

SANITATION FACILITIES AND GIRL STUDENTS SCHOOL ATTENDANCE TENDENCY AT THEIR MENSTRUATION PERIOD IN RURAL BANGLADESH: A COMPARATIVE STUDY

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ARTICLE INFO

Article Type: Research

Received: 30, March. 2019.

Accepted: 28, May. 2019.

Published: 29, May. 2019.

Keywords:

*School environment, girl student,
school absentism, school
attendance, WASH facilities,
quality education*

ABSTRACT

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities in school are most important for every student and closely related to school environment. It creates safe, healthy and comfortable environment in school where children grow, learn and thrive. A significant number of schools are situated in rural areas, and thousands of students are learning here. Many of them are combined school in which boys and girls students are studying together. It is observed that in most of the rural schools WASH facilities are very poor. Most of the cases, there is no separate toilet for girls and boys student or girls student and teachers are using same toilet. In a sense, girl's friendly toilet is rare look at. This condition is affecting the quality education; especially adolescent girls are main fatality of this. In schools about halves percent student are girls but there have limited WASH facilities for them. Not only for girls student but also boys student have limited toilet facilities. It suffers them enormous and they feel embarrass in school. Consequently, many girl students are irregular in school. Basically, during menstruation period about 61 percent of girls student do not come to school from 1-7 days in a month or come to school but return home after attending few classes (Baseline: 2014). Thus many girl students in rural area are depriving from regular studies and quality education. Ultimately it influencing girl student to back out from mainstreaming. To assess the importance of school WASH facilities, identifying the affect in absence of WASH facilities and keeping the learning environment in schools, this study is most important. The study will provide relevant and actual information to stakeholders and assist decision maker to realize the situation and take effective measures in interest of adolescent girls.

