment and most vegetable street vendors undertake vending due to lack of other sources of income and employment. That means vegetable street vending act as a supplement of formal employment sector of a country. Mithullah (2003) says that, Vending provides an opportunity that minimizes the impact of social exclusion for many urban residents. The number of street vendors in Bangladesh is large to contribute to the informal employment sector. According to the Dhaka City Corporation there are around 90,000 street vendors in the city (Bhowmik, 2010). As street vegetable vending in Bangladesh is considered an illegal trade and the street vendors face constant harassment from the authorities. The vendors have to pay a sizeable part of their income as bribes in order to keep plying their trade.

Contribution to the Local Community

The contribution of the street vegetable vendors in the local community is also notable. The vegetable vendors sell the vegetable products to local people of different area in the Dhaka city. City dwellers depend on vegetable vendors for their daily kitchen goods because the price of goods is lower than super shop. Vendors purchase goods from Kawran Bazar and Mirpur-1(Rayer Bazar) from wholesalers at a spot rate. The local community people achieve a major monetary gain as they purchase the fresh products at a low price comparing to super shop price. One of the customer said, „I bought my daily vegetable from the footpath. But some days ago I bought some vegetable from local market. It would higher cost than footpath”.

Social Acceptance

The perceptions of the street vegetable vendors are shown in the following table (table 15) regarding their social acceptance collection vote for the statement, Doing this business I am well accepted in the society”. 36 percent of them are found neutral, 40.7 percent agreed and only 16.7 percent strongly agreed regarding the statement. That means they are moderately accepted in the society for this business.

Table 15: Social acceptance of vegetable street vendors

Scale	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative
SA	25	16.7	16.7
A	61	40.7	57.3
N	54	36.0	93.3
D	6	4.0	97.3
SD	4	2.7	100
Total	100		

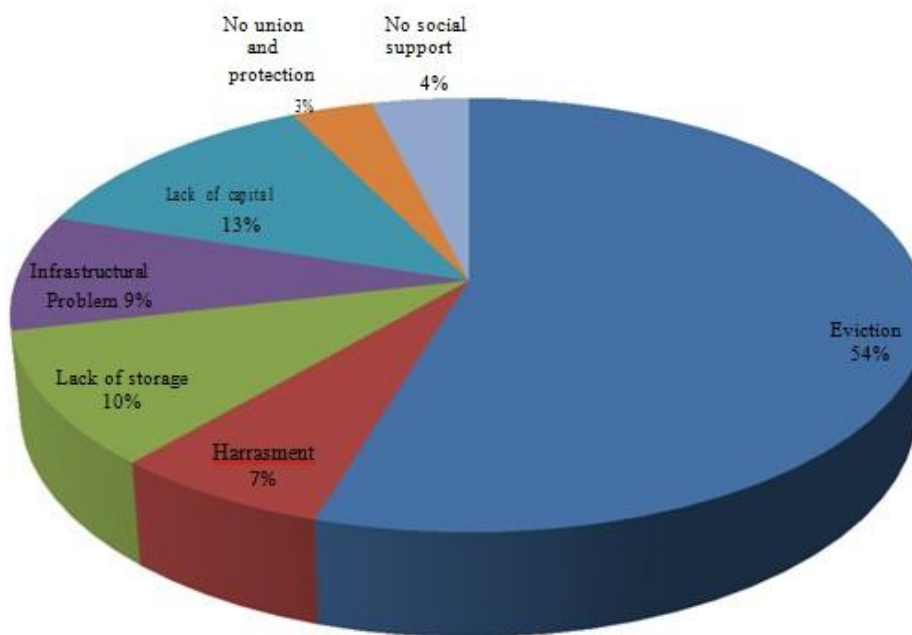
(SA=Strongly agree, A=Agree, N=Neutral, D=Disagree, SD=Strongly disagree)

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Problems Encountered by the vegetable street vendors

A lack of capital is the main hindrance in setting up the vending business. In the absence of adequate and sufficient source of fund, vendors are unable to purchase Products according to meet their own daily needs. The owners of the small businesses are often also might be discouraged to borrow since they know their future stream of income might be lower than their assets (collateral). These businesses also suffer from inefficient managerial skill, lacking risk assurance and transportation problem. They failed to obtain loan from established formal financial institutions due to their failure to meet the obligations to manage the collateral. Therefore, we have found in our survey that 20 percent of vegetable vendors of the owners of small businesses start their businesses by borrowing from others such as bank, the local money lenders at a comparatively higher interest rates. Adverse economic situation negatively affects street vending business.

Figure-1: Major problem faced by the street vegetable vendors



Source: Field Survey, 2018

From the above figure-1 shows that 54 percent respondent said the eviction by the city corporation officials is the major problem for vending business. 13 percent respondents reply that the capital problem, 10 percent respondents reply that lack of the storage problem forced them to waste their products because they are left with excess of stock at the end of the day. Lack of storage they sell the product in low cost when the buyer is low then he has to sell at a lower price. Because vegetable is the perishable goods, 9 percent said infrastructural problem, 7 percent said harrasment from municipal authorities, police and local bodies or dalals.

Reasons of joining women in vegetable street vending

It is found that 29.41 percent women vendors are joining in vegetable vending for poverty. 23.52 percent engaged for their husband is dead or no grown up male members to support her. 11.76 percent engaged for her husband is drunkard & no support from him. 17.64 percent is engaged for their husband is job-less or insufficient income. Besides 5.58 percent women are vending respectively for traditional Profession, lack of skill to adopt other job and illiteracy.

Table 16: Reasons of Joining Women in Vegetable Vending

Reasons	Frequency	Women's %
Poverty	5	29.41
Husband is drunkard & no support from him.	2	11.76
Husband is job-less or insufficient income	3	17.64
Husband is dead or no grown up male members to support her.	4	23.52
Traditional Profession	1	5.58
Lack of skill to adopt other job	1	5.58
Illiteracy	1	5.58

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Major Problem Faced by Women

The women vendors face various problems as they are women and as well as they are vendors. Most of them have no education, no capital for further investment, no skill and no support from family or other male vendors or society. Table 19 depicts the problems faced by women vegetable vendors.

Table 17: Major problems faced by women vegetable vendors

Reasons	Frequency	Women's %
Time Consuming	2	11.76
Physical and mental strain	3	17.64
Lack of basic civic amenities	2	11.76
Double Burden	1	5.88
No social support	1	5.88
Lack of capital	3	17.64
No union and protection	1	5.88
Harassment from municipal authorities, police and local bodies or dalals	3	17.64
Exploitation	1	5.88

Source: Field Survey, 2018

Thus, we see that women vendors face the above problems. 17.64 percent of women are of opinion that lack of capital and exploitation is major problems, they face. Whereas, 17.64 highest percentages of women think that harassment from municipal authorities, police and local bodies are great and most critical problem. All vendors have to pay a fixed daily sum to the police or dalals every day, yet, they are often abused verbally or even physically. Women vendors are harassed by the male vendors also and are not allowed mostly to sit on the pavements or in the daily make shift markets. Physical and mental strains are major problems and 17.64 percent of women find this problem. 11.76 percent has said that the vending job is very time consuming and 5.88 percent women find that double burden is a responsible reason. 11.76 percent women feel that due to lack of basic civic amenities, they suffer from health problems. Public toilet has an adverse effect on women's health and many suffer from various infection and the 5.88 percent of women think that as they have no social support, they suffer a lot. 5.88 percent feels that due to absence of union, they are always harassed, and dislocated by the municipal authorities and the police, local authorities or dalals and mafias.

7. Conclusion

Nonetheless, the importance of livelihood of poor people, selling vegetable on the street sideway cannot be ignored. Street vegetable vendors contribute to the urban economy of Bangladesh as customers, distributors of goods, generators of jobs and provide services to the public proper and the size of the informal sector is expanding day by day as the contribution of agriculture to GDP is decreasing and due to massive migration from rural area to urban area, proper emphasis & attention should be given to the informal sector's role in the development policy of Bangladesh. In south Asia, each developing cities have many street vendors, but there is not proper guidelines for street vending. Developed city like New York in United States have definite guideline for vendors. As a large number of urban dwellers depend on street vegetable vending. But they have lack of formal job opportunities. In fact from various studies and reports, it has been seen that in almost all the Asian countries, street vendors have no legal status (except a few) to conduct their business and they are constantly harassed by the various authorities. They face various problems like license, insecurity of earnings, insecurity of place of hawking, gratifying officers and musclemen, constant eviction threat, fines and harassment by traffic police. Street vendors have poor social protection and their working conditions on the streets expose them to a variety of safety and health issue. Due to lack of awareness about their rights, without doing anything concrete to improve their insecurity, no support to protect their rights, they have to continue their profession in the city. The different political parties use them for their own purposes and gains. They face the problem of capital and depend mainly on loans from friends, family or money lenders to run their business. Even those who are licensed, rarely approach banks because of the huge paper work involved in getting loans. The improvement in the condition of vendors and a special focus on women vendors requires giving them a legal status, fixation of the number, organization themselves into trade unions and associations. So we need to think about their livelihood because eviction or temporary solution can make their livelihood much more vulnerable. Unfortunately, instead of protecting this sector, the Government is indifferent to their existence. So there must be a shift of perspectives and focus must be given on their economic potentials. Important aspects of street vendors are unfortunately ignored by the City Corporation. More often, street vending is considered an illegal activity and street vendors are treated as criminals. Study reveals that it is true that the street vendors create road block every day. But the people will make understand that it is not a problem rather a solution. People need to revise their perception of the street vending; not by sweeping them off the streets rather they deserve support.

8. Recommendations

Since the contributions of the street vegetable vendors are very important in economic development of a developing country like Bangladesh, the Govt. should adopt proper policies to develop this sector and to upgrade the socio-economic status and the loving status of the vendors. Therefore, by this study offer the following recommendations to develop the vegetable vending sector and to upgrade the vendor's socio-economic status. Here are some policy recommendations for street vegetable vendors:

- a) NGOs and social activists should come forward to provide some informal education to the vegetable vendors, so that they can understand their rights and duties.
- b) Special efforts should be made by the Government to provide them vocational education and to attract the children of vendors to schools.
- c) Micro credit scheme can be offered by government or NGO or different commercial banks at low interest rate or interest free house loan facility.
- d) Govt. can ensure supply of pure drinking water through situating pure water supply plant for those dwellers and building up hygienic toilet or ensure proper drainage system to their living area.
- e) The recognized trade unions should help them in communicating their problems and the level of unionization will help in reducing their exploitation.
- f) City authority must have special guidelines for controlling and can build infrastructure or fixed market place to operate vending business at reasonable cost.
- g) Street Vendors age should be restricted so that children cannot be used as street vendor.

9. Limitations of the Study

The study is mainly based on primary data. Moreover, enough literature was not available to relay the area of study regarding Bangladesh perspective. Since the street vending business is very large in Dhaka city. Only 5 areas of Dhaka City have considered for the research. So, it is tough to cover all the aspects of street vegetable vendors through a single research study. On the other hand, the respondents have not enough time for responding to the questionnaires. But the researcher expects that all these limitations will not affect the research findings.

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