

**ISSN: 2706-8471 (Online)**

**ISSN: 2706-8463 (Print)**

Asian Journal of  
**SUSTAINABLE  
BUSINESS  
RESEARCH**



**SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF THE STREET GARMENT VENDORS: A  
DESCRIPTIVE STUDY IN THE CONTEXT OF DHAKA CITY, BANGLADESH**

*Sanjoy Kumar Roy, Sabbir Hassan Chowdhury, Saiful Islam, Sifat Siddique*

To cite the article *Sanjoy Kumar Roy, Sabbir Hassan Chowdhury, Saiful Islam, Sifat Siddique*. (2021). socio-economic status of the street garment vendors: a descriptive study in the context of dhaka city, Bangladesh, 2 (2):95-116

**Link to this article:** <http://aiipub.com/journals/ajsbr-211128-1000/>

**Article QR**



**Journal QR**



## SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF THE STREET GARMENT VENDORS: A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY IN THE CONTEXT OF DHAKA CITY, BANGLADESH

1. Sanjoy Kumar Roy, Assistant Professor, General Education Department, City University, Email:- [mritojonmajoy@gmail.com](mailto:mritojonmajoy@gmail.com)
2. Sabbir Hassan Chowdhury, Assistant Professor, Department of Business Administration, City University, Email:- [ratul\\_libra@hotmail.com](mailto:ratul_libra@hotmail.com)
3. Saiful Islam, Lecturer, Department of Business Administration, City University, Email:- [saiful.pstu2014@gmail.com](mailto:saiful.pstu2014@gmail.com)
4. Sifat Siddique, Lecturer, Department of Business Administration, City University, Email:- [sifat\\_siddiquee712@yahoo.com](mailto:sifat_siddiquee712@yahoo.com)

### ARTICLE INFO

**Article Type:** Research

**Received:** 28, Oct. 2021.

**Accepted:** 28, Nov. 2021.

**Published:** 28, Nov. 2021.

**Keywords:**

*Street garment vendors, socio-economic status, living standards, self-employment, social acceptance, Dhaka City*

### ABSTRACT

The current study analyzes the Socio-Economic condition of Street Garment Vendors in Bangladesh. Street Garment vendor plays an important role in Socio-Economic Development in terms of self-employment and providing products at an affordable price to the lower and middle class people. The researchers conducted a questionnaire survey on 327 street garment vendors involving different indicators of socio-economic like Living Conditions, Demographic Characteristics, Socio-Economic Status and Fundamental Needs, troubles faced by Vendors, Conflicts, Coping Strategy and Social Recognition to gain deep understandings on the Socio-Economic conditions of garment vendors. According to the survey, frequency and percentage of responses were calculated to meet the statistical requirements of the study.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The Street garment vendors' activities play a crucial role in informal economy of Dhaka City in Bangladesh. It is largely recognized that street garment vendors' contribute in the socio economic development of metropolitan economy (Bhowmik, 2012; Hasan and Alam, 2015; Adhikari, 2017) in terms of employment potential by generating jobs and unconventional sources of income (Mazhambe, 2017) and in serving the products and services at affordable price to the city poor (Wongtada, 2014; Feng and Wu, 2016) and middle-income groups. Garments products are considered as wastes; usually less priced goods or products creating a chance of self-employment (Hasan and Alam, 2015), also generate independency and empowerment of women, ( Mramba, 2015; Chauke et al., 2015; Chingono, 2016) as like small entrepreneur (Rashid et al., 2007; Muzaffar et al., 2009; Adhikari, 2011; Lucan et al., 2013). As a rising limitations to employment of formal area in national economy and also in global economy section and the huge entry of villagers to the urban economy for searching superior livelihoods, vending activities which is highly noticeable in towns (Asiedu & Agyei-Mensah, 2008). Muiruri (2010) also agreed that permanent jobs in the formal zone have been noted to be decreasing since those competent people are not capable to get expected job. This has led to a rapid increase of informal sector that has been accompanied by remarkable increase in street trading.

Peña (1999) found that family, relatives, social capital etc., impose a vital role for doing such vending activities in the market of informal economy. Also Husain et al. (2015) mentioned poverty, low education, migration to urban area and excessive supply of employment and also big size of family are several main reasons for taking vending as a business. And according to Anjaria (2006), relatively ease of entry and the limited requirement of funds, creation of self-employment (Islam et al., 2019) and involvement of large number of people (Islam et al., 2019) as a reason for vending to be the job of the new entrants to the urban labor force. As a result young people are easily involving in this sector with low education and skills (Islam et al., 2019) for removing poverty and better livelihood (Asiedu & Agyei-Mensah, 2008).

Street vending by nature is easy to get to the customers a few steps away from their residence. The customers find their daily requisite at their doorstep at a reasonable price so this informal sector of economy rises up continuously (Indira, 2014). As a result vending creates a base of self-empowerment and employment for vendors and people of various fields like cart pullers, rickshaw drivers, bus drivers, tourists, students, daily workers, various job holders etc. buy their day to day dress form street garments vendors (Hasan and Alam, 2015). According to local NGOs, academics and city authorities among almost about 90, 000 street vendors in Dhaka city (Bhowmik, 2012), about 20,000 are occupied with garments products vending (Islam et al., 2019). Onyango, Olima & Onyango (2012) reported that vendors were found to sell different goods at different locations. They work in various public places: natural market places, street markets or vending zones, transportation hubs, sidewalks, medians, and in and alongside the streets themselves. The locations that they select were influenced by accessibility, good looks, number of customers, competitors, allocation by authorities.

NPUSV (2006) defined, Street vendor as a person who vends a variety of products, services or goods on streets, bus stations or platforms, railway stations, besides or gates of parks and wide open places as much as possible with very low price among the urban people without having any everlasting built-up construction (Bhowmik, 2005). Bhowmik (2003) stated that, the people who struggles for their livelihood (Jaishankar and Sujatha, 2016) and start their business in wide public places such as parks, pavements (McGee, 1971) or other open spaces and travels from areas to are as for getting reliable customers for doing temporary (Islam et al., 2019) and short-term business; are known as vendors. Street vendors are known as by various name such as footphath dokandars', hawker, pheriwalla, sidewalk traders and soon more by the general people (Rahman et al., 2013; Shabbir et al., 2017; Falahat et al., 2018). They are trying to vending a wide variety of goods and products for the people like newspapers, readymade garments, vegetables, shoes, toys, fruits, household gadgets, magazine, stationery and so on (Islam et al., 2019).

Roever (2010) defines vendors as the people with or without semi-fixed stalls, for example collapsible stands, folding tables, crates, or pushcarts that are detached from the sidewalks or streets; exhibiting their products on plastic sheets or cloth; who vend from specific places or through walk, van or bicycle (Achakpa & Radović-Marković, 2018). Street garment vendors are occasionally differentiated from street vendors who works for public areas that means the areas are not only streets but related to streets – like bus stations, train stations, public parks, busy places and so forth – but most often the name is similar (WEIGO, 2013). Street garment vendors are normally defined as informal traders who trade goods or services outside of any enclosed building or covered work places and generate employment (Charmes, 1998). According to Hasan and Alam (2015), Street garments vendors are

vending various garments products or good sat different places in city- like wide open area and who prepare exhibition of various garments items, such as kids items, pants, shirt, t-shirt, polo-shirt, ladies garments or other customary goods or clothes.

Husain et al. (2015) found that street vending is generating opportunities of employment for the metropolitan unskilled poor people and rural people; these people are trying to expand the market of low price products and goods, hence contributing to poverty improvement.

Suraiya& Noor (2012) reveal that, by providing low cost and economical garments products, street vendors' help survival of the urban poor. As a result vendors are very popular to urban dwellers because they offer essential goods and services that are not provided by the bigger retailing outlets or municipalities. Although they survive in poverty, they are generating employment as well as income and thereby, contributing towards our economy. So, street vendors are found to be important to Bangladesh's development as a source of employment, income and service to millions of people. However, Iyenda (2005) pointed out that investigation of such people is really challenging because of the traveling traits of vendors, who want to expand their businesses, that's why insolvent and disappear overnight. In this study researchers try to gain an overview of the socio-economic status of the street garment vendors'.

### **Objective of the study**

The objective of the study is-

- I. To explore and analyze the socio-economic status of the street garment vendors.

### **Literature review**

From social and economic standpoint street garment vendors provide an economical and suitable approach to meet customer demands and needs. They offer reasonable services, products or goods to the lower earnings people .Husain et al. (2015) found unofficially from various vendor associations that almost about 2.5 lakh vendors run their business to the cities and the number has increased to 90,000 in 2005.As a result of fast urbanization, insufficient job opportunities in formal area and continually growing citizen in Dhaka city, induces poor and unskilled public to employ themselves to do vending which demands small and low capital to begin and access with flexible working hour (WIEGO, 2013).

Street vending considered as historical and cultural heritage for several cities as a profession and exists for hundred years (Hasan and Alam, 2015); account for about 20% of entire employment (Sally, 2008). In Mumbai city, this work is one of the long historical heritages, provides essential services to the majority of the population and gives an opportunity to straight forward employment for more than three lakh poor, (Bhowmik 2003). Faruque et al. (2010) stated that, the Dhaka city has no plan for helping the access of street entrepreneurship but due to need for less capital, urban vending promote regional economies and also social mobility. Hays-Mitchell (1994) and Bromley (1998) stated that, street vending activities and services are characterized as major visible and numerically significant factor of urban non formal enterprises, these are connected with the central areas of the cities.

Akharuzzaman and Atsushi (2010) found that this better informal opportunity for the poor creates problems in urban places by producing street garbage and also gathering people on the footpath

(Sarker et al., 2019). Muzaffar and Huq (2009) in their study mention several key issues that significantly affect vendors' sales revenue and these issues are related to extortion, business experience, business operation, product and production whereas initial capital and business knowledge positively affect vendors' sales revenue. Husain et al. (2015) revealed the chief problems and several difficulties (Islam et al., 2019) faced by street vendors at the time of start-up and process of their business activities; harassments (Mkhize et al., 2013), short of working areas, eviction (Wongtada, 2014) from vending places by several private shop owners and police, non-profitability of the business, shortage of market, small capital, social insecurity (Indira, 2014) and cleanness of working environment.

And sometimes the urban elite consider street vending as a nuisance, a source of chaos or a real menace (Steel, 2012; Sarpong and Nabubie, 2015; Kim, 2016) and an "eyesore". Yatmo's (2009) study suggests that street vending is less unacceptable during night. Again most of the governmental authorities all over the world have not considered street vending as a valid business and they treated vending activities as impediments of city development (Indira, 2014). Bayat (1997) argued that vending represents people's mission for development and a search for socio-economic success. Indira (2014) suggested that to subjugate these limitations, street vendors need to assemble themselves into an organization that will help them to continue their vending activities.

Bhowmik (2003) in his "Urban Responses to Street Trading: India"; examined the reasons behind people choosing street vending as their occupation, their fight for public areas, various issues relating to framing street vendors, the configuration of various associations supporting the right of street vendors, credit and social-economic security of street vendors. He found that Poverty is the main issue in the villages and also in smaller towns to force a huge amount of people to come to city areas for working and better livelihood. Warakagoda (2013) also gave information about the reasons of thinking vending as a barrier or as helpful for urban setting.

Nirathron (2006) and Njaya (2014) revealed vending is a significant factor for economic development, because it creates opportunities for sinking poverty, producing employment and growing social mobility. According to Andringa & Kies (1989), vendors are self-employed independent entrepreneur; sometimes they also provide employment to other people and help family members for doing this work. Andringa and Kies (1989) further mentioned that a vendors average earnings is three to ten times more than of the minimum pay in Southeast Asia, sometimes the earnings is comparable with skilled workers' in formal sector. And Bromley (2000) supported street vending as it generates entrepreneurial chance for those people who have problem of starting a business, also increases competition in job section by providing various retail outlets that cover wide geographical areas, offers economical social safety by helping to contribute in income and creates an alternative option for criminal activities. Street vending is a way of survival for the people who have no way to do any job or any employment opportunities (WIEGO, 2013). This type of people follows a strategy framework that helps a lot to alleviate loss of income and gives a protection of earnings.

Rover (2012) considered in his study six main Latin American towns and scrutinized working conditions and demographic trends among vendors, their working security and circumstances, legal aspects managed by the street trade organizations or other associations, and their policies and efficiency. Jones (1988) mentioned that street vending as a financial venture of Afro-Americans dwellers in an American area and divided two natures of vending strategies: firstly, mobile peddlers vending primarily household and grocery objects and secondly, semi-mobile peddlers were vending

clothing for teen ager and young people. Charmes (1998) stated that for understanding informal business area one of the most significant examples is the street traders and argued about the definition or concept to identify street vendors and the way of enumeration in several African countries. In Mumbai city Saha (2011) studied the street vendors financial set up and the degree of gratitude, the quantity of grafts they have to give for continuing their business in market place, their vending hours, public area utilization and also legal properties of these activities.

Street garment vendors play an active role for meeting the demand of urban residents in Dhaka city, servicing cost efficient and durable garment products along with creating income opportunities and job for a vast amount of poor people who help their family earnings (Suraiya & Noor, 2012). Although this work is a non-habitual male-dominated job, Khanam (2008) mentioned in her study that women street traders are rising in Dhaka city because they have no way to meet the basic needs and survival for their families. And also she found that man and women vendors have an earning gap.

But none of the above mentioned papers tried to examine the socio-economic status of street garment vending in Bangladesh. In this viewpoint, the present study focuses on the living conditions, demographic characteristics, basic needs, socio-economic status, problems for doing vending, conflicting experience, coping strategies and social recognition of street garment vending in Bangladesh.

### **Research Methodology**

This study has been run to examine socio-economic condition of the street garment vendors. In order to attain the research objectives researchers aimed at conducting a survey to collect primary data for analysis. To collect the primary data a well-structured questionnaire with open and close ended question has designed. Questionnaire survey is one of the most useful tools for collecting data (Roy & Ahmed, 2016). Before making the final questionnaire an introductory survey and conversation has made with the respondents. In the final questionnaire, living conditions, demographic characteristics, socio-economic status, problems doing garment vending, basic needs, conflicting experience, coping strategies and their social recognition was asked. For gathering appropriate knowledge form the interviewee it is important to create a better understanding between interviewee and researcher (Elwood & Martin, 2000). Responses are recorded on the cell phone audio tape and later transcribe if necessary. For making the primary data valid, available sources of secondary data are exclusively surveyed through articles, online newspapers, printed newspapers, various published books, magazines and internet.

To meet the research objective using structured questionnaire, the survey took place purposively selecting 7 different areas (Savar, Ashuliya, Nabinagor, Baipail, Raptani, Tongi and Abdullapur) near to Dhaka city, the capital of Bangladesh; where the concentration of street garment vendors are relatively high. These areas are chosen because there are lots of large Readymade garments, factories, jute mills, textile mills, foot ware, dying and printing factories, fabric industries, readymade garment industries as well as small industries. Those areas are also known as industrial regions. Again dueto rapid urbanization, geographic location, massive commercialization, growing population and other several characteristics like employment condition and broader formal retail chain are also concern for choosing those areas. Those areas provide admirable place for street garment vending actions because there is a good connection of daily busy market, public offices, banks, shops, bus and railway stations, parks and also heavy movement of pedestrian and vehicle.

To develop the appropriate sampling plan, considerable effort was made. To meet the research objective 350 street garment vendors are conveniently selected within the study area. A preliminary

discussion and survey made with street garment vendors helped a lot for constructing an appropriate sample size. For representative sample size, Gay's (1996) formula is used. According to his formula we used the guidelines for selecting an appropriate sample size: 50% population should be sampled for a population size of about 500, 20% population for a population of about 1,500. Away from this point (at about N=5,000), when the population size is almost immaterial, 400 sample is adequate for the survey. This means for a larger population, the percentage will be smaller. Based on the above criteria this study estimated a sample of size 350. After collecting data set the researcher check the data with proper caution. Then total of 327 street garments vendors were found to be suitable for the study. Then the collected data has been analyzed by using SPSS 22.00 and MS Excel 2007.

## Results and Finding

### 1: Age

Table 1 shows the frequency along with the percentages of the street garment vendors in accordance with their age groups. The vendors' age at the time of the interview varied from a minimum of 16 years to a maximum of 60 years. About 68% of the vendors are in the age group 20-40. 8% of the vendors are aged more than 50 years. The average age was 35.89 years.

**Table-1: Age of vendors**

Age level	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Less than 20	5	1.5	1.5
20-30	116	35.5	37.0
30-40	106	32.4	69.4
40-50	74	22.6	92.0
More than 50	26	8.0	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' collection

### 2: Education

For vending business educational performance is not mandatory. But 40% of the respondent of the sample are passed secondary level although 23.2% of the respondents are illiterate. 30.0% of the vendors are passed primary level and 6.7% of the vendors are passed higher secondary and higher level.

**Table-2: Education of vendors**

Education level	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Illiterate	76	23.2	23.2
Primary	98	30.0	53.2
Secondary	131	40.1	93.3
Higher secondary and higher	22	6.7	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

### 3: Experience

From table 3 it was found that 55.7% of the vendors have less than 5 years of experience. Only 3.1% have more than 16 years of experience. The average year of experience is 6.0153 years. Where minimum year of experience is 1 year and maximum years of experience is 22 years.

**Table-3: Experience of vendors**

Experience (in year)	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Less than 5	182	55.7	55.7
6-10	95	29.1	84.7
11-15	40	12.2	96.9
16 and more	10	3.1	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): authors' Collection

#### 4: Initial Capital

Initial capital is prerequisite for any business. At the time of study 48.3% of the vendors take capital 5000-10000 Bangladeshi taka for doing their vending business. 35.8 percent take less than 5000 taka for doing their business and almost 16% percent used more than 10000 taka for doing the business. The average initial capital was 7704.89 Bangladeshi taka.

**Table-4: Initial Capital of vendors**

Initial Capital	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Less than 5000	117	35.8	35.8
5000-10000	158	48.3	84.1
More than 10000	52	15.9	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

#### 5: Working hour in a day

For doing street garment vending, how many hour they do work in a day is very important. At the time of survey it was found that most of the vendors (47.1%) do their vending more than 10 hours in a day. Only 10.1% work less than five hours in a day. From this we get an overview how hard work they do for their livelihood. The average no. of working hour was 9.65 hours in a day.

**Table-5: Working hour of vendors in a day**

Working hour in a day	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Less than 5	33	10.1	10.1
5-10	140	42.8	52.9
More Than 10	154	47.1	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

#### 6: Income in a day

Table 6 shows the daily sales of the vendors in Bangladeshi taka. Almost half (47.4%) of the respondents daily sales 5000-10000 taka.36.4% of them earns less than 5000 taka. The average sale of the vendors per day is 7062.385 taka.



**Table-6: Income in a day of vendors**

Daily sale (in taka)	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Less than 5000	119	36.4	36.4
5000-10000	155	47.4	83.8
More than 10000	53	16.2	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

### 7: Gender

At the survey period it was found that 93.3% of the vendors are male whereas only 6.7% respondents are female.

**Table-7: Gender of vendors**

Gender	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Male	305	93.3	93.3
Female	22	6.7	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

### 8: Marital Status

From table it was found that 78% of the vendors are married. 12.5% of the vendors are single and 7.6% of them are separated and 1.8% is widow.

**Table-8: Marital Status of vendors**

Marital Status	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Single	41	12.5	12.5
Married	255	78.0	90.5
Separated	25	7.6	98.2
Widow	6	1.8	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

### 9: Family Member

From the table it was found that 50.8% of the vendors have 4-6 family members. 37.3% of them have 1-3 family member and 11.9% vendors have 7-9 family members,

**Table-9: Family Member of vendors**

Family Member	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
1-3	122	37.3	37.3
4-6	166	50.8	88.1
7-9	39	11.9	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**10: Stay in Dhaka city**

42.8% of the respondents are stay in Dhaka city for 1-5 years.22.3% of the respondent are stay for 6-10 years. And 9.2% of them are stay in Dhaka city for 21 and more than 21years.

**Table-10: Stay in Dhaka city**

Stay in Dhaka city(In year)	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
1-5	140	42.8	42.8
6-10	73	22.3	65.1
11-15	55	16.8	82.0
16-20	29	8.9	90.8
21 and above	30	9.2	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**11: Another work**

At the survey period it was found that 50.8% of the vendors another work whereas 49.2% respondents do not have another work.

**Table-11: Another work of vendors**

Another work	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Yes	166	50.8	50.8
No	161	49.2	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**12: Shop ownership status**

At the survey period it was found that 94.5% of the vendors have their own shop and3.7% of the respondents do their vending by taking rent shop and 1.8% the vendors do their vending by sharing.

**Table-12: Shop ownership status of vendors**

Shop ownership status	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Own	309	94.5	94.5
Rent	12	3.7	98.2
Share	6	1.8	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**13: Shop Status**

61.8 % of the respondents have permanent vending shop and another 38.2% vendors do their vending seasonally.

**Table-13: Shop Status of vendors**

Shop Status	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Permanent	202	61.8	61.8
Seasonally	125	38.2	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**14: Business status**

It was found that 84.7% of the respondents have their own business. 3.7% of the respondents are labor of the vending shop. 1.8% is working for their son or daughter and 8.6% for their spouse.

**Table-14: Business status**

Business status	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Owner	277	84.7	84.7
Son or daughter	6	1.8	86.5
Spouse	28	8.6	95.1
Labor	12	3.7	98.8
Others	4	1.2	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**15: Vending status**

For vending business, open of the shop is important. From the table it was found that 76.5% of the vendors open their shop day and night. Only 11% open their shop on night and only 12.5% on day.

**Table-15: Vending status of vendors**

Vending status	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Day	41	12.5	12.5
Night	36	11.0	23.5
Day & night	250	76.5	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**16: Vending nature**

From the survey period it was found that 81.7% vendors are full time vendors and only 18.3% are doing vending as a part time job.

**Table-16: Vending nature of vendors**

Vending nature	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Full time	267	81.7	81.7
Part time	60	18.3	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**17: Vending location**

For vending the location is also very important for the vendors. 40.4% of the vendors do their vending at footpath and 26.9% of they are at sidewalk. And others are doing their vending in front of establishment, near to school, beside mosque, beside office, near restaurant and other places.

**Table-17: Vending location**

Vending location	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Footpath	132	40.4	40.4
Sidewalk	88	26.9	67.3
In front of establishment	18	5.5	72.8
Near of school	2	0.6	73.4
Beside mosque	2	0.6	74.0
Beside office	48	14.7	88.7
Near restaurant	35	10.7	99.4
Others	2	0.6	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**18: No. of days in a week doing vending**

From the table it was found that 82.3% of the vendors are doing their vending 7 days in a week. 6.7% of them doing vending 6 days and also 6.7% work for 5 days in a week.

**Table-18: No. of days in a week doing vending**

No. of days in a week	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
2.00	8	2.4	2.4
3.00	2	0.6	3.1
4.00	4	1.2	4.3
5.00	22	6.7	11.0
6.00	22	6.7	17.7
7.00	269	82.3	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**19: No. of Products sale in a day**

For increasing sales revenue it is important to sell more products. From the table it was shown that 30.9% of the vendors sell 100-200 products in a day. 23.2% of the respondents sell less than 100 products. Only 4.9% of the respondents sell more than 500 products.

**Table-19: No. of Products sale in a day**

No. of Products sale in a day	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Less than 100	76	23.2	23.2
100-200	101	30.9	54.1
200-300	62	19.0	73.1
300-400	47	14.4	87.5
400-500	25	7.6	95.1
More than 500	16	4.9	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**20: Highest selling time in a day**

Evening is the best period for doing vending business because from the survey it was found that 70.9% of the vendors are agreed. And 22.6% of the respondents are also said that afternoon the highest selling period in a day.

**Table-20: Highest selling time in the day**

Highest selling time in the day	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Afternoon	74	22.6	22.6
Evening	232	70.9	93.6
Night	21	6.4	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**21: Lowest selling time in the day**

68.8% of the respondents are agreed that noon is the lowest selling time in a day. Only 0.6% said that evening is the lowest selling time in a day.

**Table-21: Lowest selling time in the day**

Lowest selling time in the day	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Morning	63	19.3	19.3
Noon	225	68.8	88.1
Afternoon	8	2.4	90.5
Evening	2	0.6	91.1
Night	29	8.9	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**22: Rent Status**

From the table it was found that 48.9% of the vendors give rent for their vending shop and 51.1% of the vendors are not giving their rent for their vending. The average rent of the vendors is 70.66 taka and the minimum rent is 0 taka and the maximum rent is 1000 taka

**Table-22: Rent Status of vendors**

Rent Status	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Yes	160	48.9	48.9
No	167	51.1	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**23: Monthly Expense**

Monthly expenses for 58.4% of the respondents' are 1000-2000 Bangladeshi taka. 2.1% of the vendors' monthly expenses are more than 5000 taka.

**Table-23: Monthly expense of vendors**

Monthly Expense	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Less than 1000	51	15.6	15.6
1000-2000	191	58.4	74.0
2000-3000	55	16.8	90.8
3000-4000	15	4.6	95.4
4000-5000	7	2.1	97.6
More than 5000	8	2.4	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**24: Monthly Savings**

Table 24 represents the monthly savings status of the street garment vendors. 56.6% of the respondents' monthly savings is less than 500 taka. Only 5.8% respondents save monthly more than 2500 taka. The average monthly savings is 1067.89 Taka with standard deviation 1623.33 Taka.

**Table-24: Monthly savings of vendors**

Monthly Savings	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
00.00	96	29.4	29.4
00-500	89	27.2	56.6
500-1000	21	6.4	63.0
1000-1500	59	18.0	81.0
1500-2000	31	9.5	90.5
2000-2500	12	3.7	94.2
Above 2500	19	5.8	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**25: Harassment Status**

31.8% of the respondents said that they are harassed by police, local leader etc. but 68.2% agreed that they do not harass by any one. This is a good sign for the community.

**Table-25: Harassment Status of vendors**

Harassment	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Yes	104	31.8	31.8
No	223	68.2	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**26: Effect of bad weather**

From the table it was found that 71.6% of the vendors agreed that bad weather affect their vending business, although only 28.4% said that bad weather does not affect their business.

**Table-26: Effect of bad weather**

Effect of bad weather	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Yes	234	71.6	71.6
No	93	28.4	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**27: Feeling lack of security**

65.1% of the respondents said they do not feel any lack of security for doing their business. But 34.9% of the respondents agreed that they feel lack of security.

**Table-27: Feeling lack of security**

Feeling lack of security	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Yes	114	34.9	34.9
No	213	65.1	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**28: Only earning member**

From the table it was found that only 31.2% said they are the only earning members of their family. But 68.8% of the respondents said that they are not only earning members of their family.

**Table-28: Only earning member**

Only earning member	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Yes	102	31.2	31.2
No	225	68.8	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**29: Have another source of income**

From the table it was found that 73.7% of the respondents do not have any other income source. Only 26.3% of the respondents have another income source.

**Table-29: Have another source of income of vendors**

Another source of income	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Yes	86	26.3	26.3
No	241	73.7	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**30: Housing status**

From table 30 it was found than 71% of the respondents have house of tin and brick but 21.1% respondents have house of slum in different dwells of the Dhaka city. Only 2.4% of the respondents have house of wood.

**Table-30: Housing status of vendors**

Housing status	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Slum	69	21.1	21.1
Mud	18	5.5	26.6
Wood	8	2.4	29.1
Tin	116	35.5	64.5
Brick	116	35.5	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**31: Drinking water status**

From the table it was found that 69.1% of the respondents do not get pure water (that means their water collection arrangement is not so well. they save water from the various leak sources of WASA or occasionally from another's residence daily). Again 4.9% does not get sufficient water. Only 26% said that they get pure water for their livelihood.

**Table-31: Drinking water status of vendors**

Drinking water status	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Get pure	85	26.0	26.0
Not get pure	226	69.1	95.1
Don't get water	16	4.9	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**32: Sanitation Status**

72.2% of the respondents have moderate sanitation system. But 18% do not have proper hygienic sanitation system. And only 9.8% of the respondents have hygienic system.

**Table-32: Sanitation status of vendors**

Sanitation Status	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Hygienic	32	9.8	9.8
Moderate	236	72.2	82.0
Not hygienic	59	18.0	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**33: Treatment Status**

Treatment status for the respondents of 83.8% is not well but only 16.2% of the respondents have good treatment arrangement.

**Table-33: Treatment status of vendors**

Treatment Status	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Well	53	16.2	16.2
Not well	274	83.8	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection



**34: Status of electricity use**

From the table it was found that 60.9% of the respondents do not use electricity but only 39.1% of the respondents use electricity.

**Table-34: Status of electricity use of vendors**

Status of electricity use	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Use	128	39.1	39.1
Not use	199	60.9	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**35: Is vending enjoyable**

The question was-'Is vending enjoyable?' 77.4% of the respondents agreed that vending is an enjoyable job for them. Only 22.6% of the respondents said that they do not enjoy the vending job.

**Table-35: Does vending enjoyable**

Does vending enjoyable	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Yes	253	77.4	77.4
No	74	22.6	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**36: Satisfaction Status**

From the table it was found that 74% of the respondents are satisfied with their vending job but 26% of the respondents are not satisfied with their vending.

**Table-36: Satisfaction Status of vendors**

Satisfaction Status	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Yes	242	74.0	74.0
No	85	26.0	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

**37: Social Acceptance**

Table 37 represents the status of social acceptance of the street garment vendors. It was found that 90.2% are not agree that they are not socially accepted but only 9.8% responses they are socially accepted by the society.

**Table-37: Social acceptance of vendors**

Social Acceptance	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
No	295	90.2	90.2
Yes	32	9.8	100.0
Total	327	100.0	

Source(s): Authors' Collection

## Conclusion

Street garment vendors are contributing to the local community economy along with total economy. This informal sector contributes to our national economy by selling garment products and adding value to the self-employment and independent enterprise. At the time of survey, the researcher found that street garment vendors are selling the wasted or defected branded or non-branded garments accessories and products from various reputed and non-reputed garments factories or companies. The street garment vendors' gather and sell the products from several garments factories and companies and also repair them if necessary. In this way they add significance to the rejected or wasted garment goods and products and convert the rejected products of wastes to a usable form as well as valuable goods or services. Purchasing these types of garments products general people gain a monetary benefit as they obtain the branded garment products and goods at less cost compared with the showroom's actual price. Another contribution of the street garments vendors to the economy is their deposits and savings. By depositing their small income they contribute to the total investment of the country.

The researchers found that the monthly average savings for a street garment vendor is 1067.89 Bangladeshi Taka. Although they contribute significantly to our national economy, but their condition is really very low. Only 26% of these vendors have access for pure drinking water and only 9.8% have proper hygienic sanitation and 84% don't get proper treatment. More than 23% of them have no education at all. Almost 50% of the vendors work 10 or more hours for their better livelihood. It is hard working job for them although they enjoy the job. The study revealed that more than 60% of the respondents have family member of more than 4 members. Several respondents said that it is difficult to bear the expenditure for all members doing this type work. That affects their children education. For meeting expenditure they bring their children for this work. Almost 50% of the respondents do another work after doing vending for their better life. And 82% of the vendors do their work 7 days in a week. That hampers their social life. Again 32% of the respondents' complain that they are harassed by various authorities for doing their business and 35% of the respondents feel lack of security. Although 77% of the respondents enjoy their work and 74% of the respondents are satisfied with their vending job but 90% of the respondents feel they are not socially accepted.

The street garment vendors play an important role in Dhaka city. They directly or indirectly create abundant jobs and opportunities and attract a great proportion of the unemployed labors. This paper aims to review the existing literature of informal sector of Bangladesh and tries to find out the information which are not recorded, ignored, and unrecognized and also explore the importance and significance of such informal work for the development of economy of Bangladesh. Since those people contribute and supply products to urban customers, provide products and goods as distributors, create jobs and offer services for general public, a proper assessment and importance is very much needed in this informal sector for the development of Bangladesh economy. That's why the governmental authorities and other organizations and also NGOs need full concentration for street garments vendors and exploit necessary services and facilities for improving their better livelihood. And Bangladesh government needs to give full attention for the growth of these informal activities. And proper guidance of this area and suitable support should notably improve their working or vending performance in the vending business as well as the economy of the country.

## Recommendations

Street garment vending is an informal sector of business in Bangladesh.

For developing country like Bangladesh, street garment vending is playing a very crucial role. That's why Bangladesh Government should implement appropriate policies to expand and develop this informal sector and to improve the socio-economic conditions and status and the living status of the street garment vendors. For that reason, this study suggests the following recommendations to develop and upgrade informal sector like the garments vending business and to take proper policies for upgrading the socio-economic status of the street garments vendors: The following recommendations may be given due consideration.

- Proper planning should be integrated in the orientation of the needs and regulations of the street garments vending.
- Natural and proper wide area should be selected for markets gathering where customers and vendors have interacted for a long duration.
- Government can form vendors and hawkers association for expressing their needs, problems and civil rights.
- Government can take initiative for providing interest free house loan facility for these people and may also help them to build up hygienic toilet and can ensure the appropriate drainage system for their living region.
- Government can ensure the supply of pure drinking water by setting up of proper water treatment plant.
- For free medical treatment government can ensure the charitable dispensaries for the vendors.
- Government can provide mass education program for improvement of the educational status.
- Government can take initiative to create an awareness for the vendors about their children's education and may provide extra facilities such as free book, scholarship, Tiffin, lunch for the children.
- Government can take initiative comprehensively for changing the attitude of general people to these hard working vendors.

## References

- [1] Achakpa, P., & Radović-Marković, M. (2018). Employment women through entrepreneurship development and education in developing countries. *Journal of Women's Entrepreneurship and Education*, (1/2), 17-30.
- [2] Adhikari, D. B. (2011). Income generation in informal sector: A case study of the street vendors of Kathmandu Metropolitan City. *Economic Journal of Development Issues*, 1-14.
- [3] Adhikari, D. B. (2017). Informal Street food trade: A source of income generation in urban Nepal. *Economic Journal of Development Issues*, 1-17.
- [4] Akharuzzaman, M., & Deguchi, A. (2010, September). Public management for street vendor problems in Dhaka city, Bangladesh. In *Proceedings of the International Conference on Environmental Aspects of Bangladesh*.
- [5] Andringa, H., & Kiès, R. (1989). Street Food Hawkers in South-East Asia. Agricultural University Wageningen.
- [6] Anjaria, J. S. (2006). Street hawkers and public space in Mumbai. *Economic and political weekly*, 2140-2146.

- [7] Asiedu, A. B., & Agyei-Mensah, S. (2008). Traders on the run: Activities of street vendors in the Accra Metropolitan Area, Ghana. *Norsk Geografisk Tidsskrift-Norwegian Journal of Geography*, 62(3), 191-202.
- [8] Bayat, A. (1997). *Street politics: poor people's movements in Iran*. Columbia University Press.
- [9] Bhowmik, S. (2003, December). Urban responses to street trading: India. In *Urban Research Symposium on Urban Development for Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction, World Bank, Washington, DC*.
- [10] Bhowmik, S. (2012). *Street vendors in the global urban economy*. Taylor & Francis.
- [11] Bhowmik, S. K. (2003). National Policy for Street Vendors. *Economic and Political Weekly*, 38 (16), pp. 1543-1546
- [12] Bhowmik, S. K. (2005). Street vendors in Asia: A review. *Economic and political weekly*, 2256-2264.
- [13] Bhowmik, S. K. (2012). Street vendors in Asia: Survey of research. In *Street vendors in the global urban economy* (pp. 42-67). Routledge India.
- [14] Bromley, R. (2000). Street vending and public policy: A global review. *International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy*.
- [15] Bromley, R. D. (1998). Informal commerce: Expansion and exclusion in the historic centre of the Latin American city. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 22(2), 245-26.
- [16] Charmes, J. (1998). Street vendors in Africa: data and methods. *New York: United Nations Statistical Division*.
- [17] Chauke, P. K., Munzhelele, R., & Maiwashe, A. (2015). Some factors impacting on streetsellers' ability to generate above poverty line income in Vhembe District, South Africa: Logistic regression approach. *Journal of Social Sciences*, 44(1), 8-14.
- [18] Chingono, M. (2016). Women, the informal economy and the state in Lesotho. *Journal of Gender and Power*, 51.
- [19] Elwood, S. A., & Martin, D. G. (2000). "Placing" interviews: location and scales of power in qualitative research. *The professional geographer*, 52(4), 649-657.
- [20] Falahat, M., Tehseen, S., & Van Horne, C. (2018). ENTREPRENEURIAL INNOVATIVENESS AND ITS IMPACT ON SMES'PERFORMANCES. *International Journal of Entrepreneurship*, 22(3), 1-9.
- [21] Faruque, Q., Haque, Q. F., Shekhar, H. U., & Begum, S. (2010). Institutionalization of healthy street food system in Bangladesh: a pilot study with three wards of Dhaka city Corporation as a model. *National Food Policy Capacity Strengthening Programme (NFPCSP)*.
- [22] Feng, C. L., & Wu, C. T. (2016). LITERARY OVERVIEW OF NIGHT MARKET STUDIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA: LOCAL TOURISTS' SELECTION CRITERIA FOR NIGHT MARKET VISITATION IN TAIWAN. *International Journal of Organizational Innovation (Online)*, 9(2), 105.
- [23] Gay, L. R. (1996). *Educational Research: Competencies for Analysis and Application*, Beverly Hill, CA: Sage Publications, pp. 57-60.
- [24] Hasan, M., & Alam, J. (2015). Street Garment Vendors' Contribution to the Economy and Local Community: An Empirical Study to the Street Garments Vendors in Dhaka City, Bangladesh. *International Journal of Management and Business Research*, 5(2), 129-139.
- [25] Hays-Mitchell, M. (1994). Streetvending in Peruvian Cities: The Spatio-Temporal Behavior of Ambulantes. *The Professional Geographer*, 46(4), 425-438.
- [26] Husain, S., Yasmin, S., & Islam, M. S. (2015). Assessment of the Socioeconomic Aspects of Street Vendors in Dhaka City: Evidence from Bangladesh. *Asian Social Science*, 11(26), 1.

- [27] Indira, D. (2014). A study on the organizing of street hawking business. *International Journal of Management and Commerce Innovations*, 2(1), 280-288.
- [28] Islam, M. S., Hasan, D. B., & Hasan, K. R. (2019). DIFFICULTIES FACED BY STREET VENDORS: A STUDY ON STREET GARMENTS VENDORS IN DHAKA CITY.
- [29] Iyenda, G. (2005). Street enterprises, urban livelihoods and poverty in Kinshasa. *Environment and Urbanization*, 17(2), 55-67.
- [30] Jaishankar, V., & Sujatha, L. (2016). A Study on Problems Faced by the Street Vendors in Tiruchirappalli City. *SSRG International Journal of Economics and Management Studies*, 3(9), 42-45.
- [31] Jones, Y. V. (1988). Street peddlers as entrepreneurs: economic adaptation to an urban area. *Urban Anthropology and Studies of Cultural Systems and World Economic Development*, 143-170.
- [32] Khanam, M. (2008). Gender inequality: the earning gap between men and women street vendors in Dhaka city. *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh (Humanities)*, 53(2), 287-303.
- [33] Kim, A. M. (2016). A History of Messiness: Order and Resilience on the Sidewalks of Ho Chi Minh City. *Messy Urbanism: Understanding the "Other" Cities of Asia*, 22-39.
- [34] Lucan, S. C., Varona, M., Maroko, A. R., Bumol, J., Torrens, L., & Wylie-Rosett, J. (2013). Assessing mobile food vendors (aka street food vendors)—methods, challenges, and lessons learned for future food-environment research. *Public health*, 127(8), 766-776.
- [35] Mazhambe, A. (2017). Assessment of the contribution of street vending to the zimbabwe economy. A case of street vendors in Harare CBD. *IOSR Journal of Business and Management (IOSR-JBM)*, 19(9), 91-100.
- [36] McGee, T. G. (1971). *The Urbanization Process in the Third World*. London: Bell and Sons.
- [37] Mkhize, S., Dube, G., & Skinner, C. (2013). IEMSI Informal Economy. *Street vendors in Durban, South Africa*.
- [38] Mramba, N. R. (2015). The conception of street vending business (SVB) in income poverty reduction in Tanzania.
- [39] Muiruri, P. (2010). *Women street vendors in Nairobi, Kenya: A situational and policy analysis within a human rights framework*. African Books Collective.
- [40] Muzaffar, A. T. and Huq, I. (2009). Entrepreneurs of the Streets: An Analytical Work on the Street Food Vendors of Dhaka City. *International Journal of Business and Management*, 4 (2), pp. 63-78.
- [41] Muzaffar, A. T., Huq, I., & Mallik, B. A. (2009). Entrepreneurs of the streets: An analytical work on the street food vendors of Dhaka City. *International journal of Business and Management*, 4(2), 80-88.
- [42] Nirathron, N. (2006). *Fighting poverty from the street: A survey of street food vendors in Bangkok*. ILO.
- [43] Njaya, T. (2014). Operation of street food vendors and their impact on sustainable urban life in high-density suburbs of Harare, in Zimbabwe. *Asian Journal of economic Modeling*. 2(1): 18-31.
- [44] National policy on urban street vendors (NPUSV). 2006. Retrieved from <http://nceuis.nic.in/Street%20Vendors%20policy.pdf>, March 2010.
- [45] Onyango, J., Olima, W., & Onyango, L. (2012). Dynamics of street vending phenomenon in the Kisumu Municipality, Kenya. *International Journal of Arts and commerce*, 1(4), 107-120.
- [46] Peña, S. (1999). Informal markets: street vendors in Mexico City. *Habitat International*, 23(3), 363-372.
- [47] Rahman, M. S., Haque, M. M., Khan, A. H., & Murtaza, M. (2013). Ethics in Business: Practices by the Street Hawkers'. *Journal of Management Research*, 5(1), 80.
- [48] Rashid, H., Hunt, L. M., & Haider, W. (2007). Urban flood problems in Dhaka, Bangladesh: slum residents' choices for relocation to flood-free areas. *Environmental Management*, 40(1), 95-104.

- [49] Roever, S. (2010). Street trade in Latin America: demographic trends, legal issues, and vending organizations in six cities. *Street vendors in the global urban economy*, 208-40.
- [50] Rover, S. (2012). Livelihood profile: Street vendors. *AAPS Planning Education Toolkit: The Informal Economy*. Association of African Planning Schools, 1-8.
- [51] Roy, S. K., & Ahmed, J. (2016). A Relational Study of Communication, Reputation and Cooperation on Relationship Satisfaction in the Context of Apparel Sector in Bangladesh. *British Open Journal of Business Administration*, 1, 1-10.
- [52] Saha D. (2011). Working Life of Street Vendors in Mumbai. *The Indian Journal of Labour Economics*, 54 (2), pp. 301-325.
- [53] Sarker, M. N. I., Rahman, M. Z., Cao, Q., & Xu, Z. (2019). Impact of small entrepreneurship on poverty alleviation and sustainable livelihood of street vendors. *International Journal of Innovation and Applied Studies*, 25(4), 1241-1254.
- [54] Sarpong, S., & Nabubie, I. B. (2015). Nuisance or discerning? The social construction of street hawkers in Ghana. *Society and Business Review*.
- [55] Shabbir, M. S., Shariff, M. N. M., Salman, R., & Shabbir, M. F. (2017). Exploring the link between entrepreneurial skills and entrepreneurial intentions: Proposing a hypothesized model for future research. *Paradigms*, 11(1), 72.
- [56] Steel, G. (2012). Whose paradise? Itinerant street vendors' individual and collective practices of political agency in the tourist streets of Cusco, Peru. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 36(5), 1007-1021.
- [57] Suraiya, S., & Noor, F. (2012). An Analysis of Socioeconomic Conditions of Street Vendors: A Study on Dhaka City.
- [58] Warakagoda, I. (2013). *Street Vendors in South Asia: A Double Bind in the Urban Setting (Analysis of Vulnerabilities and Impact on Asset Portfolio)*. Working Paper 05-May-13 Asian University for Women.
- [59] WIEGO (2013). Policy Recommendations, Informal Economy Monitoring Study - Accra's Street and Market Vendors: Realities and Recommendations. *Informal Economy Monitoring Study (IEMS)*
- [60] Wongtada, N. (2014). Street vending phenomena: A literature review and research agenda. *Thunderbird International Business Review*, 56(1), 55-75.
- [61] Yatmo, Y. A. (2009). Perception of street vendors as 'out of place' urban elements at day time and night time. *Journal of environmental psychology*, 29(4), 467-4



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).