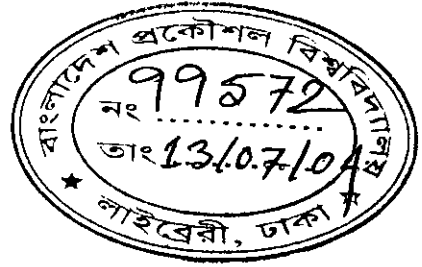


Impact of Food Aided Development Programmes on Rural Poverty Reduction in Bangladesh

by



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Submitted to the Department of Urban and Regional Planning in
Partial Fulfilment of the Requirement for the Degree of Master of
Urban and Regional Planning

**Department of Urban and Regional Planning Bangladesh
University of Engineering and Technology**

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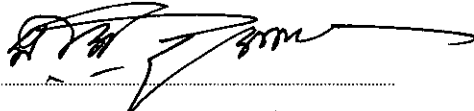
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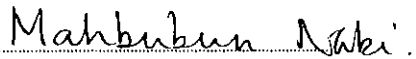
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DECLARATION

It is hereby declared that this thesis or any part of it has not been submitted elsewhere for the award of any degree or diploma.



(Md. Shamsul Alam)

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The present report has been prepared as a partial requirement of degree of masters in the department of urban and regional planning under the University of Engineering and Technology (BUET). The report is based on field survey conducted by the author.

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Impact of Food Aided Development Programmes on Rural Poverty Reduction in Bangladesh.

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ABSTRACT

In Bangladesh, poverty is a great challenge for development. About one half of the population still live below the poverty line. Though the situation is improving gradually yet the pace of improvement is slow. Government, NGOs and Development partners are implementing a series of programmes for poverty alleviation. Government has been preparing a policy document entitled Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) for reducing the poverty within shortest possible time. The Target of the PRSP is to reduce the poverty 50% by the year 2015. The interim PRSP in the name "A National Strategy for Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction" has recently been released where a number of targets have been set to improve the quality of life.

The priority policy that has been adopted for poverty reduction is social safety nets for the poor through income transfer programmes like FFW, VGD, old age pension, support to female destitute and traditional relief programmes.

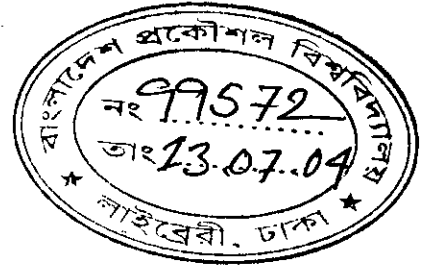
The survey conducted by the author on food aided programmes indicated that the food aid to the hard core and ultra poor helps in reducing their poverty status. The food aids provided to them have direct bearing on their human development indicators like literacy, level of education, nutrition etc.

The findings of the field survey indicated that there exists leakage in the food aided programmes and the labourers were indifferent about this issue. This speaks of the voicelessness of the poor community which need to be improved for the improvement of the poor. The skill training programme under the VGD programme is not materialized fully which is essential for developing their skill. Nearly one third of the VGD beneficiaries reported that they did get their wheat as per government allocation. It is encouraging that the VGD cardholders have practiced saving behaviour among them. More than three-fourth of the cardholders have deposited some amount in the VGD saving fund. This fund worked as a revolving fund for their loan. A number of women under VGD programme also participated in the social welfare associations which is praise worthy. This is a positive contribution towards creating social awareness of the destitute women.

The food assisted development programmes can further be improved with some modification in implementation process. On the basis of the feedbacks received from the programme participants and also from the experience of the studies a number of recommendations have been made which could improve the programmes towards more poverty reduction impacts.

CHAPTER-1

INTRODUCTION



The concept of "Poverty" relates to socially perceived deprivation with respect to basic minimum needs. Poverty refers to forms of economic, social and psychological deprivation occurring among people or countries lacking sufficient ownership, control or access to resources to maintain or provide individual or collective minimum level of living. It is a condition where countries, families and/or individuals lack adequate access to or control of processes of resources accumulation and distribution. As a result, the ability to provide for minimum nutrition, health, shelter, education, security, leisure or other aspects of life is impaired (Rural Poverty in Bangladesh: 1990 Like Minded Group).

The above definition of poverty refers to absolute poverty, however, the definition of relative poverty is quite difficult and differs from country to country and area to area. Therefore, we should concentrate our endeavour on study of absolute poverty only.

1.1 Background of the study

In the context of Bangladesh the study of poverty is extremely important because nearly one half of the population of Bangladesh live below the poverty line. According to the latest household income and expenditure survey the percentage of population below poverty line was 42.3% in rural area and 52.5% in the urban area (BBS, December 2001).

It may be mentioned that the overriding goal of the government of Bangladesh is to alleviate poverty within shortest possible time. Government, NGOs and donors are working hard to achieve the objective of poverty alleviation. However, the pace of improvement in this area is slow. The incidence of poverty in 1995-96 was 47.5% and it reduced to 44.3% in 2000 (BBS, December 2001). Therefore, poverty remains the greatest challenge towards development and improvement of the quality of life.

In the development interventions for poverty alleviation, food aided development programmes are very important component particularly in rural Bangladesh. In the present study an attempt has been made to identify the impact of these food aided programmes on the rural poverty reduction in general and to the beneficiaries in particular.

1.2 Objectives of the study

The main objectives of the study are as follows:

- (i) To identify the food aided development activities being operated in Bangladesh.
- (ii) To study the poverty reduction strategy through different food aided development programmes being implemented by government and non-government organizations in Bangladesh.
- (iii) To study the types of beneficiaries served and the impact of the programmes over the socio-economic condition of the beneficiary.
- (iv) To suggest policies for further re-structuring the programmes towards the more effective contribution to poverty reduction.

1.3 Possible Outcome

The study will help in understanding the various impacts of the food aided programmes on the beneficiaries towards reduction of poverty. The analytical report to be prepared on the basis of the survey data will be very useful to prescribe policy measures for better implementation of the food programmes of the government and NGOs.

1.4 Methodology of the Study

(a) Literature survey

An exhaustive literature survey will be carried out to understand the problem and to find out the methods adopted in other studies to address the problem.

(b) Secondary data

Secondary data will be collected from various organizations involved in implementation and management of food-aided development programmes. Data will also be collected from other organization involved in data collection and analysis pertaining to different sectors of the economy.

(c) Collection of primary data

Primary data will be collected from randomly selected six unions from six administrative divisions of the country. From these selected unions 120 beneficiary households of food aided programmes and 120 non beneficiary households who are outside the programme will be selected for detailed interview.

(d) Questionnaire Survey

Two sets of questionnaire will be prepared and canvassed among (i) beneficiaries (ii) non beneficiaries. The content of the questionnaire will be as follows:

Household and housing characteristics

- average size of household
- household by number of members
- per household floor space
- type of housing structure
- sources of drinking water

- sources of water for cooking
- sources of fuel and lighting
- excreta disposal facility

Ownership of assets

- land
- livestock and poultry
- agriculture equipment
- fishing equipment
- furniture
- household appliances
- household transport
- personnel affects
- bedding
- kitchen equipment
- ornaments
- other economic assets

Demographic Characteristics

- age
- sex
- marital status
- age at first marriage
- relationship with head of household

Socio-economic Characteristics

- literacy
- level of education
- economic status
- occupation
- income by sources
- expenditure by major items of expenditure

Participation in the food-aided programmes

- duration in the programme
- type of work
- working environment
- daily wage rate
- total amount received in cash and kind from the programme
- leakage in the programme as revealed by the participant
- impact of the programme
- skill training received from the programme
- saving behavior of the participant
- participation in social welfare activities
- suggested measure for further improvement

(e) Data Analysis

Data will be analysed using the statistical tools.

CHAPTER-2

POVERTY ALLEVIATION PROGRAMMES IN BANGLADESH AND RATIONALE OF THE PRESENT STUDY

Overall economic development including higher growth rate is essential for poverty alleviation. It calls for programmes that creates employment opportunities with increasing per capita income and saving so that poverty is reduced and sustainable development is achieved for the poor. As a result economic base will be created and their standard of living improved through development of social sectors. Government and NGOs have programmes for employment generation, increasing income and development of the poor.

At the government level, different ministries and agencies implementing programmes e.g, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Social Welfare, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB), Department of Local Government Engineering, Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation are devoted for poverty alleviation.

2.1 Special Programmes

Three specific programmes were included from 1997-98 on poverty alleviation. In addition to normal allocation in other sector, these programmes will contribute towards alleviation of poverty. These programmes are I) allowance for the poor aged people II) creation of a housing fund for credit support and grant to the shelter less poor III) establishment of an employment bank for the unemployed youths.

Old age allowance is being provided to 10 oldest poor people (5 women) from each ward of every union of the country benefiting about 4 lakh people of this category. A housing fund has been created for the shelterless people who have become homeless due to river erosion. An amount of Tk 88.10 core has been allocated to this fund upto May 2001.

Of these amounts Tk 76.10 core were loan and Tk 12.0 core were grant. Under this programme 33050 housing units were constructed and 1 lakh 65 thousand people were benefited. Under the employment bank programme an amount of Tk 25.32 cores were distributed and 8153 persons were benefited. The major fields of employment bank were handloom, rearing of livestock and poultry.

2.1.1 Rural Infrastructure Development Programme

Local Government Engineering Department (LGED):

This department under the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operative has been implementing various employment generating infrastructure development project in rural areas especially, roads, growth centres, embankments etc. During 1990-91 through 1998-99 about 67.92 crore labour days of employment has been created under these programmes. Rural Maintenance Programme (RMP) with food assistance makes useful contribution in poverty alleviation. The programme seeks to create employment through engaging assetless rural women in maintenance of roads under union parisads and at the same time organizing and assisting rural women in income generating activities out of their savings. RMP is being implemented in 4100 unions and 435 upazilas in 61 districts and 82000 km rural roads are being maintained under the programme (Annual Economic Survey 2001).

Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB):

Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB) has been operating rural development especially poverty alleviation programmes through countrywide co-operative and nonformal group network with financial and technical support of Bangladesh government and development partners. BRDB target group include small farmers, assetless women and men. The credit and training programme also include family planning, health and education programmes. During 1990-91 through 2000-2001 an amount of 1710.30 cores were distributed as credit to 13.44 lakhs members through 51003 sammittes under the programme. (Annual Economic Survey, 2001).

2.1.2 Rural Poverty Alleviation Foundation

This foundation was formed with the assetless central co-operative societies in 139 upazilas of rural development project 12 in April 30, 2000. The objectives of this foundation are to develop the socio-economic condition of the poor and destitute people of rural Bangladesh and to develop gender equality.

Bangladesh Rural Development Academy (BARD):

BARD comilla has been implementing projects for poverty alleviation in some selected districts of the country. Under the project, small farmers, landless labourers and poor women are being organised into nonformal groups and imparted skill development training, credit support for increasing income and develop capital base. They have distributed loan worth Tk 60.03 core among 68342 members since December 2000. BARD Bogra also implementing similar programmes.

2.1.3 NGO Activities

A number of NGOs are working in the field of poverty alleviation. The programmes of NGOs include credit delivery, nonformal education, primary health care, adult literacy, legal counseling about women rights etc. The activities of some notable NGOs have been narrated below.

Bangladesh Rural Advance Committee (BRAC):

Established in 1972 primarily for relief operation, BRAC is now involved in multidimensional activities. The major activities of BRAC are credit distribution, nonformal education for children and adults, primary health care etc. Since December 2000 BRAC has provided loan to 37.37 lakh beneficiaries in 460 thanas in 64 districts of the country amounting Tk 5432 core. The recovery rate of loan under BRAC is 98.31% (Annual Economic Survey, 2001).

ASA:

ASA is implementing micro-credit programme from 1992. The amount of loan distributed since December 2000 was Tk 2203.12 core among 12.05 lakh beneficiaries (percentage of females 94%).

PROSHIKA

Established in 1976 this organisation is implementing multidimensional programmes. The activities of PROSHIKA include credit distribution, development of fisheries and livestock, development of sericulture, irrigation, health and nutrition, sinking of tube wells, environment friendly agriculture, social forestry and housing. Since December 2000 this organisation provided service to 21.51 lakh male/females in 18,898 villages and 1575 slums and distributed loans amounting Tk 1619.46 core. The recovery rate being 94.80%.

SWNIRVAR BANGLADESH:

Established in 1975 this organisation in implementing family planning and mother-child health care with credit delivery. It has extended its programme to 11, 281 villages of the country in 168 upazilas. Since December 2000 it has distributed loan amounting Tk 217.15 crore among 2.02 lakhs beneficiaries (73% females). The recovery rate of loan is 88.17%.

GRAMEEN BANK (GB):

The activity of GB started in 1976 on experimental basis and established as a bank in 1983 under an ordinance. GB is working to organise the poor and assetless people,, provide, them loan for income generation and asset accumulation. Upto December 2000 GB has distributed 13686.19 crore Taka among 23.78 lakh member (female 95%) in 40225 villages through its 1160 branches. In addition to income and employment generation GB also provide assistance to poor for house building.

PALLY KARMA SAHAYAK FOUNDATION:

Established in 1990 PKSF through the partner NGOs has been providing small loans to the target groups (land ownership upto 0.50 acre and assetless people). The credit programme covers paddy husking, cane work, cow fattening, poultry rearing, rickshaw and van purchase, small business etc. Upto December 2000 it has distributed 768.44 crore Taka to 21.92 lakh beneficiaries (females 90%) in 58 districts through its 178 partner organisations. The recovery rate is 98.14%.

2.1.4 Food Aided Development Programmes

Food is the main basic human need. Nutrition status of the individual depends on food. It is observed from different survey funding that hard core poor of the country is deprived of required food and nutrient intake. To save them from hunger and starvation and to create productive employment for them government has been implementing food aided development programmes since independence of the country. Among these programmes Food for Works (FFW) and Vulnerable Group Development (VGD) programme is notable.

Food for works is a food assisted development programme generally implemented by the local government institutions like union praisad, pourashavas and agencies like Water Development Board (WDB), Department of Forest (DOF) and Department of Fisheries (DOF) etc. The works done under FFW programme are mainly construction and reconstruction of local link roads, construction and repair of embankments, digging of canals and ponds, re-excavation of rivers, earth filling in the fields of educational institutions etc. The persons engaged in these projects are mainly landless and marginal farmers who generally work as day labourers. It may be mentioned that FFW programmes are generally implemented in the lean period to absorb the surplus labourers of the rural areas. The works under the projects of FFW start between November-December and continuous upto April-May. This period is particularly the lean period for rural agricultural labourers because they become unemployed in this post harvesting period. The other objectives of this programme are to raise the nutritional status of the poor and to keep the price of the food grain stable.

Vulnerable group Development (VGD) programme is a multidimensional food aided programme for the destitute women. This programme is quite different from FFW. Under this programme the distressed women are provided with food assistance. The enlisted women are supposed to receive training in different disciplines under the auspices of the union praised and other NGOs. The training are given in different disciplines like rearing of livestock and poultry, sewing, knitting, bamboo and cane work. The objective of the VGD programme is to make the distressed women self reliant through skill training to alleviate poverty of these disadvantaged women.

2.2 Rationale of the Study on Food Aided Programmes

As mentioned earlier food aided programmes are operated in the country to alleviate poverty of the rural poor. Under these programmes food is supplied to the poor to raise their nutritional status. In return, under FFW programme rural infrastructures are built and under VGD programme skill training are given to destitute women in different disciplines to male them self reliant. Thus these programme play vital role in poverty reduction of the rural poor. The impact of these programmes on the beneficiaries need to be assessed through field survey. Therefore, under the present study field survey has been conducted on beneficiaries as well as nonbeneficiaries. Nonbeneficiaries are those who are outside the preview of the food aided programmes.

CHAPTER- 3

LITERATURE REVIEW

Some studies were conducted in Bangladesh to evaluate the impact of food aided development programmes in Bangladesh. These studies were conducted by Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, World Food Programme, World Bank, etc. The key findings of these surveys are summarized below

3.1 Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (1991)

The Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics conducted Survey on Food for Work (FFW) to evaluate the impact of the FFW programme on different demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the beneficiaries, to study the loopholes in implementation of the FFW programme (BBS, Sept, 1994).

The survey on FFW covered 3840 households taking 1920 from each of the beneficiaries and nonbeneficiaries. The survey findings indicated that the beneficiaries of the FFW programme were the most poor and disadvantaged group of people of the country. Their housing condition and utility services were very poor. Their literacy and level of education were also very low. The literacy rate of beneficiary was only 13.2% and that of nonbeneficiary was only 12.0%. The percentage of population having SSC or above level of education was less than 0.5% in case of both beneficiary and nonbeneficiary. It was observed from the findings that among the beneficiary population about 65% were agricultural labourer and for the nonbeneficiary 62% were agricultural labourer. The average monthly income of the beneficiary was TK 1067 as against TK 1024 monthly expenditure. On the otherhand, the monthly income of the nonbeneficiary was TK 983 as against monthly expenditure of TK 967. The average food intake for the beneficiary household was observed 756 grams as against 709 grams for the nonbeneficiary. The average calorie intake for beneficiary households was observed 1884 k.cal as against 1827 k.cal for nonbeneficiary.

Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics also conducted survey on Vulnerable Group Development (VGD). It may be noted that the VGD programme is a targeted food

assisted programme to provide food and development services to the most vulnerable segment of rural women. A large number of destitute women are included in the programme each year. The survey on VGD also covered 1920 beneficiary and the same number of nonbeneficiary households as in the FFW programme.

It was observed from the survey that the housing condition and the housing facilities were very poor. The socio-economic condition of the VGD beneficiaries and nonbeneficiaries in terms of literacy, level of education, activity rate and occupation indicate that literacy and level of education was very much low among these disadvantaged groups. The average monthly income and expenditure of these two groups indicate miserable condition of their economic condition, however, the conditions of beneficiaries were a bit better than the nonbeneficiaries.

The household consumption pattern showed that per capita per day intake of calorie of these two groups is much lower than the national level. However, the position of beneficiaries was comparatively better than those of nonbeneficiaries. This may be termed as the positive impact of the VGD programme beneficiaries in on their nutritional attainment.

3.2 World Food Programme (WFP)

The world food programme study on VGD (1992/94 cycle) indicated that the impact of the programme was positive. The successful targeting of the poorest women could help them in their development. It was revealed from the study that participation in VGD programme assisted women in increasing their monthly income. Women in all types of VGD programme earned more than what they earned at the beginning of the programme (WFP, 1997). The study indicated that significant increase had occurred in the percentage of women making purchases with their own money. Girls from VGD project households were going to school in greater numbers than before. Almost the same percentage of female students were going to school as male students in VGD programme operated by some NGOs.

The WFP study points to the general success of the VGD project is targeting the poorest women and increasing women's income. The other important finding was that women seem to be sustaining such income increase ever two years after the end of the project. Thus the programme could reduce the poverty of the poor segment of rural women.

3.3 Safety Net: Empowering the poorest in Bangladesh (WB 1996)

It is estimated that about half of all Bangladeshi households cannot afford an adequate diet. Nearly 93 percent of the children under five suffers from some form of malnutrition. Rapid economic growth that gives the poor households employment and incomes is the ultimate solution of food insecurity. Until that is achieved, sound macro-economic and agricultural policies and safety nets that transfer food to the poorest are needed. The three major public sector food safety net programmes Food for Works, Vulnerable Group Development and Rural Maintenance programme provide seasonal employment, training to destitute rural women and incomes to the poorest.

The government food operations have massive budgetary implications; the net cash outlay on public food operations is estimated at about 8.7 billion in 1994/95 and Tk 11.15 billion in 1995/96 representing 22 percent and 31 percent of the overall budgetary revenue surplus in each year. Yet the current food-based safety net programmes can provide only 10 to 15 percent of the income transfers needed for ensuring an adequate diet for everyone in the country.

Furthermore, public interventions for food security complete with other public investments in human development, in physical infrastructure, and in technological change in agriculture, all of which have a poverty reducing impact. Given these constraints, available resources must be used to their best advantage in ensuring food intake of the most vulnerable in a cost effective way through eliminating leakage and implementing institutional reforms needed to mainstream food resources and enhance their development impact.

3.4 Food Aid: From Relief to Development (WB 2003)

There is a number of food assistance programme in operation, each with its own specific objectives and target population. Some are relief programmes that aim primarily at relieving immediate distress, generally due to natural disasters- these interventions are typically mobilized for a limited period and are targeted at the directly affected households. Other programmes have explicit development objectives such as rural infrastructure development, boosting primary enrolment rates and human capital development.

Although relief provision remains an important objective, most targeted food programmes have gradually shifted in emphasis from relief to development. The overall allocation to programmes such as Vulnerable Group Development and Food for Education Programme as a share of aggregate programme outlays have been increasing steadily through the nineties.

CHAPTER - 4

SURVEY ON FOOD AIDED PROGRAMMES

In order to measure the impact of food aided programmes in poverty reduction of the rural poor a nationwide survey was conducted by the author in March-April 2002. Data were collected from the beneficiary as well as non beneficiary from all the administrative division of the country. The survey design, data collection instruments and data collection procedure for the survey have been presented in this chapter.

4.1 Survey Design

In order to get reliable and representative data from all the administrative Divisions of the country six unions were selected from six divisions of the country. At the first stage one district was randomly selected from each of the divisions of the country. After that one thana was randomly selected from each of the selected district. Once six thanas were selected from six divisions. One union from each of the thana was selected at random for the survey operation. Finally from the selected union the list of labourer worked under the Food for Works (FFW) programme was collected from the union office. Similarly from the list of Vulnerable Group Development programme list of beneficiary households were also collected. From these two listing form 10 beneficiary households of FFW programme and 10 beneficiary households of VGD programme were selected randomly from the villages having the programme. After that 10 nonbeneficiary households similar to FFW beneficiary households and 10 nonbeneficiary households similar to 10 VGD beneficiary households have been selected for the survey from the villages not having the programme. Thus, the number of beneficiary households stands 20 in the selected union and the same number of non-beneficiary households. The selected District, Thana, union and households are provided in the Table-1 below:

Table 1: List of Selected District, Upazila and Union for the Survey on Food Aided Development Programmes.

Division	District	Upazila	Union	Households covered	
				Beneficiary HH	Nonbeneficiary HH
Barisal	Bhola	Borhanuddin	Kutba	20	20
Chittagong	Noakhali	Begumgonj	Kaloai/Nadona	20	20
Dhaka	Gazipur	Gazipur sadar	Gasa	20	20
Khulna	Khulna	Khanjahan	Jugipull	20	20
Rajshahi	Gaibandha	Gobindagonj	Kamardaha	20	20
Sylhet	Hobigonj	Madabpur	Chatian	20	20
Total				120	120

4.2 Data Collection Instrument

Appropriate data collection instruments were developed for the survey. One detailed schedule was prepared to collect detailed information on socio-economic characteristics of the survey population. This schedule includes five broad sections namely (i) household and housing structure (ii) demographic characteristics of the household members (ii) ownership of assets (iv) household income from different sources (v) household expenditure. This schedule was used to collect information from both beneficiary and non-beneficiary households. In addition to this long schedule two short questionnaires were developed for collecting special information of VGD beneficiary (card holder) and FFW labourers.

4.3 Field Data Collection

4.3.1 Selection of enumerators/field investigators:

Six enumerator/field investigators were selected for data collection. All the enumerator/field investigator were highly qualified and had 10-15 years experience in collecting data. The minimum qualification of the enumerator/investigator were graduation. In addition to enumerator three supervisors were engaged to supervise the work of enumerators.

4.3.2 Training:

The enumerator and supervisors were given 2 days intensive training in Dhaka before the field operation. The training was imparted by the principal investigator. After the training field demonstration was also made in the adjacent rural areas of Dhaka.

4.3.3 Field operation:

Field operation was completed in 10 days during March-April, 2002. The enumerator first collected the list of beneficiary from the local union council office and from this list they randomly selected 10 beneficiary households of FFW and 10 beneficiary households of VGD programme with the help of supervisors. Once the beneficiary households were selected, then the non-beneficiary households were selected on the basis of land ownership of the beneficiary households. Thus 20 non-beneficiary households were selected. After the selection of beneficiary and non-beneficiary households detailed data were collected by using detailed questionnaire and specialised questionnaires. The specialised questionnaires were canvassed to beneficiary households only. The data collection of the enumerators were closely supervised by the respective supervisors. The principal investigators also visited two areas to assess the quality of the survey and instructed the enumerators and supervisors for quality improvement of the survey.

4.3.4 Data processing and tabulation

After getting the field-in schedule in the headquarter all the schedules were edited manually by the supervisors under the close supervision of the principal investigator. The data entry work was started after the completion of the manual editing. After data entry, validation was made after taking print out of the unit level data. The internal consistency of the data was done by the edit programme which was developed earlier.

A tabulation plan was earlier prepared for data presentation of the survey. Table programmes were prepared to fit table outputs using the customised software. It may be mentioned that the tables of socio-economic and demographic characteristics of the

beneficiary and non-beneficiary population were prepared through computer and the tables of the special questionnaire on FFW and VGD beneficiaries were prepared manually by the principal investigator of the survey programme. The computer tables were generated for both beneficiary and non-beneficiary households. For the special questionnaires on FFW and VGD the tables were generated separately for FFW and VGD beneficiaries.

It may be noted that as the survey covered only small geographical areas of the country the sample figures were presented only. The blown up figures were not attempted for this survey.

CHAPTER-5

SELECTED INFORMATION OF THE SURVEYED UPAZILA

As mentioned in the preceding chapter that 6 (six) upazilas has been selected randomly for the field survey taking one from each administrative divisions of the country. From each upazila one union has been selected randomly for collecting data from the beneficiaries and nonbeneficiaires.

In order to get some idea about the socio-economic characteristics of the upazilas covered under the perview of the survey, attempt has been made to collect some information about the upazilas from the secondary sources. It may be mentioned that the main source of data for the small geographic areas like upazilas and unions in Bangladesh is national population censuses. The last population census of the country was held on January 2001, but detailed report on upazila and unions has yet not been published by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics. In the present chapter, selected upazilas statistics obtained from census have been discussed.

5.1 Population and Households in the selected Upazila in the last decade

The Population and households in the selected upazila in the last decade that is in 1991 and 2001 have been presented in Table-2. It is observed from the table that among the upazilas selected randomly, it is observed in 1991 the highest number of households and population were observed in Bagumgonj upazila and lowest was in Khajahan of Khulna district while in 2001, Gazipur sadar was emerged as the largest upazila in respect of household and population and lowest remained the same, i.e., Khanjahan.

Table-2: Household and population in the selected upazilas in 1991 and 2001.

Name of Upazila	Household		Population	
	1991	2001	1991	2001
Borhanuddin	37413	47320	208478	245960
Begumgonj	118361	132660	676168	767060
Gazipur Sadar	116163	191320	588492	872180
Khanjahan	17373	19140	88659	91360
Gobindagonj	79464	108140	414591	460660
Madhabpur	44053	52140	250069	272060

The higher increase in population and household of Gazipur sadar may be explained by the rapid growth of urban population in the adjacent area of Dhaka metropolitan city.

5.2 Selected Household and Housing Characteristics of the Surveyed Upazilas

Selected household and housing characteristics of the surveyed upazilas of the country have been presented in the table-3. It is seen from the table that there exists variation in the household and housing characteristics among the upazilas selected under the perview of the survey programme. The average size of household was found the highest in Begumgonj (5.78) and the lowest in Gobindagonj.

Table-3: Selected household and housing characteristics of the surveyed upazila.

Name of Upazila	Selected household and housing characteristics, 2001				
	Average HH size	Own agri. land	Access to safe drinking water	Access to sanitary toilet	Access to electricity
Borhanuddin	5.20	52.3	95.1	21.3	9.9
Begumgonj	5.78	61.6	89.0	54.8	46.5
Gazipur Sadar	4.56	55.5	95.1	72.8	80.1
Khanjahan	4.77	49.2	99.0	83.3	71.6
Gobindagonj	4.26	57.2	91.2	8.4	12.9
Madhabpur	5.22	51.4	90.4	26.1	29.0

It is seen from the table that as high as 61.6% households from Begumgonj upazila claimed ownership of own land while 49.2% households of Khanjahan thana claimed ownership of own land.

As regards access to safe drinking water it is observed that access to safe drinking water is more than 90% in all upazilas except for Begumgonj where the percentage of households with access to safe drinking water is a bit lower. This may be explained by the arsenic contamination in tube well water in the costal districts of Bangladesh.

Wide variation in access to sanitary toilet is observed among the selected upazilas. As high as 83.3% households in the Khanjahan thana of Khulna district reported to have access to safe toilet as against only 8.4% in Gobindagonj upazila of Gaibanda district. The highest 80.1% households of Gazipur sadar upazila have access to electricity compared to 9.9% in Borhanuddin. The geographical location of the upazilas are responsible for this variation.

5.3 Socio-Economic Characteristics of the Selected Upazilas

Some selected socio-economic characteristics of the surveyed upazila have been presented in table 4. It is seen from the table that literacy is the highest in Khanjahan upazila and the lowest in Borhanuddin upazila. The same position was also observed in case of households with literate heads. As regards adult's engagement in agriculture work, the highest 29.4% from Gobindagonj upazila was found engaged in agriculture work and the lowest in Khanjahan. The geographical location of these upazila may be accounted for this variation.

Table-4: Selected household and housing characteristics of the surveyed upazila.

Name of Upazila	Literacy Rate 7+	Household with Literate head	Percent of adult (18+) who works agriculture	Day labour %	
				Agri	Non Agri.
Borhanuddin	5.20	52.3	95.1	21.3	9.9
Begumgonj	5.78	61.6	89.0	54.8	46.5
Gazipur	4.56	55.5	95.1	72.8	80.1
Sadar					
Khanjahan	4.77	49.2	99.0	83.3	71.6
Gobindagonj	4.26	57.2	91.2	8.4	12.9
Madhabpur	5.22	51.4	90.4	26.1	29.0

The percentage of agriculture labour was found the highest in Madhabpur and lowest in Khanjahan while nonagriculture labour was found the reverse, that is highest in Khanjahan and lowest in Madhabpur.

CHAPTER-6

SURVEY FINDINGS

The findings obtained from the survey on food aided programmes have been presented in this chapter. The characteristics of the beneficiary and non beneficiary households in term of household structure and utility services demographic characteristics occupation, ownership of land and other durable assets, income, expenditure, nutrition etc have been discussed in this chapter.

6.1 Housing Structure

The housing structure of the beneficiary and non beneficiary households have been presented in Table-5. It is revealed from the table that of the beneficiary household 3 or 2.50% were pucca, 5 or 4.17% were semi-pucca 79 or 65.83% were Katcha, 32 or 26.67% were Jhupri and 1 or 0.83% were other type. On the contrary among the non beneficiary households 1 or 0.83% were pucca, 3 or 2.50% were semi-pucca, 78 or 65.00% were Katcha, 38 or 31.67% were Jhupri.

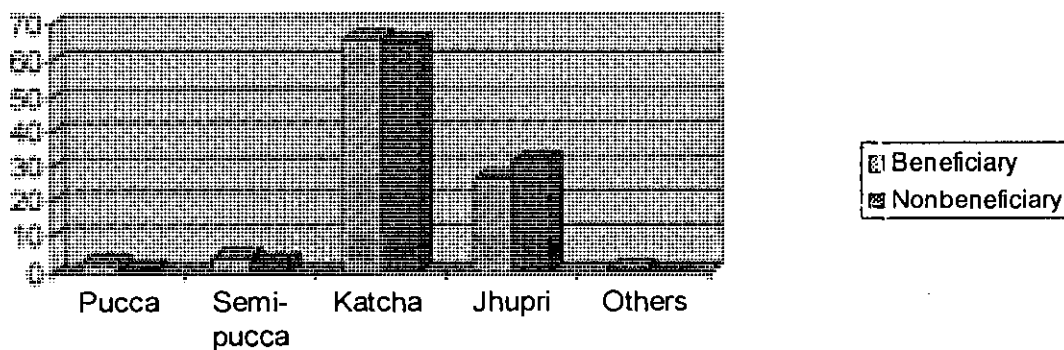
It may be noted that pucca structure are those structures where both floor and ceiling was made of brick-cement. Semi-pucca structures are those structures where floor and wall were made of brick-cement but roof was made of CI sheet. Katcha housing structures are those structure where both wall and roof were made of semi-durable materials like CI sheet, wood, bamboo etc. The housing structures made of temporary nondurable materials like sack, straw, paper, polythene etc are treated as Jhupri.

Table 5: Distribution of Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary Households by Type of Housing Structure.

Type of Housing Structure	Beneficiary		Nonbeneficiary	
	No	%	No	%
Pucca	3	2.50	1	0.83
Semi-pucca	5	4.17	3	2.50
Katcha	79	65.83	78	65.00
Jhupri	32	26.67	38	31.67
Others	1	0.83	0	-
Total	120	100.00	120	100.00

Chi square significant at 6% level

Percentage Distribution of Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary by Type of Housing Structure.



6.2 Sources of Drinking Water

Sources of drinking water of the beneficiary and non beneficiary households have been presented in Table 6. It is observed from the table that 94.17% beneficiary households used tube well water for drinking as against 97.50% for the non beneficiary. It may be noted here that in the recent years the tube well water are no longer considered as the source of pure drinking water due to arsenic contamination. Therefore, it can not be concluded that the condition of non beneficiary is better in terms of use of tube well water. It is noticed from the table that 5.00% beneficiary households and 2.50% non beneficiary households used water from pucca well for drinking.

Table 6: Sources of Drinking Water for Beneficiary and Non beneficiary Households.

Sources of Drinking Water	Beneficiary		Non-beneficiary	
	No	%	No	%
Tube well	113	94.17	117	97.50
Pacca Well	6	5.00	3	2.50
Katcha Well	-	-	-	-
Pond/Tank	1	0.83	-	-
River/Cannel	0	-	-	-
Total	120	100.00	120	100.00

Chi square significant at 3 % level

6.3 Sources of Water for Cooking and Other Uses:

Sources of water for cooking and other domestic use have been presented in the table 7. It is observed from the table that water from pond/tank still remains as the main source of cooking water and other uses. As high as 76.67% beneficiary households and 92.50% non beneficiary households used water from pond/tank for cooking and other purposes. It is seen from the table 19.17 beneficiary households and 5.83% non beneficiary households used tube well water for cooking and other purposes. Water from river/cannel was used for cooking and other purposes by 2.50% beneficiary and 1.67% non beneficiary households.

Table 7: Distribution of Beneficiary and Non beneficiary Households by Sources of Water for cooking and Others.

Sources of Drinking Water	Beneficiary		Non-beneficiary	
	No	%	No	%
Tube well	23	19.17	7	5.83
Pacca Well	2	1.67	0	-
Katcha Well	0	-	0	-
Pond/Tank	92	76.67	111	92.50
River/Cannel	3	2.50	2	1.67
Total	120	100.00	120	100.00

Chi square significant at .01% level

6.4 Sources of Lighting:

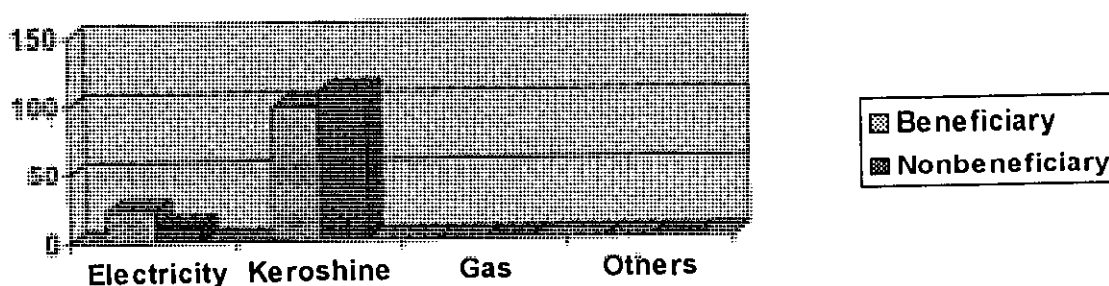
Sources of lighting of the beneficiary and non-beneficiary households have been presented in Table 8. It is revealed from the table that kerosene was the main source of lighting of the households. The highest 80.83% beneficiary households and 90.83% non-beneficiary households reported that their main source of lighting was Keroshine. Electricity as sources of lighting was reported by 18.33% beneficiary and 9.17% non-beneficiary households.

Table 8: Distribution of Beneficiary and Non-beneficiary Households by Sources of Lighting.

Sources of Lighting	Beneficiary		Non-beneficiary	
	No	%	No	%
Electricity	22	18.33	11	9.17
Keroshine	97	80.83	109	90.83
Gas	0	-	0	-
Others	1	0.83	0	-
Total	120	100.00	120	100.00

Chi square significant at 3.7% level

Distribution of Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary Households by Sources of Lighting.



6.5 Sources of Fuel for cooking:

Sources of fuel for cooking of the beneficiary and non-beneficiary households have been displayed in table 9. It is observed from the table that traditional fuels like leaves/cowdung/husk was the main sources of fuel of the beneficiary and non beneficiary households. The highest 75.83% beneficiary households used these fuels for cooking compared to 90.00% non beneficiary households. It is observed from the table that 11.67 beneficiary households and 3.33% non beneficiary households used wood/bamboo as their fuel for cooking. It is encouraging that 6.67% beneficiary household and 0.83% non beneficiary households used gas as fuel. Keroshine was used as fuel by 3.33% beneficiary and 4.17% non beneficiary households. The use of

electricity as fuel for cooking was very small, only 1.67% beneficiary and non beneficiary households used such energy for cooking.

Table 9: Distribution of Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary households by sources of fuel for cooking.

Sources of fuel	Beneficiary		Non-beneficiary	
	No	%	No	%
Gas	8	6.67	1	0.83
Keroshine	4	3.33	5	4.17
Electricity	2	1.67	2	1.67
Wood/bamboo	14	11.67	4	3.33
Cowdung/husk	91	75.83	108	90.00
Other	1	0.83	-	0.00
Total	120	100.00	120	100.00

6.6 Toilet Facility:

Households by toilet facilities have been portrayed in table 10. It is observed from the table that the access to pucca and slab latrines is not very high among beneficiaries and nonbeneficiaries. Only 24.17% beneficiary households and 22.40% nonbeneficiary households reported to use pucca and slab latrines. The use of katcha latrine was 26.67% among beneficiaries as against 25.83% for nonbeneficiaries. Temporary arrangement for excreta disposal was 23.33% for beneficiaries compared to 27.50% for nonbeneficiary households. About one quarter of beneficiary and nonbeneficiary households had no particular place for discharge of human waste.

Table 10: Distribution of Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary Households by Toilet Facility.

Type of toilet facility	Beneficiary		Nonbeneficiary	
	No.	%	No.	%
Pucca (sanitary)	3	2.50	2	1.67
Slab	26	21.67	25	20.83
Katcha	32	26.67	31	25.83
Temporary	28	23.33	33	27.50
Bush/Jungle	31	25.83	29	24.17
Total	120	100.00	120	100.00

Chi-square Significant at 4.4% level.

6.7 Area of Main Housing Structure:

The area of the main housing structure of the beneficiary and non beneficiary households has been presented in table 11. It is observed from the table that the average size of the main housing structure of the beneficiary household was 195 sq. ft as against 182 sq. ft for the non beneficiary. The percentage of households having the area of main housing structure <50 sq. ft was 1.67% for beneficiary as against 3.33% for the non-beneficiary. The highest 32.50% of the beneficiary households had the area of main housing structure 101-150 sq. ft compared to 31.67% non beneficiary households who had the same area of main housing structure. It is also revealed from the table that 32.50% of the beneficiary households had the area of main housing structure 151-200 sq. ft compared to 28.33% non beneficiary households who had the same area of main housing structure. The percentage of households having area of main housing structure 201-300 sq.ft and 300 sq.ft and above combined was 25% as against 20% for the non beneficiary households.

Table 11: Distribution of Beneficiary ad Non beneficiary households by area of Main Housing Structure.

Area of Main Housing Structure	Beneficiary		Non-beneficiary	
	No	%	No	%
< 50 sq. ft	2	1.62	4	3.33
50 - 100 "	10	8.33	20	16.67
101 - 150 "	39	32.50	38	31.67
151 - 200 "	39	32.50	34	28.33
201 - 300 "	25	20.83	10	8.33
300 + "	5	4.17	14	11.67
Total	120	100.00	120	100.00

Chi Square significant at 1% level

6.8 No of Rooms per Household:

Distribution of beneficiary and non beneficiary households by number of rooms in the main housing structure have been presented in the table 12. It is revealed that the percentage of beneficiary households having 1 room only was 42.50% as against 64.17% by the non beneficiary households.

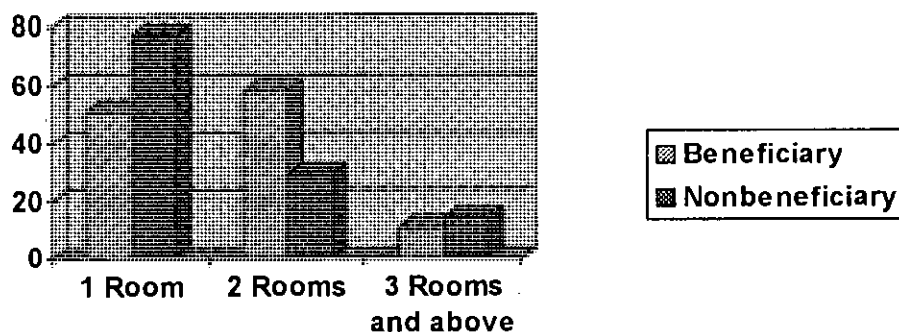
In case of having 2 rooms the percentage of beneficiary households was 48.33% as against only 24.17% for the non beneficiary households. As regards 3 rooms and above per household the percentage of beneficiary household was 9.17% as against 11.66% for the non beneficiary households.

Table 12: Distribution of Beneficiary and Non beneficiary Households by no of Rooms in the Households.

No of Rooms per Household	Beneficiary		Non-beneficiary	
	No	%	No	%
1 Room	51	42.50	77	64.17
2 Rooms	58	48.33	29	24.17
3 Rooms and above	11	9.17	14	11.66
Total	120	100.00	120	100.00

Chi Square significant at .0001% level

Distribution of Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary Households by number of Rooms in the Household.



6.9 Age-Sex Composition:

Age-Sex composition of the beneficiary and nonbeneficiary households has been presented in table-13. It is seen from the table that there is no significant variation between beneficiary and nonbeneficiary households in respect of age-sex composition. It is interesting to note that the sex ratio of beneficiary and nonbeneficiary households is less than 100. It is observed from the table that the sex ratio for beneficiary was 90.4 and for nonbeneficiary it was 94.9%. It is also seen from the table that the proportion of females in the age group 60-64 and 65 years and over was higher than males for both

beneficiary and nonbeneficiary households. The percentage of population in the age group 0-14 in the beneficiary and nonbeneficiary group shows no substantial difference. In case of beneficiary group the percentage of population in the age group 0-14 was about 41.0% and that for the nonbeneficiary group was around 39.0%. The demographic dependency ratio of beneficiary and nonbeneficiary group was 77.3% and 70.2% respectively.

Table 13: Distribution of Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary Population by Age and Sex.

Age Group	Beneficiary			Nonbeneficiary		
	Both Sex	Male	Female	Both Sex	Male	Female
Number						
Total	537	255	282	497	242	255
0-4	68	25	43	55	29	26
5-9	75	35	40	73	42	31
10-14	78	47	31	65	43	22
15-19	50	27	23	38	21	17
20-24	37	17	20	36	8	28
25-29	43	16	27	40	21	19
30-34	36	19	17	34	12	22
35-39	43	17	26	43	24	19
40-44	31	17	14	24	13	11
45-49	19	13	6	27	11	16
50-54	18	8	10	19	4	15
55-59	11	3	8	13	5	8
60-64	15	7	8	18	6	12
65+	13	4	9	12	3	9
Percent						
Total	100.00	47.49	52.51	100.00	48.69	51.31
0-4	12.66	4.66	8.01	11.07	5.84	5.23
5-9	13.97	6.52	7.45	14.69	8.45	6.24
10-14	14.53	8.75	5.77	13.08	8.65	4.43
15-19	9.31	5.03	4.28	7.65	4.23	3.42
20-24	6.89	3.17	3.72	7.24	1.61	5.63
25-29	8.01	2.98	5.03	8.05	4.23	3.82
30-34	6.70	3.54	3.17	6.84	2.41	4.43
35-39	8.01	3.17	4.84	8.65	4.83	3.82
40-44	5.77	3.17	2.61	4.83	2.62	2.21
45-49	3.54	2.42	1.12	5.43	2.21	3.22
50-54	3.35	1.49	1.86	3.82	0.80	3.02
55-59	2.05	0.56	1.49	2.62	0.01	1.61
60-64	2.79	1.30	1.49	3.62	1.21	2.41
65+	2.42	0.74	1.68	2.41	0.60	1.81

6.10 Marital Status:

The marital status of the beneficiary and nonbeneficiary population have been presented in table-14. It is observed from the table that for the total male population of beneficiary household's 10 years and over 22.19% were never married, 31.36% were married and 1.18% were widowed/divorced/separated. Among the nonbeneficiary male population 16.27% were never married, 27.81% were married and 1.18% were widowed/divorced and separated. It is interesting to note that the proportion of male divorced/widowed/separated were same for both beneficiary and nonbeneficiary household.

Table 14: Percentage Distribution of Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary Population (10+) by Age, Sex and Marital Status.

Age Group	Beneficiary			Nonbeneficiary		
	Never married	Married	Widowed/ Divorced	Never married	Married	Widowed/ Divorced
Male (%)						
10-14	54.17	1.39	-	41.67	2.78	-
15-19	55.81	-	-	44.19	-	-
20-24	45.45	31.82	-	18.18	4.55	-
25-29	5.71	40.00	-	5.71	48.57	-
30-34	-	58.06	3.23	-	38.71	-
35-39	-	41.46	-	-	58.54	-
40-44	-	56.67	-	-	40.00	3.33
45-49	-	54.17	-	-	45.83	-
50+	-	47.50	7.50	-	37.50	7.50
Total	22.19	31.36	1.18	16.27	27.81	1.18
Female (%)						
10-14	62.50	2.50	-	35.00	-	-
15-19	40.54	21.62	-	27.03	-	-
20-24	8.51	34.04	-	4.26	46.81	6.38
25-29	-	56.52	2.17	-	41.30	-
30-34	-	41.03	2.56	-	51.28	5.13
35-39	-	51.11	6.67	-	35.56	6.67
40-44	-	24.00	32.00	-	12.00	32.00
45-49	-	18.18	9.09	-	31.82	40.91
50+	-	11.39	32.91	-	10.13	45.57
Total	11.58	28.68	10.79	6.84	25.79	16.32

As regards marital status of the female beneficiary and nonbeneficiary population 10 years and above, it is seen that among the beneficiary females 11.58% were never married 28.68% were married, 10.79% were widowed/divorced/separated. On the contrary, among the nonbeneficiary females 6.84% were never married, 25.79% were married and 16.32% were widowed divorced and separated.

6.11 Mean age at marriage:

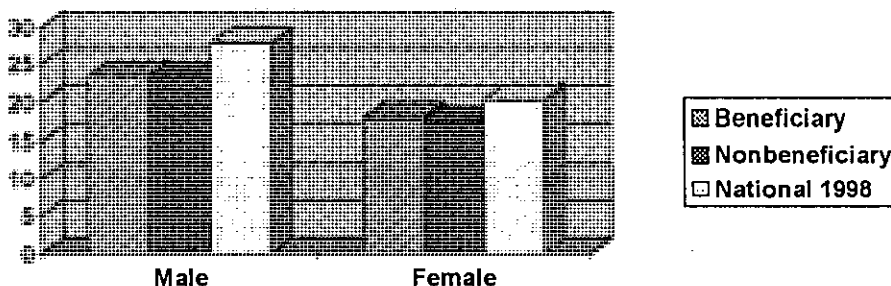
The mean age at marriage of the beneficiary and nonbeneficiary males and females have been presented in table-15. It is seen that the mean age at marriage of the beneficiary and nonbeneficiary population is low compared to national mean age at marriage. The mean age at marriage for beneficiary and nonbeneficiary males were around 23 years, on the otherhand mean age at marriage for beneficiary females was 17.9 year and that for nonbeneficiary females was 17.3 years.

Table-15: Mean age at marriage of the beneficiary and nonbeneficiary population.

Sex	Mean age at Marriage		National 1998 *
	Beneficiary	Nonbeneficiary	
Male	23.3	23.2	27.8
Female	17.9	17.3	20.2

* Source: SVR, BBS.

Distribution of Mean age at marriage of the beneficiary and nonbeneficiary population.



At the national level, the mean age at marriage for males was 27.8 year in 1998 and that for the females it was 20.2. The mean age at marriage of the beneficiary and

nonbeneficiary population indicate the prevalence of early marriage among these poor segment of population.

6.12 Literacy Rate:

Literacy rate of population 5 years and over for beneficiary males and females have been presented in table 16. It is seen that the literacy rate of beneficiary population is a bit higher than their nonbeneficiary counterpart. However, the literacy rates of these two poor groups are substantially lower than the national literacy rate.

Table-16: Literacy Rate of Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary Population.

Sex	Literacy Rate (5+)		National 1998 *
	Beneficiary	Nonbeneficiary	
Male	39.3	35.6	49.5
Female	29.3	27.0	40.1

* Literacy for 7+ population.

Insignificant at 5% level.

It is seen from the table that among the beneficiaries the literacy rates for males and females were 39.3% and 29.3% respectively as against 35.6% and 27.0% for the nonbeneficiary. At the national level the literacy rate (7 years and over) for male was 49.5% as against 40.1% for the females.

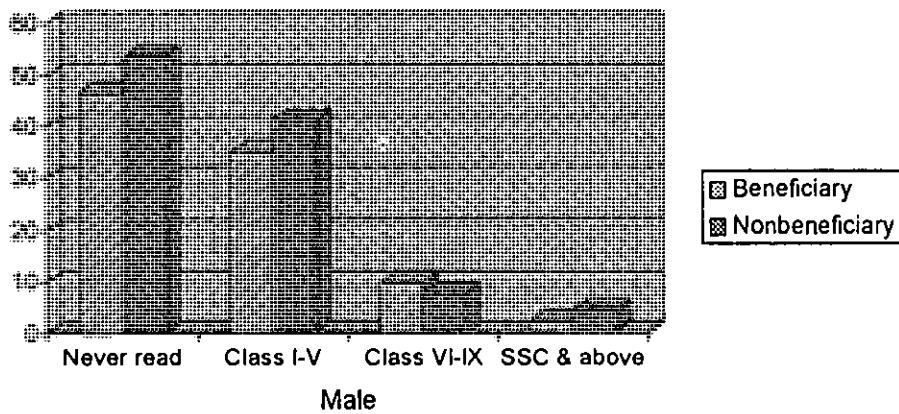
6.13 Level of Education:

Level of education of the beneficiary and nonbeneficiary population 5 years and above have been presented in table 17. It is observed from the table that the proportion of never read is high among the nonbeneficiary compared to beneficiary group. The proportion of male population 5 years and above who attained SSC or HSC or above level was 4.33% in case of beneficiary compared to 2.07% for nonbeneficiary. The females who attained SSC/HSC or above levels for beneficiary was 2.16% as against only 0.79% for the nonbeneficiary group.

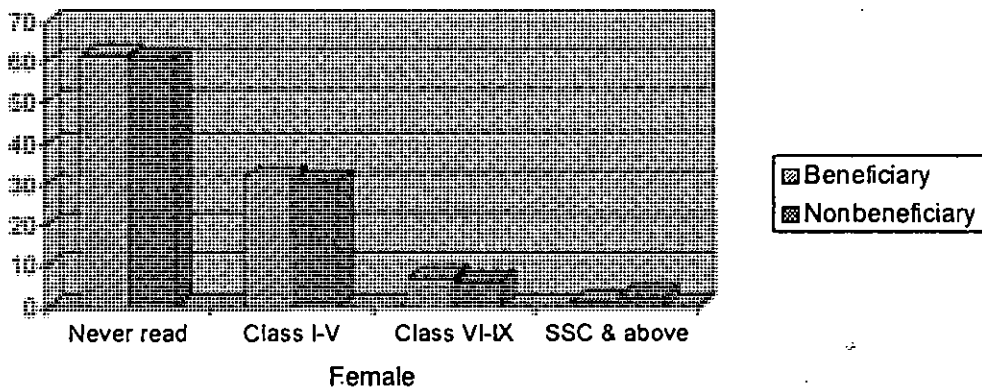
Table 17: Level of Education of the Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary population 5 years and above.

Level of Education	Beneficiary		Nonbeneficiary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Never read	46.63	61.64	53.53	60.71
Class I-V	34.85	31.75	41.35	30.60
Class VI-IX	9.54	6.75	7.69	5.60
SSC/HSC and above	2.07	0.79	4.33	2.16
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Level of Education of Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary Male Population of 5 years and over



Level of Education of Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary female Population of 5 years and over.



However, in respect of the population in the class VI-IX, the level the condition of the nonbeneficiary group was a bit better than the beneficiary group.

6.14 Activity Status:

The activity status of the beneficiary and nonbeneficiary population has been presented in table 18. It is seen from the table that at the aggregate level, the percentage of working population was a bit higher for the beneficiary compared to nonbeneficiary group. On the otherhand, the percentage of inwork male was lower for beneficiary compared to non-beneficiary groups. The percentage of beneficiary working females were higher than the nonbeneficiary females.

Table 18: Distribution of Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary Population 5 Years and Over by Activity Status.

Main Activity	Beneficiary			Nonbeneficiary		
	Both Sex	Male	Female	Both Sex	Male	Female
Working	31.77	51.58	12.37	30.94	53.89	11.28
Looking for Job	4.69	8.95	0.52	5.25	10.78	0.51
Household Work	42.45	12.63	71.65	38.95	7.19	66.15
Student	16.67	20.53	12.89	14.36	18.56	10.77
Inactive	4.43	6.32	2.58	10.50	9.58	11.28
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

The percentage of population who were looking for job was 4.69% in case of beneficiary as against 5.28% for the nonbeneficiary. The percentage of students were also higher in case of beneficiary group compared to their nonbeneficiary counterpart. The percentage of inactive were, however, higher for the nonbeneficiary group compared to their beneficiary counterpart. From the above observations it can be concluded that the condition of beneficiary group in respect of activity status was better than their nonbeneficiary counterpart.

6.15 Occupation:

The occupational status of the beneficiary and nonbeneficiary population has been provided in table 19. It is observed from the table that there exists some difference between the beneficiary and nonbeneficiary group in respect of occupational distribution.

Among the total beneficiary population as high as 66.96% were engaged in agriculture occupation and the rest 33.04% in the nonagricultural occupation. On the otherhand, for the total nonbeneficiary group 56.56% were engaged in agriculture occupation and 43.44% were engaged in nonagricultural occupation.

Table 19: Occupational Status of Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary Population by Sex.

Occupation	Beneficiary			Nonbeneficiary		
	Both Sex	Male	Female	Both Sex	Male	Female
Agriculture	66.96	70.37	61.44	56.56	66.66	42.85
Own land farmer	11.01	15.56	3.61	14.65	17.54	10.71
Owner cum tenant farmer	1.38	2.22	-	1.01	1.75	-
Tenant farmer	13.76	2.22	32.53	13.13	8.77	19.05
Agriculture labour	22.48	35.56	1.20	20.20	32.46	3.57
Fisheries/livestock	0.46	-	1.20	1.01	0.88	1.19
Other agriculture	17.89	14.81	22.89	6.57	5.26	8.33
Non-agriculture	33.04	29.63	38.56	43.44	33.34	57.15
Employee of govt./semi govt.	0.46	0.74	-	0.51	0.88	-
Employee of non-govt. organisation	0.92	-	2.41	1.52	2.63	-
Seller	0.46	0.74	-	-	-	-
Business	1.38	1.48	1.20	2.02	3.51	-
Production Worker	2.29	0.74	4.82	5.05	0.88	10.71
Other non-agri. labour	15.60	18.51	10.84	19.70	21.93	16.67
Other non-agriculture	11.93	7.41	19.28	14.65	3.51	29.76
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

For the total beneficiary as high as 22.48% were agriculture labour followed by 15.60% non-agriculture labour and 13.76% tenant farmer. On the otherhand, for the nonbeneficiary group 20.20% were agriculture labour closely followed by 19.70% nonagriculture labour and 13.11% were tenant farmer. Thus, we notice that most of the beneficiary and nonbeneficiary population were day labourers and tenant farmers. The percentage of agriculture labour were slightly higher for the beneficiary group, on the contrary, the percentage of nonagriculture labours were higher for the nonbeneficiary group. The percentage of ownland farmer were higher in case of beneficiary (14.56%) compared to 11.01% for the nonbeneficiary. Among the beneficiary population, the percentage of production labour was 2.29% as against 5.05% for the nonbeneficiary population.

6.16 Ownership of Selected Household Asset:

The value of the selected durable and semi-durable household assets have been presented in table 20. It is observed from the table that the average value of the household assets stands Tk 25027 for the beneficiary group and Tk 22987 for the nonbeneficiary group. It is seen from the table that the livestock and poultry is an important asset for the both groups. The other economic assets such as own house, handlooms, and other cottage industry, saving certificate/bond, share etc also have significant contribution in ownership status of the households. Ornaments are also observed as an important asset for the beneficiary households. Households transport also play an important role in the asset ownership of the households of both beneficiary and nonbeneficiary groups.

Table 20: Distribution of Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary by ownership of Selected Household Assets.

Type of Selected Household Assets	Beneficiary	Nonbeneficiary
	Average Value (Tk)	Average Value (Tk)
Livestock and Poultry	5187	5780
Agriculture equipment	910	314
Fishing equipment	1175	471
Furniture	2513	972
Household equipments	1622	2155
Household transport	2175	1973
Personnel efforts	1258	328
Bedding	1199	958
Kitchen equipment	833	680
Ornaments	2385	847
Other economic assets	5770	8514
Total	25027	22987

6.17 Household Income:

Household income from different sources have been presented in table 21. It is seen that the average monthly income of the beneficiary households is higher than the nonbeneficiary households. Average monthly income of the beneficiary households stands tk 3052 as against tk 2792 for the nonbeneficiary. As regards sources of income it is seen that the highest income of the beneficiary households comes from the pay/remuneration/professional fee (Tk 868) followed by wages/agriculture wages (Tk 822) and agriculture (tk 292). The income from FFW/VGD programme stands tk 233. For the nonbeneficiary households, the highest income come from wages/agriculture wages (tk 882) followed by pay/remuneration/professional fee (tk 566) and business/industry (tk 505) and agriculture (tk 410). Income from transfer payments like gift, assistance/charity/zakat constitute tk 123 for beneficiary households compared to tk 168 for the nonbeneficiary.

Table 21: Households Monthly Income by Sources.

Type of income sources	Beneficiary (tk)	Nonbeneficiary (tk)
Agriculture	292	410
Wages/agriculture wages	822	884
Income from FFW/VGD programme	233	-
Business/industry	291	505
Pay/remuneration/professional fee	868	566
Sale of asset/income from permanent asset	170	98
Gift, assistance/charity/zakat	123	158
Other income	253	171
Total	3052	2892

6.18 Household Expenditure:

Household monthly expenditure by major items of expenditure has been presented in table 22. It is seen from the table that for the beneficiary the household expenditure stands tk 2885 as against tk 2763 for the nonbeneficiary. It can be noted that of the total expenditure for beneficiary and nonbeneficiary, 68.5% and 66.2% of the

expenditure for beneficiary and nonbeneficiary households were incurred on food. The next highest item of expenditure was housing and house rent. The percentage of expenditure incurred for such items were Tk 353 or 12.2% and tk 206 or 7.5% respectively. The expenditure on other items were very scanty and both the groups have made bare necessities only.

Table 22: Households Monthly Expenditure by Major Items of Expenditure.

Items of Expenditure	Beneficiary (Average Value in Tk.)	Beneficiary (Average Value in Tk.)
Food and beverage	1975	1828
Fuel and lighting	71	61
Washing, cleaning detergent	19	16
Transport and communication	57	47
Clothing and footwear	66	58
Household equipments	34	60
Kitchen equipments	18	16
Radio/TV/Musical instrument	17	21
Personal affect	38	57
Education expenditure	35	190
Housing and house rent	353	206
Entertainment and reading	39	100
Medicare	70	60
Tax, interest, penalty etc	43	2
Other expenditure	50	41
Total expenditure	2885	2763

6.19 Food Intake:

Per capita per day intake of food by the beneficiary and nonbeneficiary households has been presented in table 23. It is seen from the table that per capita per day intake of food for the beneficiary households stands 792 grams and that for the nonbeneficiary households stands 738 grams. These intakes are substantially lower than the intake of food items by the Bangladesh rural population where the intake stands 899 grams per capita per day.

Table 23: Per capita Per day Intake of Food Items (grams) by the Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary Households.

Food Items	Per capita Intake (grams)		Bangladesh
	Beneficiary	Nonbeneficiary	Rural
Cereals:	493	456	492
Rice	372	410	478
Wheat	116	42	14
Other	5	4	-
Pulses:	22	29	15
Masur	5	16	-
Khesari	12	8	-
Other	5	5	-
Vegetables:	177	157	196
Potato	69	72	55
Other vegetables	108	85	141
Fish:	29	28	38
Meat:	12	10	11
Beef	10	9	7
Duck Chicken	2	1	4
Eggs	2	2	5
Edible oil	11	11	11
Mustard oil	2	3	-
Soybeans	8	8	-
Other	1	-	-
Milk and Milk Products	4	4	29
Fruits	3	3	27
Spices	29	33	75
Miscellaneous Food item	10	5	
Total	792	738	899

As regard intake of cereals, rice, wheat etc, the intake for beneficiary was 493 grams as against 456 grams for the nonbeneficiary. The intake of cereals for Bangladesh rural population stands at 492 grams. The percentage of cereal consumption with respect to total consumption was 62.2%, 61.8% and 54.7% respectively for the beneficiary, nonbeneficiary and the total population in the rural Bangladesh.

As regards consumption of pulses we notice that the consumption of pulses was 22 grams for beneficiary and 29 grams for nonbeneficiary. However, for Bangladesh

rural population, the consumption was 15 grams in 2000. Among the pulses consumption of "Khesari", the cheapest pulse, was the highest among beneficiaries, however for nonbeneficiaries masur was the highest. The consumption of Vegetables was 177 grams for beneficiary households compared to 157 grams for the nonbeneficiary. In rural Bangladesh such consumption was 196 grams. In vegetable consumption, the share of potato was 69 grams for beneficiary, 72 grams for nonbeneficiary and 55 grams for the Bangladesh rural population. The consumption of fish was 29 grams for beneficiary and 28 grams for nonbeneficiary as against 38 grams for Bangladesh rural population. This indicate that these poor segment of population could not afford costly food such as fish. Surprisingly, the consumption of meat was almost similar for beneficiary, Nonbeneficiary and even Bangladesh rural population; however, consumption of chicken/duck was higher among the Bangladesh rural population. The consumption of eggs was 2 grams for both beneficiary and nonbeneficiary population and 5 grams for Bangladesh rural population. The consumption of edible oils was 11 grams for both beneficiary, nonbeneficiary and Bangladesh rural population. Surprisingly, the consumption of milk and milk products was only 4 grams for both beneficiary and nonbeneficiary population compared to 29 grams for Bangladesh rural population. Similarly consumption of fruits was only 3 grams for both beneficiary and nonbeneficiary population as against 27 grams for Bangladesh rural population. The consumption of spices and other miscellaneous food items combined was 39 grams and 38 grams for beneficiary and nonbeneficiary households. However consumption of such item was as high as 75 grams for Bangladesh rural population.

6.20 Calorie Intake:

The calorie intake of beneficiary and nonbeneficiary population have been presented in table 24. It is observed from the table that the average intake of calorie (energy) per capita per day stands at 2148 k. cal for the beneficiary and 2066 for nonbeneficiary households. The intake of calorie from cereals was 1737 k. cal for beneficiaries compared to 1617 for the nonbeneficiaries. The contribution of cereals in total calorie intake stands at 81% for the beneficiary and 78% for the nonbeneficiary. It

is observed that calorie intake from pulses was 76 k. cal for beneficiary as against 100 for the nonbeneficiary. The contribution of vegetable in calorie intake was 131 k. cal for beneficiary as against 121 k. cal for the nonbeneficiary. The other important source of calorie was edible oil where the contribution of both beneficiary and nonbeneficiary stands at 99 k. cal. The intake of calorie from spices was 42. k. cal for beneficiary group compared to 64 k. cal for the nonbeneficiary group. Surprisingly the contribution of some selected costly food in calorie intake was lower.

Table 24: Per capita per day calorie Intake by the beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary Households.

Items	Per Capita Per day Intake (K. Cal)	
	Beneficiary	Nonbeneficiary
Cereals	1737	1617
Rice	1324	1460
Wheat	306	143
Others	17	14
Pulses	76	100
Mosoor	17	55
Khesari	42	28
Others	17	17
Vegetables	131	121
Potato	67	70
Other vegetables	64	51
Fish	32	31
Meat	14	11
Beef	11	10
Duck/chicken	3	1
Eggs	3	4
Edible Oil	99	99
Mustard Oil	18	27
Soyabean Oil	72	72
Others	9	-
Milk and Milk Products	3	4
Fruits	3	3
Spices	42	64
Miscellaneous Food items	8	12
Total	2148	2066

The contribution of meat, milk and milk products etc were comparative lower for both the groups.

6.21 Poverty Status:

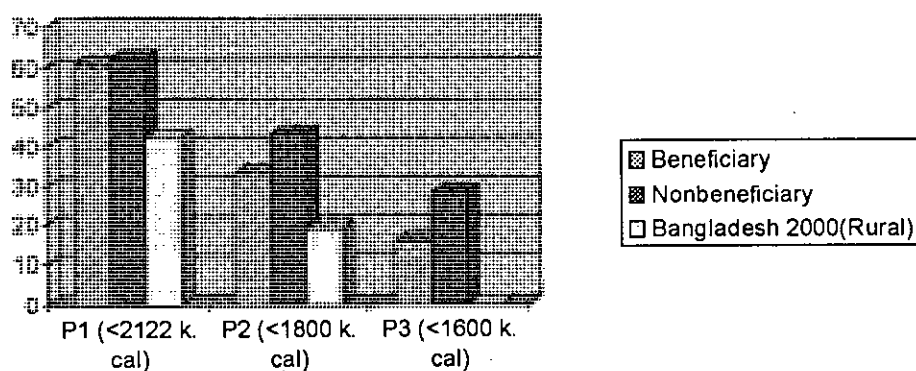
Poverty status of the beneficiary and nonbeneficiary population has been presented in table 25. Poverty status of the beneficiary and nonbeneficiary population has been estimated by Direct Calorie Intake (DCI) method. The other methods of poverty measurement were not tried due to their operational complexity and very small number of observation units. Three poverty lines have been used to estimate the present poverty status of the beneficiary and nonbeneficiary population. The three poverty lines are population consuming below 2122 k. cal, population consuming below 1800 k. cal and population consuming below 1000 k.cal.

Table 25: Poverty status of the Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary population.

Poverty Level	Beneficiary	Nonbeneficiray	Bangladesh 2000 (Rural)
P1 (< 2122 k. cal)	60.7	62.0	42.3
P2 (< 1800 k. cal)	33.3	42.9	18.7*
P3 (< 1600 k. cal)	15.6	28.0	-

* The estimate is based on < 1805 k. cal.

Distribution of Poverty Status of the Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary Population.



It is seen that 60.7% beneficiary population and 62.0% nonbeneficiary population were below poverty line-1. During 2000 the poverty incidence for Bangladesh rural Population was 42.6%.

As regards poverty line-2 (hard core poverty), it is observed that 33.3% beneficiary population and 42.9% beneficiary population were below this line. On the otherhand only 18.7% rural population were below the poverty line-2.

The proportion of ultra poor (<1600 k. cal) were also seen in these groups of population where 15.6% beneficiary and 28.0% nonbeneficiary population were below this line. This indicate that these groups of population are the most deprived segment of our population. However, the condition of the beneficiary seems slightly better than their nonbeneficiary counterpart. This may be termed as the positive impact of the food assistance to them.

6.22 Poverty Status by Literacy and Level of Education:

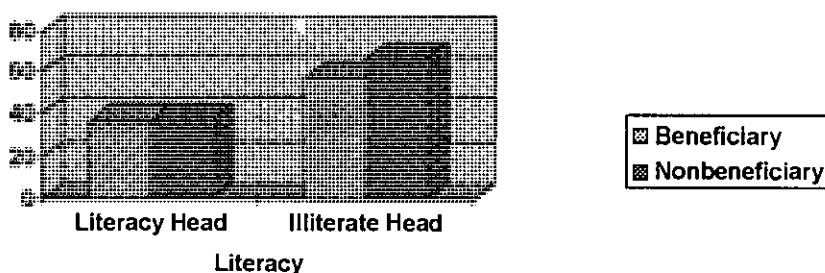
Poverty status of the beneficiary and nonbeneficiary population by literacy and level of education has been presented in table 26. It is observed that the poverty incidence of the households where head were literate was comparatively low than those households where the head of households were illiterate. It is seen that the incidence of Poverty of the households where the heads were literate was 36.4% for both beneficiary and nonbeneficiary households. But the incidence of poverty for the households where the heads were illiterate was 56.7% for beneficiary as against 67.3% for the nonbeneficiary.

It is notable that incidence of poverty is negatively correlated with the level of education. The high the level of education, the low the level of education. It is seen from the table (table 23) that poverty incidence of the households with heads SSC and above was 33.0% for nonbeneficiary household but no such household was found for the beneficiary. The incidence of poverty for households with level of education VI-IX were 16.7% for beneficiary and 42.5% for nonbeneficiary.

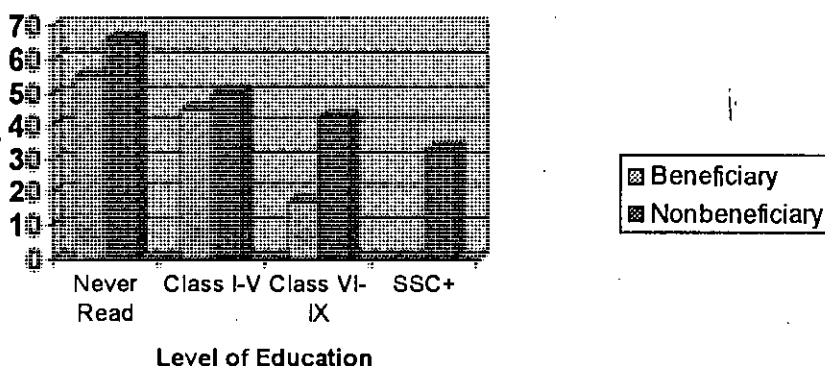
Table 26: Poverty Status of Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary Population (per capita per day consumption <2122 k. cal) by Literacy and Level of Education.

Variables	Population below poverty line	
	Beneficiary	Nonbeneficiary
Literacy:		
Literate Head	36.4	36.4
Illiterate Head	56.7	67.3
Level of Education:		
Never Read	54.9	65.5
Class I-V	45.0	50.0
Class VI-IX	16.7	42.5
SSC +	-	33.0

Distribution of Poverty Status of Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary Population by Literacy.



Distribution of Poverty Status of Beneficiary and Nonbeneficiary Population by Level of Education.



6.23 Standard Errors and Relative Standard Error of Some Selected Variables

Standard errors and relative standard errors of some selected variables have been presented in Table 27.

Variables	Beneficiary			Non beneficiary		
	Mean value (Tk)	SE (Tk)	Relative SE (Tk)	Mean value (Tk)	SE (Tk)	Relative SE (Tk)
Households Assets	25027	2423.26	9.7	22987	2041.4 9	8.9
Households Income from Agriculture	292	34.5	11.8	410	43.2	10.5
Household Income from Non agriculture	2760	104.8	3.8	2382	114.9	4.8
Household Food Expenditure	1975	108.45	5.5	1818	126.98	6.9
Household Nonfood expenditure	910	53.7	5.9	935	96.75	10.3

CHAPTER-7

SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF FFW LABOURERS

This chapter deals with the selected characteristics of the individuals who worked as labourers in the FFW programme. More over, their reaction about the FFW programmes with regard to type of work, leakage, alternate use of the resources etc have been collected and presented in this chapter.

7.1 Age-Sex distribution:

The age sex distribution of FFW labourers have been provided in table 28. It is seen from the table that in all 66 labourers from 60 households worked in the programme. It is praiseworthy that no child labour worked for these programmes. The age of the labourers ranges from 20 year to 50 years and over. Out of 66 labourers 82% were male and 18% were female. Nearly 60% of the labourers belonged to the large group 30 to 44 years. In the age group 50 years and above, the percentage of labourers was 7.6. Such percentage was also observed in 20-24 and 45-49 year age groups. Among the males the highest concentration of labourers were obtained in age group 35-39 (22.2%). On the otherhand, for the females, the highest concentration was observed for the age group 30-34. As high as 41.7% were found in this age group.

Table 28: Distribution of FFW labourers by Age and Sex.

Age Group	Total		Male		Female	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
20-24	5	7.6	5	9.3	-	-
25-29	12	18.2	10	18.5	2	16.7
30-34	13	19.7	8	14.8	5	41.7
35-39	13	19.7	12	22.2	1	8.3
40-44	13	19.7	9	16.7	4	33.3
45-49	5	7.6	5	9.3	-	-
50+	5	7.6	5	9.3	-	-
Total	66	100.00	54	100.00	12	100.00

7.2 Occupation:

The occupational distribution of the labourers have been presented in table 29. It may be noted that FFW labourers do not work in the FFW programmes throughout the year. They only work during dry seasons. In the rest of the time they work in other sector. It is noticed from the table that about three fourth (74.2%) of the FFW labourers were agricultural labours followed by nonagricultural labourers (10.6%). The other two occupations were ownland farmer (7.6%) and other nonagricultural work (7.6%). The sex differential of the labourers by occupation indicate that 62.1% of the male labourers belong to agriculture labour occupation and 12.1% female labourers belong to this occupation. Among the males 7.6% labourers were ownland farmer and the same percentage of labourers were nonagricultural labourers. On the otherhand among females 3.0% labourers were nonagricultural labourers and the same percentage of labourers were engaged in other agricultural work.

Table 29: Distribution of FFW labourers by their occupation.

Type of Occupation	No. of Labourers reported					
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Own land farmer	5	7.6	5	7.6	-	-
Agriculture labour	49	74.2	41	62.1	8	12.1
Nonagriculture labour	7	10.6	5	7.6	2	3.0
Other nonagriculture work	5	7.6	3	4.6	2	3.0
Total	66	100.00	54	81.8	12	18.2

7.3 Type of Work:

The FFW labourers were asked about the type of work they were engaged in the FFW programmes. In response as high as 90.9% of the labourers mentioned that the work in which they worked was construction of road. The other type of work as mentioned by the FFW labourers were excavations of river/cannel and earth filling in the school madrasha fields. The percentage of labourers who reported these two types of work were 6.1% and 3.0% respectively.

Table 30: Distribution of Labourers by Type of Work Done under Food For Works Programme.

Type of work	No. of labourers reported	% of labourers
Construction of Road	60	90.9
Re-excavation of river/canals	4	6.1
Earth filling of school/madrasha field	2	3.0
Total	66	100.00

7.4 Duration of Work:

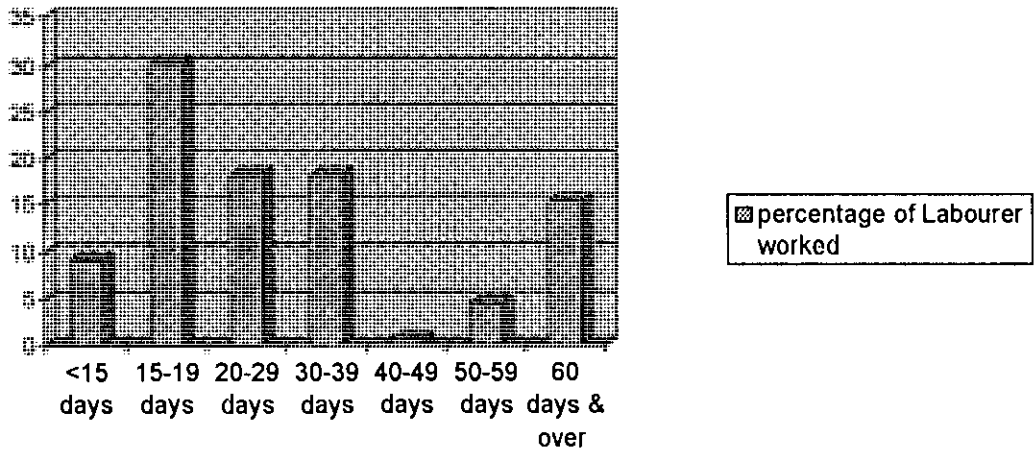
The FFW is not a permanent type of programme, it is only done during the dry season. The labourers of the nearest villages work for these project. It is seen from the table 27 that the average no of days worked by the FFW labourers was 32 days. As regards work done by different durations it is noticed that the highest 30.3% labourers worked for 15-19 days followed by 18.2% labourers who worked for 20-29 days and 30-39 days.

Table 31: Distribution of labourers by Number of Days Worked in the FFW programme in the preceding year.

No. of Days	Number of labourer worked	Percent of labourers
< 15 days	6	9.1
15-19 days	20	30.3
20-29 days	12	18.2
30-39 days	12	18.2
40-49 days	3	4.5
50-59 days	3	4.5
60 days and over	10	15.2
Total	66	100.0

Average days worked = 32

**Percentage Distribution of Labourers worked in
FFW Programme in the Preceding Year.**



It is also observed from the table that 15.2% of the labourers worked for 60 days or over, 9.1% labourers worked for less than 15 days and 4.5% labourers worked for 40-49 days and 50-59 days.

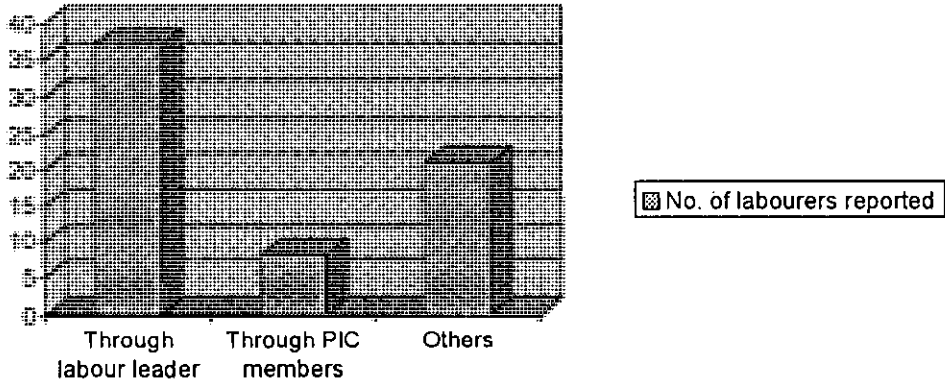
7.5 Means of getting work:

The labourers were asked how they were engaged for the FFW work. The responses obtained from them have been presented in Table 32. It is seen from the table that as high as 56.1% labourers got their work through labour leaders followed by other means (31.8%). The percentage of labourers who reported to get their work through Project Implementation Committee (PIC) members was only 12.1%. Thus, it can be said that labour leaders still play a vital role in labour market. They are main source for engaging labourers in the rural area.

Table 32: Distribution of Labourers by their Means of getting work in the Project.

Means of getting work	No. of labourers reported	% of total labourers
Through labour leader	37	56.1
Through Project Implementation Committee members	8	12.1
Other	21	31.8
Total	66	100.0

Distribution of Labourers by Means of Getting Work in the Project.



7.6 Existence of the Project and Means of Communication to the Work Place:

The labourers were asked about the location of the project where they worked. Of the total labourers 45.5% reported that the project, were located in their respective villages and 54.5% reported that the project was located outside the village. The labourers who mentioned that the project was located outside their village they were further asked about the distance of working place and the means of communication. The findings have been presented in table 33. It is observed from the table that the average distance was 2 km only and as many as 88.8% went to their working place on foot and rest 11.2% went to their working place by any sort of transport.

Table 33: Existence of the FFW Project and Means of Communication for the Labourers when the project was outside own village.

Existence of the programme		In case of outside village		
Own village	Outside village	Average Distance	On foot	Transport
30 (45.5)	36 (54.5)	2 km	32 (88.8)	4 (11.2)

Note: The figures in the parentheses represent corresponding percentages.

7.7 Bargaining About Wage Rate:

The laborers were asked whether they bargain about their wage rate. The responses obtained from the labourers have been provided in table 34. It is seen from

the table that only one third of the labourers did bargain about their wage rate and the rest 66.6% did not bargain about the wage rate. The later group agreed with the wage rate offered by the PIC authority.

Table 34: Status of Bargaining regarding Wage rate by the FFW labourers.

Status of Bargain	No. of labourers of reported	Percent of total labourers
Bargain	22	33.3
Not bargain	44	66.7
Total	66	100.00

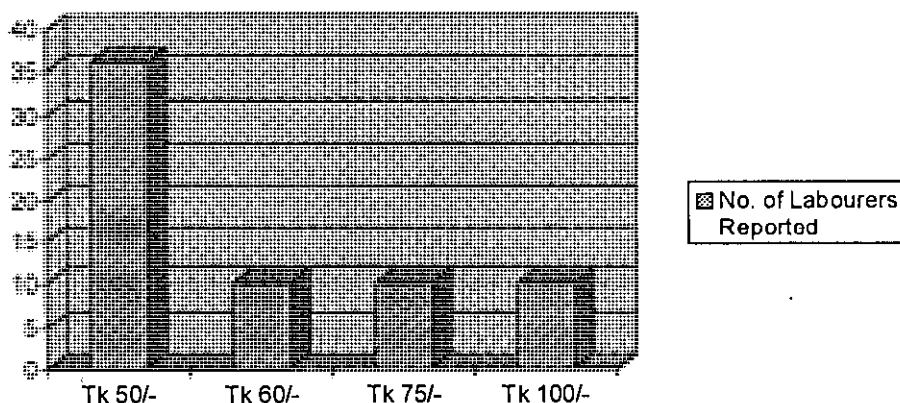
7.8 Wage Rate:

The labourers were asked about their wage rate. They were asked weather they got their wage in cash or kind. It may be noted that the FFW labourers were supposed to get their wage in kind i.e., in rice or wheat. But it is noticed that all the labourers covered under the perview of the survey reported that they were paid money instead of materials. The findings have been presented in table 35. It is observed from the table that the highest 54.4% received taka 50/- as daily wage rate, the other wage rates as reported by the labourers were tk 60/-, tk 75/- and tk 100/-. The same percentage of respondents (15.2%) reported about such rates.

Table 35: Wage Rate of FFW Labourers in Cash.

Wage Rate (tk)	No. of Labourers reported	% of total Labourers
Tk 50/-	36	54.4
Tk 60/-	10	15.2
Tk 75/-	10	15.2
Tk 100/-	10	15.2
Average wage rate	66	100.0

Distribution of Wage Rate of FFW Labourers in Cash.



7.9 Leakage in FFW Programme:

The FFW labourers were asked whether they had noticed any leakage in the FFW programme. The responses found from them have been presented in table 36. It is seen that the highest 40.9% labourers were indifference about the issue. As many as 31.8% of total labourers mentioned about leakage in the FFW programme and 27.3% reported that they think that there exists no such leakages.

Table 36: Labourers Response Regarding Leakage in FFW Programme.

Responses regarding Leakage	No. of Labourers reported	% of total labourers
Leakage exists	21	31.8
Leakage do not exists	18	27.3
Indifference	27	40.9
Total	66	100.00

7.10 Benefit of the FFW Programme:

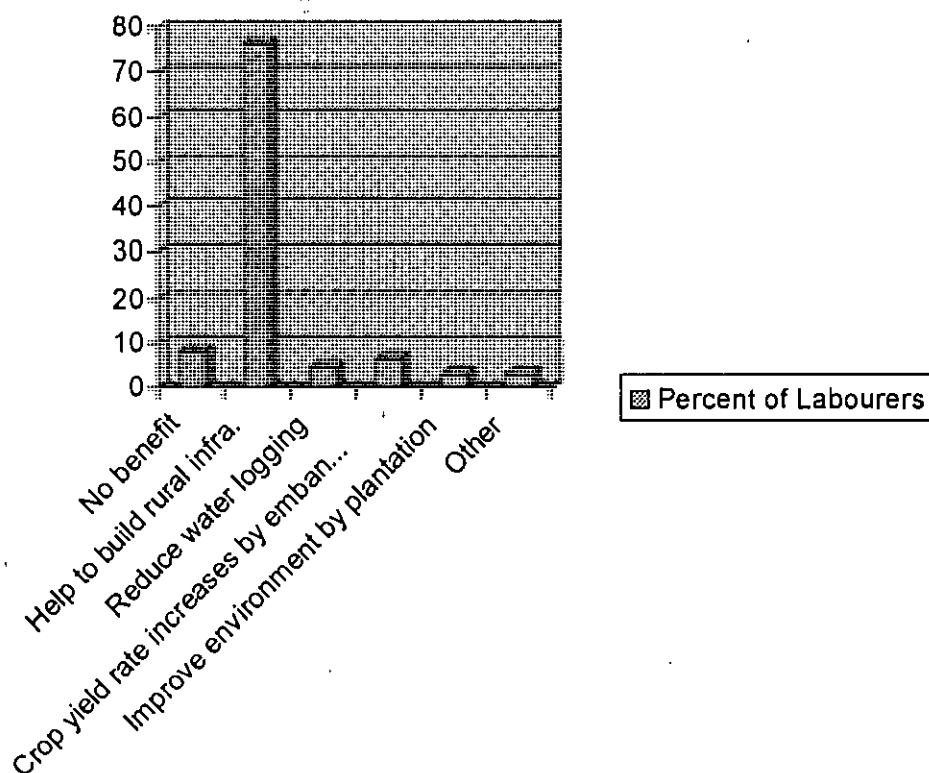
The FFW labourers were enquired about the benefit of the FFW programmes. The responses obtained from them have been presented in table 37. It is praiseworthy that more than 80% of the labourers mentioned about the benefit of the programme and only 7.6% of the labourers mentioned that the FFW programme has no benefit at all. As

regards benefits the highest 75.8% reported that FFW programme helps in building rural infrastructure. The other benefits as mentioned by the respondents were as follows; 6.1% reported that crop yield rate increased with the construction of embankment, 4.5% reported that FFW programme helped in reducing water logging in their locality, 3.0% reported that the programme has improved environment through tree plantation.

Table 37: Labourers reaction about Benefit of FFW Programme.

Type of Benefit	Labourers reported	% of Total Labourers
No benefit	5	7.6
Help to built rural infrastructure	50	75.8
Reduce water logging	3	4.5
Crop yield rate increases by embankment	4	6.1
Improve environment by plantation	2	3.0
Other	2	3.0
Total	66	100.0

Percentage distribution of Labourers by Type of Benefit.



7.11 Alternative Suggestions of the Labourers Regarding FFW Programmes:

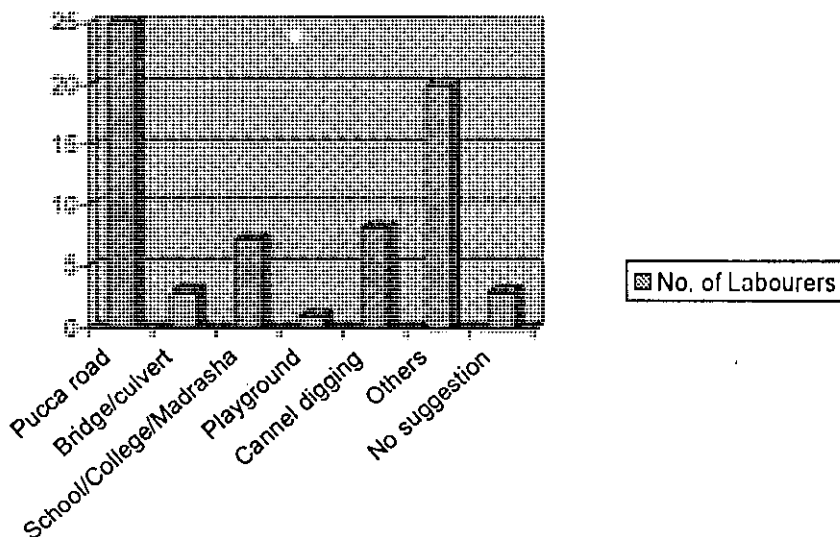
The FFW labourers were asked about their alternative suggestions regarding work done presently under FFW programme. The responses obtained from them have been presented in table 38. It is seen from the table that as high as 38.0% labourers opined to construct pucca roads under FFW programme rather than constructing katcha roads which is being done now; 12.1% suggested for canal digging under the programme. These canals should be new rather than re-excavation of canals which are being done under the programme. The percentage of respondents who suggested to build school/college/ madrasa with the resources available from FFW programme was 10.6%. The respondents who opined about construction of bridge/culvert was 4.5% and those who urged for preparing playgrounds were only 1.5%. However, a large number of respondents (30.3%) did not give response on the items mentioned above, they

mentioned about other things. Only a small proportion of respondents (3.0%) were indifference about this issue.

Table 38: Opinion of the FFW labourers by their Suggestions regarding more beneficial project under FFW.

Type of Project	No. of Labourers	% of Total Labourers
Pucca road	25	37.9
Bridge/culvert	3	4.5
School/College/Madrasha	7	10.6
Playground	1	1.5
Cannel digging (new)	8	12.1
Others	20	30.3
No suggestion	2	3.0
Total	66	100.0

Distribution of Labourers reported in the FFW Programme by type of Project.



CHAPTER-8

SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF VGD CARD HOLDERS

The present chapter deals with the selected characteristics of the VGD cardholders. It may be mentioned that VGD cardholders are mainly destitute women of the village who have no sources of income. These women are generally widowed/divorced/separated women having no land of their own except homestead land. The VGD women are supposed to stay in the programme for two years. They are imparted training by different government and nongovernment organisation to develop their skill for income generation. In the following sections some of the characteristics of the VGD cardholders along with the selected issues related to VGD programme have been presented.

8.1 Duration of Stay:

The duration of stay of the VGD cardholders covered under the survey have been presented in table 39. It is seen from the table that out of 60 cardholders covered under the survey 38 or 63.3% were staying in the programme for 1-2 years and the rest 22 or 36.7% were staying in the programme for <1 year. No cardholders were found staying more than two years. This indicate that the duration of 2 years are strictly followed in the programme.

Table 39: Distribution of VGD cardholders by their Duration in the Programme.

Duration	No. of Card holders	% of Cardholders
< 1 year	22	36.7
1 - 2 year	38	63.3
2 + year	-	-
Total	60	100.0

8.2 Occupation:

The current and previous occupation of the VGD cardholders have been presented in table 40. It is seen that the occupation of the VGD cardholders changed after inclusion in the programme. Before inclusion in the programme the highest 68.3% were engaged in own household work followed by day labour (10.0%) and maidservant. After joining in the VGD programme the highest 53.3% were found engaged in own households work followed by 25.0% in "other" works and 15.0% day labourers. It may be noted that "other" includes works rather than household works which are income generating activities.

Table 40: Distribution of VGD Card holders by their Current Occupation and previous occupation.

Type of Occupation	Before participation in the programme		Current Occupation	
	No	%	No	%
Own household work	41	68.3	32	53.3
Maid servant	6	10.0	4	6.7
Day Labour	12	20.0	9	15.0
Weaver	1	1.7	-	-
Other	-	-	15	25.0
Total	60	100.0	60	100.0

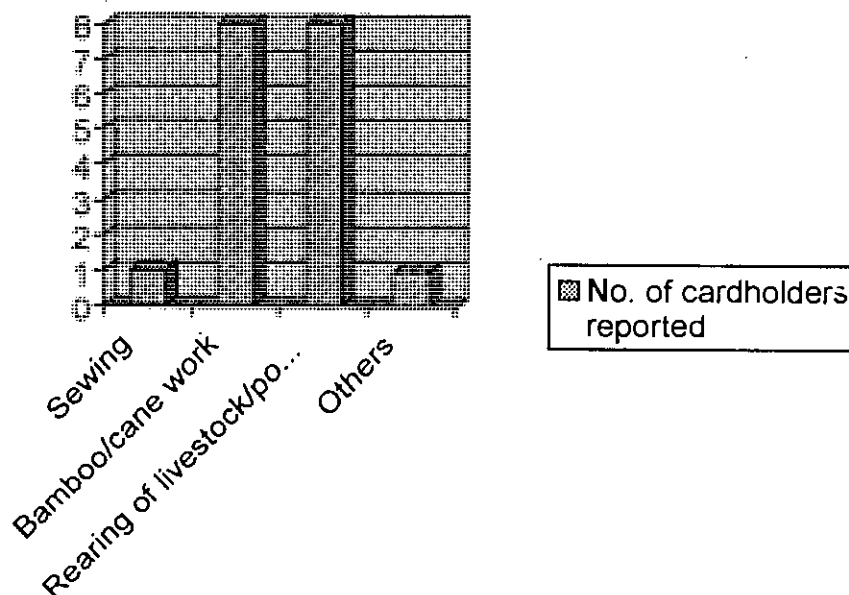
8.3 Amount of Wheat Received:

The VGD cardholders are supposed to get 31.25% kg of wheat per month. It is observed from the table 41 that out of 60 cardholders 39 or 65.0% get more than 30 kg of wheat means that they get the amount that has been allotted for them. The rest 35% get less than the fixed amount. Among such recipients 18.3% receive 26-29 kg, 15.0% receive 21-25 kg and 1.7% received 20 kg. Thus we see that nearly one third of the recipient get lower amount than the allotted amount.

Table 42: Distribution of VGD cardholders by type of skill training received by them.

Type of Skill training	No. of cardholders participated	% of total cardholders
Sewing	1	1.67
Bamboo/cane work	8	13.33
Rearing of livestock/poultry	8	13.33
Others	1	1.67
Total	18	30.00

Distribution of VGD cardholders reported in the programme by type of skill training received by them.



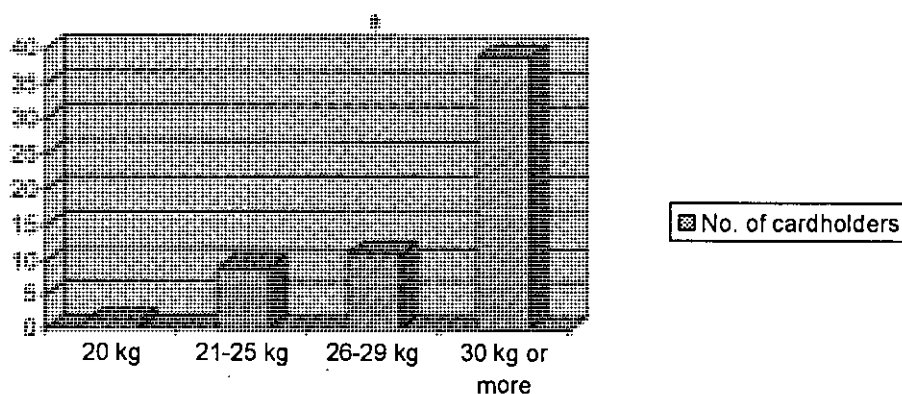
8.5 Duration of Training:

The duration of training by the receivers of skill training has been presented in table 43. It is seen from the table that the duration of training was small. The highest 15.0% received training of 6-10 days followed by 8.33% for 16 days or more and 6.67% for 3-5 days.

Table 41: Distribution of VGD cardholders by the amount of wheat received per month.

Quantity	No. of Cardholders	% of total
20 kg	1	1.7
21-25 kg	9	15.0
26-29 kg	11	18.3
30 kg or more	39	65.0
Total	60	100.0

Distribution of VGD cardholders by the amount of wheat received.



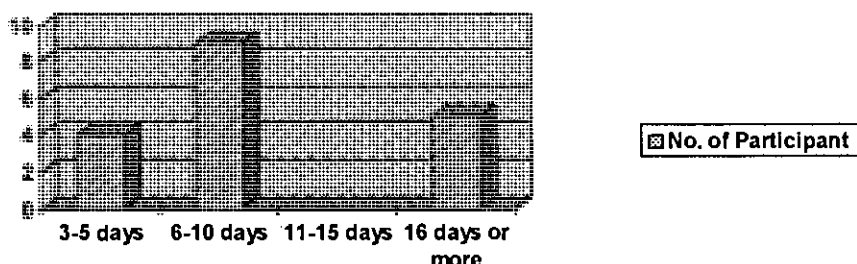
8.4 Skill Training:

All the VGD cardholders were supposed to get skill training from the VGD programme but practically this is not materialised. Only 30.0% of the VGD cardholders received some sort of training under the programme. The type of training received by them have been presented in table 42. It is seen that 13.33% received training in bamboo/cane work and the same percentage of VGD cardholders took training in rearing of livestock/poultry and only 1.67% received training in sewing.

Table 43: Distribution of VGD cardholders by their duration of training.

Duration	No. of participant	% of total cardholders
3-5 days	4	6.67
6-10 days	9	15.00
11-15 days	-	-
16 days or more	5	8.33
Total	18	30.00

Distribution of VGD cardholders by their duration of training.



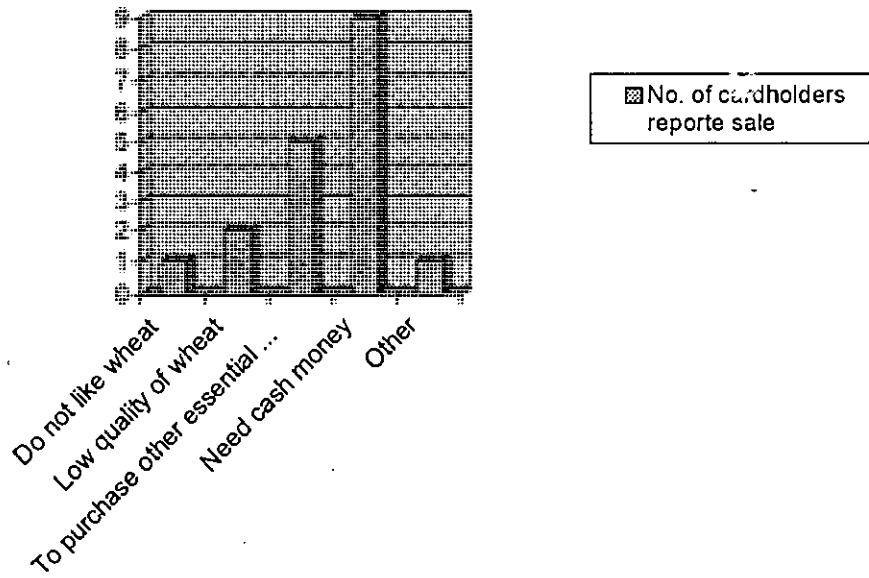
8.6 Reasons of Selling Wheat:

The reasons of selling wheat by the VGD cardholders have been presented in table 44. It is seen from the table that out of 60 cardholders 18 or 30% sold their wheat for different reason. The highest percentage of cardholders (15.0%) sold their wheat, as they need cash money followed by 8.33% cardholders who sold their wheat to purchase other essential items of their daily use and 3.3% sold wheat as the quality of wheat was low. Only 1 cardholder reported that he sold wheat as because he do not like wheat and 1 cardholder mentioned other problem.

Table 44: Distribution of VGD cardholders by their reasons of selling wheat.

Reasons	No. of cardholders reported sale	% of total cardholders (60)
Do not like wheat	1	1.67
Low quality of wheat	2	3.33
To purchase other essential items	5	8.33
Need cash money	9	15.00
Other	1	1.67
Total	18	30.00

Distribution of VGD cardholders by their reasons of selling wheat.



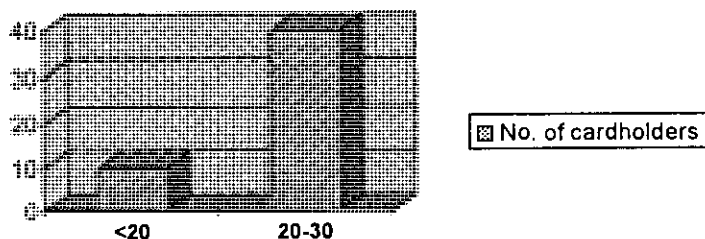
8.7 Monthly Saving:

The VGD cardholders supposed to save some money on monthly basis to a special VGD saving fund. This is more or less mandatory. The rate of subscription by the VGD cardholders to this special fund has been presented in table 45. It is seen that as many as 83.33% cardholders saved some money to this special fund. Of the total cardholders 66.66% cardholders saved tk 20-30 per month and 16.67% saved less than tk 20/- per month.

Table 45: Distribution of VGD cardholders by their monthly saving to VGD fund.

Rate of subscription	No. of cardholders	% of total cardholders
< 20	10	16.67
20-30	40	66.66
Total	50	83.33

8
Distribution of VGD cardholders by their monthly saving to VGD fund.



8.8 Loan from the VGD Saving Fund:

There is a provision for VGD cardholders to take loans from the VGD saving fund. The number of such cardholders and amount of loan taken by them has been presented in table 46. It is seen from the table that only 15.0% of the total cardholders received such loans. It is observed from the table that 8.33% received loan between tk 1000-2000, 3.3% received loan between tk 4001-5000 and 1.67% received loan in the range tk 2001-3000 and 5000 and above.

Table 46: Distribution of VGD cardholders by the amount of loan received from VGD saving fund.

Amount of Loan (tk)	No. of Household received	% of Total
1000-2000	5	8.33
2001-3000	1	1.67
3001-4000	-	-
4001-5000	2	3.33
5001 and above	1	1.67
Total	9	15.00

8.9 Participation in Social Welfare Societies:

A number of cardholders participated in different social welfare societies. The distribution of cardholders who participated in different social welfare organisations have been presented in table 47. It is seen that in all 24 or 40.0% of the cardholders

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participated in social welfare societies. All of these women were the member of NGO beneficiary society.

Table 47: Distribution of VGD cardholders by their participation in the social welfare societies.

Type of society	No. of participant	% of total cardholders
Women Co-operative	-	-
Landless Co-operative	-	-
NGO beneficiaries society	24	40.00
Total	24	40.00

8

CHAPTER-9

KEY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

It is a general consensus that social safety nets in the form of works and income transfer put positive response for mitigating the sufferings of the poor and reduce their poverty status. Among the food assisted programmes FFW and VGD are notable safety net programmes.

The findings from the micro-survey conducted by the present author indicate that food aids to the poor put positive contribution in human development indicators like education; health, nutrition. It is seen from the survey that the condition of the beneficiary households were better than their nonbeneficiary counterpart in respect of housing condition and utility services, educational attainment, income, asset accumulation and expenditure behaviour. The food and nutrition intake of the beneficiary households were also better than their nonbeneficiary counterpart. As regards poverty situation the condition of the beneficiary group was better than their nonbeneficiary counterpart.

Regarding the responses of the FFW labourers about the programme, it is observed that the duration of work was not very high. The means of getting their employment was the labour leader and there was little chance for bargaining regarding the wage rate. As regard the leakage in the programme the highest number of labourers were indifferent. This speaks the voicelessness of the poor. However a notable portion of labourers mentioned about leakage. As regards wage rate, the rate seems low and they are generally given cash payment instead of kind.

Regarding the benefit of the FFW programme the majority of the labourers opined that the outcome of the programme is beneficial to the locality. However, they suggested for more sustainable works.

The response obtained from the VGD cardholders showed that about one third of them did not get the expected amount of wheat. The number of cardholders receiving skill training was also one third of the total participant in the programme and duration of training was very small. The saving behaviour generated among the cardholders through VGD programme was praiseworthy. More than 80% of the VGD cardholders saved some money every month during VGD cycle. A large number of VGD cardholders also participated in beneficiary society which is an indication of the empowerment of women in decision making and also participation in nation building activity.

Now for further improvement of the food aided programmes the following recommendation can be made:

- (i) As food aids reduces poverty of the hardcore and ultrapoor this programme need to the continued as a measure for poverty reduction.
- (ii) In order to make the food aided programmes more effective the labourers of FFW programme and VGD cardholders should be included in the programme implementation process as a measure for increasing the "voice of the poor".
- (iii) Multidimensional use of food aids should be ensured through proper monitoring and evaluation by an independent agency taking representatives of the GO and NGO.
- (iv) The skill training programme under VGD programme need to be increased and participation of NGO for such training can be made for better training. The trained VGD participant can be supplied with micro-credit for income generating activities using the skill she received in training.
- (v) The food-aided programmes should be implemented at higher rate in the poverty prone areas of the country for income transfer to the poor and mitigating the suffering of the hardcore and ultra poor.
- (vi) The leakage and other misappropriation in food aided programmes need to be checked and severe punishment should be imposed to the person responsible for such leakage and misappropriation.
- (vii) GO and NGO co-operation in all food assisted duvelopment programme should be further geared up at all levels.

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SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE



Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology
Department of Urban and Regional Planning

Confidential
(Collected
information will be
used for research
and studies)

Socio-economic Characteristics of
The Beneficiaries/Non-beneficiaries
under Food for Works/VGD

Identification:

Division

District.....

Thana

Union.....

Household No.....

Name of the interviewer.....
Signature..... Date.....
.....

Name of the respondent.....
Date of interview.....
Duration of interview.....

Part-1: Household and Housing Characteristics.

Type of housing structure	Sources of light	Sources of water supply for		Sources of Fuel	Toilet Facility	Area of the main Housing structure sq. ft.	No. of Rooms in the main housing structure
		Drinking	Cooking and Other use				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Pucca-1 Semi-pucca-2 Katcha-3 Jhupri-4 Other-5	Electricity-1 Keroshine-2 Gas-3 Other-4	Tube well-1 Pucca well-2 Katcha well-3 Pond/tank-4 River/cannel-5	Tube well-1 Pucca well-2 Katcha well-3 Pond/tank-4 River/cannel-5	Gas-1 Kerosene-2 Electricity-3 Wood/bamboo-4 Leaves/cowdung/husk etc.-5	Pucca (Sanitary)-1 Slab-2 Katcha-3 Temporary-4 Bush/jungle-5		

Code List

Relationship with head of household (Column-4)	
Relationship	Code
Head	1
Husband/wife	2
Son/daughter	3
Father/mother	4
Others	5

Marital Status (Column-6)	
Marital Status	Code
Unmarried	1
Married	2
Widowed/widower	3
Divorced	4
Separated	

Level of Education (Column-9)	
Level of Education	Code
Never attended school	1
Class I-IV	2
Class VI-IX	3
SSC/HSC	4
Degree or equivalent	5
Post Graduate	6
Others	7

Main Activity (Column-10)	
Activity	Code
In work (including temporary absent)	1
Looking for job	2
Household work	3
Student	4
Inactive	5

Occupation (Main and Subsidiary)	
Occupation	Code
Agriculture	
Own land farmer	1
Owner cum tenant farmer	2
Tenant farmer	3
Agriculture labour	4
Fisheries/livestock	5
Other agriculture	6
Non-agriculture	
Employee of govt organisation	7
Employee of semi-govt./non govt. organization	8
Seller	9
Business	10
Production worker	11
Artisan	12
Other non-agri. labour	13
Other non-agriculture	14

Part-3: Ownership of Asset

A: Land ownership and its use.

Sl No.	Type of land own	Own		Rented in		Rented out		Total operated land		Value of own land (tk)
		acre	decimal	acre	decimal	acre	decimal	acre	decimal	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Homestead land									
2.	Cultivated land (temporary crop.)									
3.	Cultivated land (permanent crop.)									
4.	Pond/tank/ditch									
5.	Fallow land									
6.	Total									

B: Ownership of other durable assets

Sl. No.	Type of asset	Code	Quantity	Value (tk)
1.	2	3	4	5
1.	<u>Livestock and poultry</u>			
	Cow/Buffalo/Horse	01		
	Sheep/Goat	02		
	Total	03		
2.	<u>Agriculture Equipment</u>			
	Plough/Leveler/Spade	04		
	Power tiller	05		
	Deep tube well	06		
	Shallow tube well	07		
	Other	08		
	Total	09		
3.	<u>Fishing equipment</u>			
	Net	10		
	Fishing boat	11		
	Other equipment	12		
	Total	13		
4.	<u>Furniture</u>			
	Cot/Chouki	14		
	Table (all types)	15		
	Chair (all types)	16		
	Almirah (all types)	17		
	Sewing machine	18		
	Selves (all types)	19		
	Total	20		
5.	<u>Household equipments</u>			
	Television	21		
	Radio/Two-in-one/cassette	22		
	VCP/VCR	23		
	Calender	24		
	Fan	25		
	Freeze	26		
	Other	27		
Total	28			

Sl. No.	Type of asset	Code	Quantity	Value (tk)
1.	2	3	4	5
6.	Household Transport			
	Bi-cycle	29		
	Rickshaw	30		
	Van/Push cart	31		
	Motor cycle	32		
	Boat	33		
	Cart	34		
	Other	35		
	Total	36		
7.	Personal affects			
	Clock (all types)	37		
	Spectacles	38		
	Camera	39		
	Walkman/Pager	40		
	Handbag	41		
	Other	42		
	Total	43		
8.	Bedding			
	Quilt/Blanket/Pillow	44		
	Mosquito net/Curtain	45		
	Total	46		
9.	Kitchen equipment			
	Stove/Heater/Gas burner	47		
	Plate/Saucer/Dish	48		
	Other crockeries	49		
	Total	50		
10.	Ornaments			
	Ornaments (gold)	51		
	Ornament (silver)	52		
	Ornament (imitation)	53		
	Total	54		
11.	Other economic assets			
	Own house	55		
	Hand loom	56		
	Other cottage industry	57		
	Saving certificate/bond	58		
	Life insurance	59		
	Share (bank/company)	60		
	Total	61		
Grand Total		62		

Part-4(A): Household Income by Sources.

Sl. No.	Sources of Income	Code	Unit	Quantity	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Rice	1			
2.	Jute	2			
3.	Wheat	3			
4.	Sugar cane	4			
5.	Pulses	5			
6.	Other cereal crops	6			
7.	Cow/buffalo/Goat/sheep	7			
8.	Duck/hen	8			
9.	Milk	9			
10.	Fishery	10			
11.	Fruit/vegetables	11			
12.	Forestry	12			
13.	Other agriculture equipment	13			
14.	Total	14			

Part-4(B): Income from other sources.

Sl. No.	Item	Code	Unit	Quantity	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Wages/agriculture wages	15			
2.	Income from FFW/VGD programme	16			
3.	Business/Industry	17			
4.	Pay/remuneration/professional fee	18			
5.	Sale of asset/income from permanent asset	19			
6.	Gift/assistance/charity/zakat	20			
7.	Other income	21			
	<i>Total</i>	22			
	Grand total	23			

Part-5(A): Household Consumption Expenditure.

Member who took food in last 7 days									
Members	Code	1st day	2nd day	3rd day	4th day	5th day	6th day	7th day	Total
01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10
Above 10 years									
Below 10 years									
Total									

Food item	Code	Quantity		Value		Sources Own-1 Purchased-2 Programme-3 Gift-4
		Kg	Gram	Taka	Paisa	
01	02	03	04	05	06	07
1. Cereal						
Rice	1					
Flour/wheat	2					
Other cereal	3					
Total	4					
2. Pulse						
Masoor	5					
Moog	6					
Khesari	7					
Gram	8					
Other	9					
Total	10					
3. Fish						
Hilsa	11					
Ruhee/Katla/Mrigel	12					
Puti/tengra	13					
Chingri	14					
Other big fish	15					
Other small fish	16					
Total	17					

	01	02	03	04	05	06	07
4. Meat			8				
Beef		18					
Mutton		19					
Duck/chicken		20					
Chicken		21					
Total		22					
5. Eggs							
Duck		23					
Hen		24					
Total		25					
6. Vegetables							
Potato		26					
Bringal		27					
Spinach		28					
Pumpkin/gourd		29					
Other vegetables		30					
Total		31					
7. Spices							
Onion		32					
Garlic		33					
Turmeric		34					
Pepper		35					
Coriander seed		36					
Other hot spices		37					
Total		38					
8. Edible oil							
Mustard oil		39					
Soybean oil		40					
Gee		41					
Other oil		42					
Total		43					
9. Fruits							
Banana		44	8				
Mango		45					
Jack fruit		46					
Pineapple		47					
Other fruit		48					
Total		49					

01	02	03	04	05	06	07
10. Milk and milk products						
Liquid milk	50					
Powder milk	51					
Sweet meat	52					
Others	53					
Total	54					
11. Drinks						
Coca-Cola/Fanta/Seven-up	55					
Ovaltine/Maltova	56					
Others	57					
12. Miscellaneous food items						
Sugar	58					
Candy	59					
Nut	60					
Battle leaf	61					
13. Food taken outside home						
Rice with curry	62					
Snaks	63					
Others	64					
Total	65					
Grand total	66					

Part-5(B): Household Non-food Expenditure.

Sl. No.	Items of expenditure	Code	Reference period	Amount	Annual Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Fuel and lighting	1			
2.	Washing, cleaning detergent	2			
3.	Transport and Communication	3			
4.	Clothing and footwear	4			
5.	Household equipments	5			
6.	Kitchen equipments	6			
7.	Radio/TV/Musical instrument	7			
8.	Personal effects	8			
9.	Education expenditure	9			
10.	Housing and house rent	10			
11.	Entertainment and reading expenditure	11			
12.	Medicare	12			
13.	Tax, interest, penalty etc.	13			
14.	Other expenditure	14			
15.	Total expenditure	15			



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Survey equestinnaire for FFW labourers

Identification:

Division	<input type="text"/>		
District	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
Thana	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
Union	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
Household No.....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Duration of Work

From.....to.....

Total days.....

Name of the Interviewer

Signature

Duration of interview.....

Sl. No.	Name of the labourer	Age	Sex	Occupation before participation in the programme (Code as schedule 1)	No of days worked (days)	Type of work (Code)	No of days absent	Reason for absence	Existence of the Programme within village-1 outside village-2
01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10

Types of Work

Type of work	Code
Construction of road	01
Construction of embankment	02
Digging of cannel	03
Re-excavation of river/cannel	04
Earth filling of school ground	05
Earth filling in grave yard	06
Others	07

If outside village distance	Means communication Foot-1 Transport-2	<u>Means of getting job</u> Through labour leader-1 Trough PIC member-2 Other-3	<u>Bargaining</u> Did you bargain for wage rate Yes-1 No-2	Daily wage rate Cash-1 Kind-2	Value		
					Cash 16	Kind 17	Total 18
11	12	13	14	15			

Leakage Yes-1 No-2	Do you think that the work done under the programme is beneficial to your locality Yes-1 No-2	If Yes type of benefit (Code)	Do you think that the outcome the programme can be made more beneficial Yes-1 No-2	If Yes means (Code)
19	20	21	22	23

Type of benefit	
Built rural infrastructure	01
Reduce water logging	02
Crop yield rate increase by embankment	03
Improve environment by plantation	04
Others	05

Means of more beneficial programme	
Pucca road	01
Bridge/culvert	02
School/college/madrasha	03
Playground	04
Cannel digging	05
Others	06



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Special Questionnaire for VGD Beneficiaries

Identification:

Division	<input type="text"/>		
District	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
Thana	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
Union	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
Household No.....	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Name of enumerator

Date

Signature

Information on VGD Beneficiaries:

HH No	Name of Beneficiaries	Duration of Stay in the programme	Previous occupation	Current occupation	Monthly receipt of			If sold the items received			
					Wheat (kg)	Others		Name	Quantity	Value	Reason for sale
						Name	Quantity				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

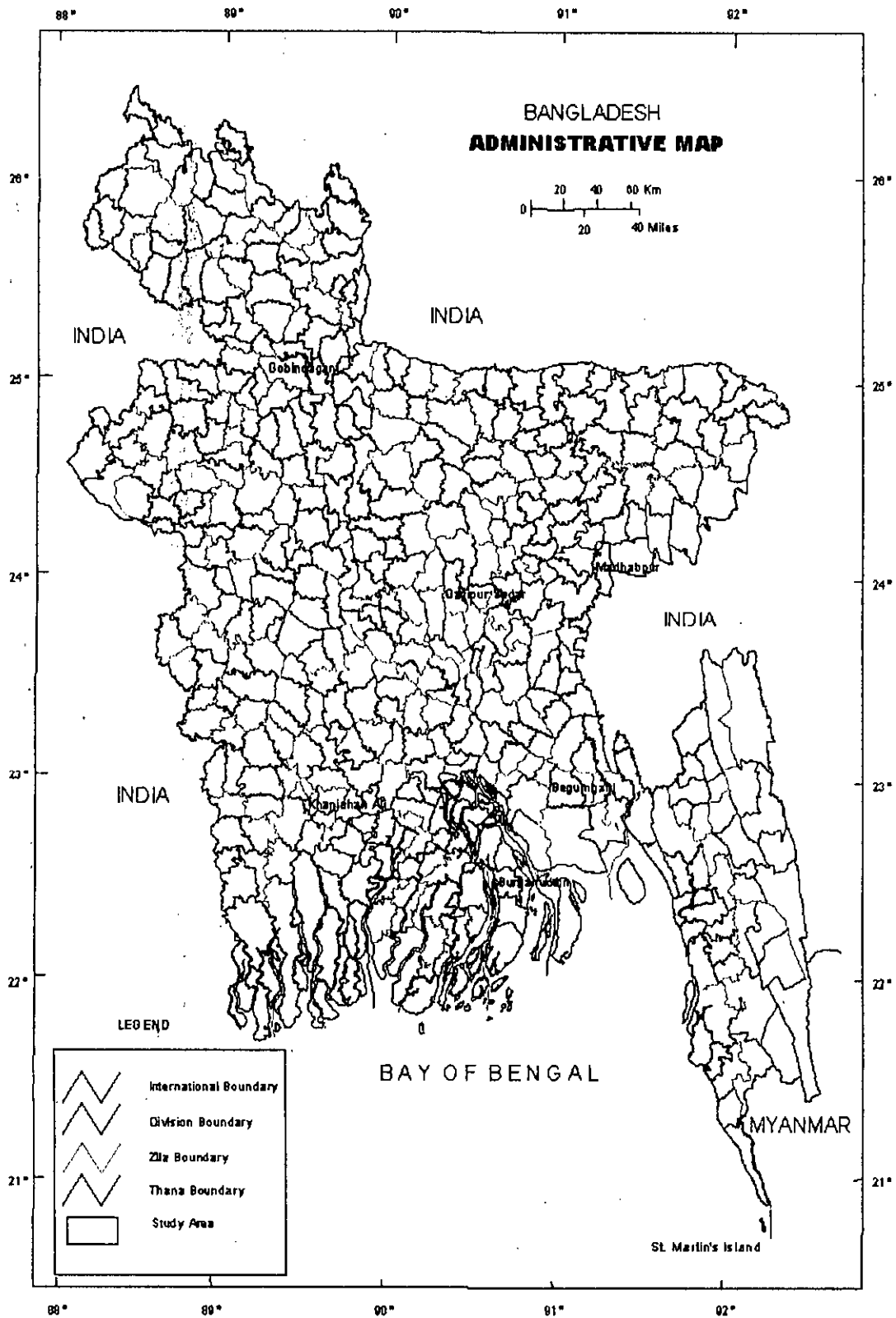
Occupation Code	
Own household work	01
Maid servant	02
Day labour	03
Weaver	04
Potter	05
Tailor/Batique	06
Seller	07
Production worker (garment etc.)	08
Begger	09
Rearing of livestock	10
Poultry	11
Fishery	12
Unable to Work	13
Others	14

Reason for selling thee items (wheat etc.)	
Do not like wheat	01
Low quality of wheat	02
To purchase other essential items	03
Need cash money	04
Others	05

Rate of monthly subscription to VGD fund	If received loan (amount)	Whether received any skill training? Yes-1 No-2	If Yes			Whether participated any co-operative or any samitee Yes-1 No-2	If Yes type (Code)
			Type of training (Code)	Duration	Monthly income from such skill		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

Code for skill training	
Sewing	01
Knitting	02
Bamboo/cane work	03
Boutique/Dying	04
Primary health care	05
Rearing of livestock poultry	06
Social forestry	07
Pisciculture	08
Agriculture extension	09
Others	10

Type of organization	
Women co-operative	01
Landless co-operative	02
NGO	03
Women club	04
Loan receiving club	05
Others	06



PICTURE SHOWING THE
DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES UNDER
FOOD AIDED DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMMES



With the construction of the GCCR, a number of girls are now coming to school on bicycles. This is a new feature in the village and people have accepted it. (Teacher)



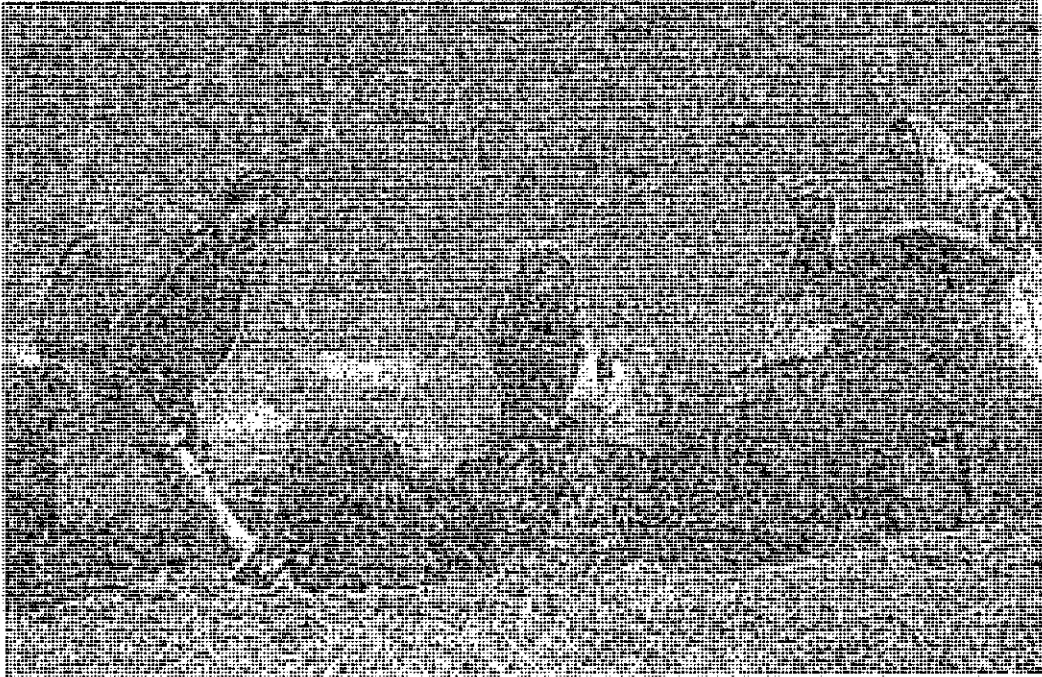
VGD beneficiaries are engaged in management nurseries



Group Meeting of VGD beneficiaries



Human Resource Development by FFW Programme



VGD beneficiaries are working in the road construction

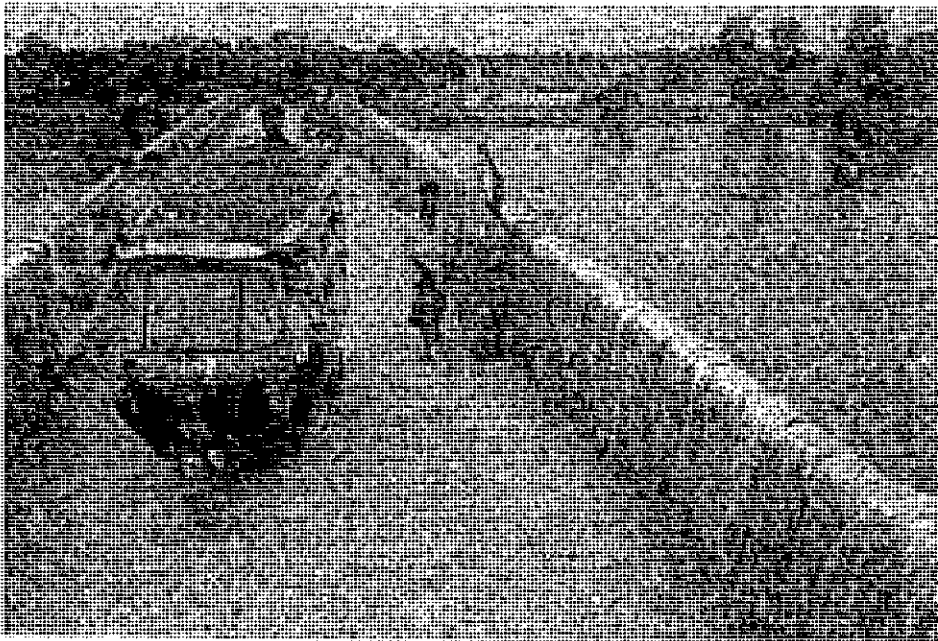


Women workers are working in the road construction



Women beneficiaries in Fisheries Scheme under VGD

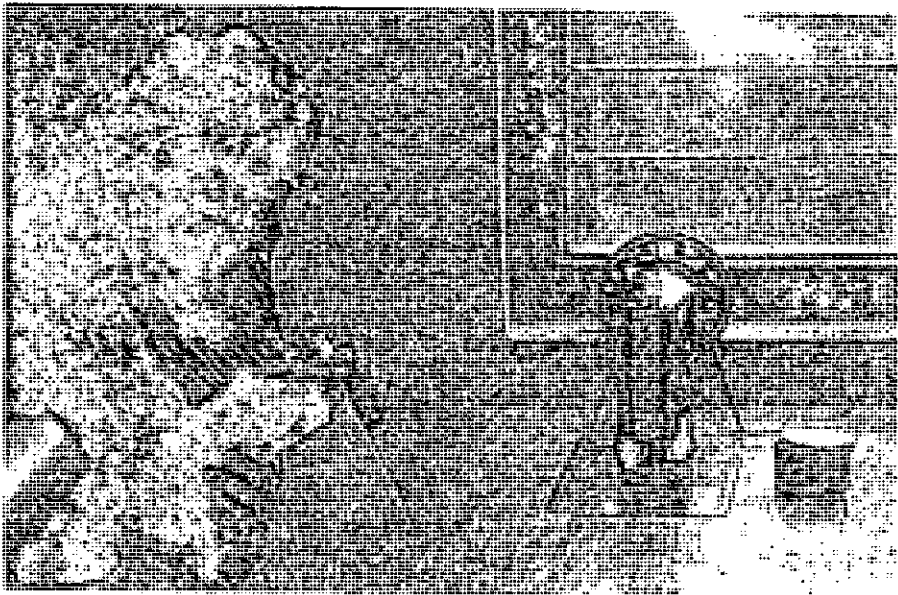
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Newly constructed Road Under Food Programme



Poultry rearing by women under VGD Programme



Tailoring is taught in Women Training Center under VGD



Income generating activity by VGD women



NGO credit to VGD beneficiary enabled them for cattle raising

