

**Youth Self-Employment Programme  
in Rural Bangladesh  
Rationale and Realities of a Government Initiative**



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**Dr. Md. Maqsodul Haque**



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## **Dedication**

Dedicated to My Parents, Teachers and the  
Freedom Fighters of the Country who  
Taught Me the Lesson of Self Help  
Struggle and Sacrifice



## Foreword

I am pleased to write a foreword for the publication of Ph.D dissertation of Dr. Md. Maqsoodul Haque, Assistant Professor, (Social Welfare) titled, ‘Youth Self-Employment Programme in Rural Bangladesh- Rationale and Realities of a Government Initiative’. Department of Youth Development (DYD) has introduced and implemented various programmes since its inception in 1981. Youth Training and Self-employment Programme (YTSEP) is one of its prominent activities, and to make it happen effectively all through Bangladesh, a strong institutional set-up has been developed upto upazila level. But it is important to assess the impact of the YTSEP through a rigorous study for strengthening, and if necessary, for modifying and improving the programme. In this study, an attempt was made to evaluate the effectiveness of YTSEP. The study also aimed at critically reviewing the activities of the Youth Training and Self-employment Programme (YTSEP) that had been conducted during the period from 2003-2004 to 2007-2008 in the district of Tangail and at assessing its impact on the lives of self-employed youth who participated in YTSEP vis-a-vis those who have been self-employed, but without DYD interventions of training or credit. This book is based on the findings and recommendations of this study.

Its findings reveal that the living standard of the respondents of the participants (in YTSEP) group is significantly better than that of the non-participants (those who did not participate in the programme) group. The study further shows that poultry, fisheries and dress-making were attractive and profitable schemes, compared to others. In respect of increase of monthly income, profit earning, rate of loan repayment, employment generation for others, saving habits, new possession of family assets and achievement of economic solvency, the indexes are higher with the participants group than that with the non-participant group. Moreover, the participant group has earned increasingly higher curves as regards positive change in the quality of life, social status, women empowerment and participation in community affairs, etc. than those who were not DYD beneficiaries.

The findings of the study, I hope, will be of great use and guidance to the project planners, researchers, policy makers and development officials. This study will also help to increase inquisitiveness about youth training and self-employment programmes of DYD. I congratulate Dr. Md. Maqsoodul Haque on his valuable contribution in the field of youth development through this study.

**A.K.M Manzurul Hauque, NDC**  
Director General  
Department of Youth Development  
Ministry of Youth & Sports

## Foreword

It is incontrovertible that the present demography of Bangladesh is heavily tilted towards youth, and the next couple of decades will witness an opening of a 'Window of opportunity' for Bangladesh. As a matter of fact, the future of Bangladesh will very much depend on how successfully we, as a nation, engage our young men and women in different spheres of nation building. Undoubtedly research findings are important for better understanding of youth problems/challenges and thereafter to take appropriate steps in overcoming those and upgrading the quality of youth programme. In view of this perspective, the study entitled 'Nature and Consequences of Youth Self-employment Programme in Rural Bangladesh: A Study of Tangail District' has been conducted by Dr. Md. Maqsoodul Haque is a very commendable step. The study was financed by Social Science Research Council (SSRC) of Ministry of Planning and I feel proud personally to be associated with this process. I am highly pleased to know that this research work is going to be published very soon in book form.

I believe that the findings of this study will provide necessary inputs for overall development of youths, in particular in the process of planning and implementation of youth self-employment programmes in Bangladesh. I must congratulate the author for the invaluable contribution he has made to the arena of human knowledge by producing this book. I wish him long life and expect further contribution from him in the growth and development of scientific knowledge in the field of youth development and related areas.

**Dr. Md. Abdur Rahim Khan**  
Director  
Social Science Research Council  
Planning Commission  
Ministry of Planning



## Foreword

It gives me a great pleasure to write the foreword of the book titled, ‘Youth Self-Employment Programme in Rural Bangladesh- Rationale and Realities of a Government Initiative’ undertaken by Dr. Md. Maqsoodul Haque, Assistant Professor, Social Welfare, Government Safar Ali College, Araihasar, Narayangonj.

There is growing awareness among people of the world about the problem of youth. The topic that he selected for his thesis has a dual importance as it deals with both youth and the phenomenon of self-employment. Youth is the phase of life in which one is supposed to achieve biological, social, economic and material independence. Non-achievement of these, renders the personality incomplete. Employment gives economic, social and material independence, and satisfaction in human life. Creating employment opportunities for the youth is a priority programme in Bangladesh. In this respect, Department of Youth Development (DYD) has been implementing Youth Training and Self-employment Programme (YTSEP) for the last twenty years in the country. In the changing socio-economic scenario, it is important to assess the impact of the YTSEP through a rigorous study on the younger people of Bangladesh for strengthening and modifying the programme.

Any kind of social study in Bangladesh will bear no significance unless its importance is related to changing society. It has been found that the major inputs provided by the YTSEP of DYD are motivation, training, micro-credit and other necessary ones. The study shows that on the basis of YTSEP intervention, the participant group is more consistent than the non-participant group in terms of increasing monthly income, savings habit, profit earning, loan repayment rate, creating employment opportunities for others and other socio-economic improvement. In this study, he contributed very largely to almost all of the incidents, challenges and realities of self-employed youth based on facts and evidences. A lot of information about youth development which was hidden before has come to light in his study. Besides, the author sincerely focused on the socio-demographic and economic situations of our rural youth with critical investigation of some individual cases. In fine, he made some recommendations to minimize the problems of self-employed youth in rural Bangladesh.

The book will prove useful and informative to planners, policy makers, teachers, students, research scholars and social workers in Bangladesh. I am sure, this work will be valuable addition to the literature in the youth development field.

I feel proud of him and hope he will continue his research efforts on different socially significant matters.

**Professor Dr. Md. Nurul Islam**  
Director  
Institute of Social Welfare and Research  
University of Dhaka  
&  
Supervisor, Ph.D. Programme

## Preface

Youth is an important stage of life with long-lasting consequences not just for the individual but for society as a whole. At the same time it is a product of society. Youth population by its size constitute a major resources to the country, the proper utilization of which shall be made it a great capital and neglect of which would mean a liability and is likely to invite unbearable disaster socially, economically and politically. So the overall performance and function of the society depends on the activities of young people. Therefore, it is imperative to develop the youth with a view to making them educationally sound, socially useful and financially self-dependent.

In Bangladesh, there is a growing interest in the subject of youth & youth employment generation in the wake of rapid socio-economic change. They form about one third of the total population of the country. In this context to utilize youth force into assets, programme for the development of youth are demanding increased attention among the national planners, thinkers, intellectuals and the administrators of Bangladesh. Self-employment is an alternative income generating strategy for rural households. Self-employment is found to be sensitive to local unemployment rates and is associated with vocational and technical training, access to land, and the extent to which the local economy can be considered 'rural'. In Bangladesh, different sectors are not capable of generating employment for the youth. About half of the agricultural labour force is landless and there is no sufficient land to engage the remaining half who own land, therefore, self-employment may be alternative source for generation of employment opportunities. Youth Training and Self-employment programme (YTSEP) is the largest and nationally preferred programme of the Department of Youth Development (DYD). The view of the programme is to impart skill development training to the unemployed youth on different trades and provide them credit facilities for establishment of self-employment projects. There has been no comprehensive study on the Youth Training and Self-employment Programme (YTSEP) in Bangladesh so far. From this point of view this study is a contribution to add a new area of knowledge of the effectiveness of self-employment as well as the effect of the training. This study is mainly an evaluative by nature with a view to critically reviewing the activities of YTSEP and to assess the impact on life of the self-employed youth's who participated in it in comparison to non-participant self-employed youth.

This book, in its present form as an outcome of my Ph.D thesis, is a humble attempt by the author to bring forward some aspects of youth self-employment programme. It is hoped, that the study will be able to develop an insight into the youth self-employment programme and help the social workers, planners, policy makers, administrators and organizations working in the field of youth development. In a work of this nature there always remains a scope for addition and improvement. So suggestions from the readers and reviewers, if any, will be gratefully accepted.

**Dr. Md. Maqsodul Haque**

# Acknowledgements

All praises are due to the Almighty, the Merciful Allah, who has created everything in the universe and who enabled me to complete this research.

This book is a revised version of the doctoral dissertation which I submitted to the National University, Gazipur, Bangladesh, in December 2010.

I must express my deep sense of gratitude and immense indebtedness to my benevolent teacher and supervisor Dr. Md. Nurul Islam, Professor, Institute of Social Welfare and Research, University of Dhaka for his scholastic guidance, valuable advice, generous help and suggestions for completion of the study. His tireless and prudent guidance helped me greatly in improving my ability and skill to finish this complicated but thrilling work.

I am grateful to the authority of National University, Gazipur, Bangladesh, who has given me the opportunity to work in this research field. I am greatly indebted to Dr. Md. Anwar Hossain, Chairman, Academic Committee, Social Sciences Group, National University, Gazipur for his generous help and inspiration in developing ideas of the present research work. I am also equally grateful to Dr. Mohammad Issa, present Chairman, Academic Committee, Social Sciences Group, for his kind co-operation.

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I acknowledge the financial support of the Social Science Research Council, Planning Commission, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

provided to me in conducting this study. In this respect, I place on record my gratitude to Dr. Md. Abdur Rahim Khan, Director, SSRC, who is kind enough to go through the thesis and offer useful suggestions and guidance to improve the presentation.

I am grateful to the Ministry of Education, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh for giving me kind permission and privilege to complete my Ph.D. research.

I express my deep appreciation to the officials of the Department of Youth Development (DYD) at the Head Office levels as well as local levels for their earnest help and cooperation during my fieldwork for data collection, in particular. I am grateful to A.K.M. Manzurul Hauque, Director General, Syed Ali Reja, Director (Planning), Sayed Abdul Quayom, Deputy Director (Planning), Md. Yousuf Hossen and Md. Shibly Sadik Bhuiyan of DYD for their sincere and spontaneous assistance in providing me with relevant materials. I feel honoured to express my deep sense of gratitude to all the respondents of the study areas for their cordial response and cooperation.

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I also show my gratitude and heartfelt thanks to my dear colleague Munshi Sirajul Haque, Assistant Professor of English, Choumuhani Govt. S.A. College, Noakhali, Dr. Md. Abdur Rahaman, Lecturer of Social Work, Rajshahi College and my cousin Farhana Abedin, Assistant Teacher of English, Government Girls High School, Noakhali, who have contributed a lot in developing the language of my thesis.

Special thanks are due to my colleagues Md. Abdullah Masud, Assistant Professor, Mohammad Abu Sayeed, Lecturer and Marina Jahan, Lectuer in the Department of Social Work, Govt. Safar Ali College for their co-operation.

None of this work would have been possible without the initiative and inspiration of my parents Md. Fazlul Haque and Sufia Khanam through all the paths of educational achievement. I express deep appreciation to my wife Ruma Akter for her persistent cooperation and encouragement.

My thanks are due to Professor Dr. Aka Firowz Ahmad of Osder Publications for his intimate interest in the publication of this book.

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March 2013  
Government Safar Ali College  
Araihasar, Narayangonj

**Dr. Md. Maqsodul Haque**

## List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

4-H	Head, Heart, Hands and Health
BBS	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics
DYD	Department of Youth Development
e.g.	Example
et. al	et alii, and others
etc.	Etcetera
FFA	Future Farmers of America
GOB	Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh
GOs	Government Organizations
HSC	Higher Secondary School Certificate
i.e.	That is
ILO	International Labour Organization
IYY	International Youth Year
Km	Kilometer
NGOs	Non-Government Organization
NOs	Numbers
NYC	National Youth Centre
NYP	National Youth Policy
SDPS	Special Deposit Pension Scheme
SSC	Secondary School Certificate.
Taka	Taka
TRYSEM	Training of Rural Youth for Self-employment
UK	United Kingdom
UNs	United Nations
USA	United States of America
V-AID	Village Agricultural and Industrial Development
Vol.	Volume
YMCA	The Young Men's Christian Association
YTC	Youth Training Centre
C.V	Co-efficient of Variance
YTSEP	Youth Training and Self-employment Programme
$\chi^2$	Chi-square

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# Chapter 1

## Introduction

### 1.0 Introduction

Bangladesh, a developing country, feels the necessity to involve the youths in her overall socio-economic development. National development largely depends upon the utilization of the youth force belonging to the age group of 18-35 years, who are one third of the total population of the country. With a view to promoting an enabling environment for active participation of the youth force in the mainstream development process, the Department of Youth Development (DYD), has been implementing different programmes since its inception (in 1981). In this study, an attempt was made to evaluate the effectiveness of Youth Training and Self-Employment Programme (YTSEP) of the DYD. The study used empirical data collected through an intensive survey of self-employed youth (both participant & non-participant groups) families from twelve upazilas of Tangail district. In the changing socio-economic scenario, it is, therefore, deemed necessary to assess effectiveness, efficacies, relevance as well as limitations of this programmes of the DYD.

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Unemployment problem and job creation difficulties are some of the most serious economic and social phenomena of our day.<sup>1</sup> Rural areas in many developed countries have witnessed high rates of unemployment and under employment in recent years.<sup>2</sup> Young people are particularly hard hit by the difficult economic conditions in rural areas; unemployment rates for rural youth are extremely high and income levels for rural youth are low in comparison to both national average and averages for other age cohorts in rural areas.<sup>3</sup> Increasing rural poverty and a slow recovery from the recessions of the early 1980's have lead many policy-makers to re-examine traditional approaches to rural economic develop-

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<sup>1</sup> Christian Huillet, "Trend in Rural Policy: The Employment Issue", *Rural Employment – An International Perspective* ed. by Ray D. Bollmen and Johan M. Bryden (Canada: Cab International in Association with the Canadian Rural Restructing Foundation, 1997), p. 338.

<sup>2</sup> J. Findeis, "Utilization of rural labor resources", *Economic adaption: Alternatives for Non-metropolitan Areas*, ed. by D. Barkley (Westview: Boulder, Co; 1993), pp. 49-68.

<sup>3</sup> Dee An Wenk and Constance Hardesty, "The effects of rural-to-urban migration on the poverty status of youth in the 1980s", *Rural Sociology*, vol. 58, No.1, 1993, pp. 76-92.

ment. Among the new approaches considered are incubation of small business and fostering self-employment.<sup>4</sup>

Bangladesh is one of the most densely populated countries in the world. According to CIA-The World Fact book-Bangladesh, the present population of the country is estimated as 150.5 millions that includes 49.7 millions youth between age group of 15-35 years and 180 millions population has been projected in 2025. By the end of 2025, the projected youth population is expected to be 59.4 millions.<sup>5</sup> The population density is 979 per square kilometer which is the highest in the world except city states like Singapore and Hongkong. The population is growing at the rate of 1.48 percent per year.<sup>6</sup> Increase of population also increases the dependency ratio as well as youth force.

Table-1.1: Youth Population in Bangladesh

Year	Young men as % of total population	Young women as % of total population	Youth as % of total population
1971	19.8	24.4	23.1
1974	21.4	22.6	20.0
1981	23.6	25.4	24.5
1991	30.0	30.4	30.2
2001	31.8	30.9	30.8

Source: Bangladesh population census 1974, 1981, 1991, 2001

Bangladesh has a growing number of youth. The growth rate of youth population are 2.11 in 1974, 3.96 in 1981, 2.46 in 1991, 2.16 in 1995, 3.46 in 2000 and it will be 2.42 in 2020.<sup>7</sup> This country is the eight most populous country of the world with highest population density. Bangladesh is certainly enjoying the privilege of a demographic bonus. But the moot question is how far is Bangladesh going to utilize there youth energetic forces in the process of national development? The likely

<sup>4</sup> Judith J. Stallman and Bageshwari Sherchand, "Self-employment in Rural Virginia," *Rural Employment—An International Perspective*, ed. by Ray D. Bollman and Jahan M. Bryden, (Canada: Cab International in association with the Canadian Rural Restructing Foundation, 1997) p. 291.

<sup>5</sup> Md. Abdul Momen, "Youth activities in Bangladesh—a new dimension" *Souvenir of National Youth Day*, Department of Youth Development, Ministry of Youth and Sports, 2008, p. 15.

<sup>6</sup> Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, *Statistical Pocket Book of Bangladesh 2008*, (Dhaka: Reproduction, Documentation and Publishing Wing, BBS, 2009), p. 7.

<sup>7</sup> Abul Barkat et. al, 'Bangladesh country Report: Implementation if ICPD Programme of Action and the Bali Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development,' presented at ESCAP High level Meeting, 24-27, March, 1998, Bangkok, Thailand.

negative answer to this question is the limited scope for improvement or participation of youth in the process of national development. During the language movement in 1952, the mass movement in 1969, the War of Independence in 1971 and the movement for democracy in 1990, the youth demonstrated a great force for mobilization and social transformation. But youths today are stigmatized even criminalized and at the same time they are on the frontlines of transformative social and political actions. About 73% of youths live in rural areas in acute poverty. They are deprived of a minimum level of education, training and employment. At least 66% are either employed or under-employed. High levels of illiteracy, half-literacy and unemployment also exist amongst youths who reside in urban areas. According to a estimate, between 40-44 percent of the urban educated youth of Bangladesh are without gainful employment.<sup>8</sup>

To days unemployed youth are tomorrow's poor fathers who can provide no opportunities their children to overcome the chain of poverty. Often the rural illiterate and traditional parents would get their unemployed sons married as soon as they (sons) attain puberty. Similarly, when the girls remain idle at home, the parents are anxious to get them married away even at an age before they have attained puberty or have known the responsibilities of wifhood and motherhood. The children of those young poor fathers and mothers perpetuate poverty in its worst form. The bulk of the unemployed and underemployed youth can hardly realize their potentials and will, therefore, have low achievement in their whole life, the consequence of which is low achievement for the whole society.<sup>9</sup>

As a result, the youth attract the overall developments and there have been mounting pressure in recent years to develop youth oriented policies and programs. To that extent this study is contribution to rebuilding the youth as a positive power and sustaining this power for a better society in the years ahead. The present evaluation study was undertaken to addresses the several questions. Firstly, what are the selected socio-economic backgrounds of programme participants and non-participants self-employed youth? Secondly, what type of income generating

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<sup>8</sup> Abdur Rahim Khan, "Are youths moving forward? A Bangladesh Perspective," *Youth in Transition—The Challengers of generational change in Asia*, ed. by Fay Gale and Stephanie Fahey (Bangkok: The Association of Asian Social Science Research Council, 2005), p. 119.

<sup>9</sup> Ahmadullah Mia, "Youth in Distress: A Psycho-Social Analysis of Youth Unemployment in Bangladesh," *Social Science Review, The Dhaka University Studies*, Part-D, Vol-II, Number-II, 1985, p.10.

activities youth are involved in? Thirdly, what nature of activities is undertaken by DYD to support the self-employment project? Fourthly, what are the selected socio-economic impacts of youth self-employment activities on the study people?

## 1.2 Statement of the Problem

Youth are the main force of any nation. They would remain the most important section of any country either today or tomorrow. The role of youth in society is both ancient and eternal. Hence, youth have a special role to play in the drive for progress and development in any nation.<sup>10</sup> At all times the young people are considered to be endowed with many qualities of head and heart. They possess energy, spirit and idealism and if adequate opportunities are available for canalizing their idealism and energy, they can be effectively engaged in various social, economic, political and cultural development activities at local, national and even international fronts.<sup>11</sup>

In our country, the National Youth Policy declared by the government in the 1980's defined youth from the biological point of view as an age group spanning the years between 15 to 30, very recently the National Youth Policy 2003 has declared that the population belonging to the age group of 18-35 should be regarded as youth. Youth constitute the bulk of the Bangladeshi population with nearly 18% within the age group of 15-24 and 14.23%, belonging to the age bracket of 25-36.<sup>12</sup> Accordingly, with a total Bangladeshi population of 144.5 million around one third can be identified as youth.<sup>13</sup>

Historically, the youth in Bangladesh have constituted a great force effecting progressive in social and political change. With their creativity, dynamism and urge for the achievement of better life goals, they still constitute to form an enormous reinforces for national development.<sup>14</sup> The youth begin their life as child laborer and continue to remain there until gainful employment is obtained. In the rural areas, 80 percent of the children (10-14 years) and youth (15-29 years) work in agriculture. Only

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<sup>10</sup> A.B.M. Nurul Anwar, "Rural Youth: Potential Client Group for Agricultural Extension in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century". *New Vista in Rural Development- Strategies and Approaches*, ed. by R.K. Samanta, (New Delhi): B.R. Publishing Corporation, 2000), p. 127.

<sup>11</sup> Mohammed Sadeque, "A study of the Educated Rural Youth," (Rajshahi : Department of Social Work, University of Rajshahi, 1978), p.78.

<sup>12</sup> Abdur Rahim Khan, *op. cit.*, p. 119.

<sup>13</sup> Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), *op.cit.*, p.7.

<sup>14</sup> Mizanur Rahman Shelly, ed., *Youth Power*, (Dhaka: A Department of Social Welfare Publication, 1978-79), p. III of Preface.



10 percent are engaged in off-farm activities, 3 percent in transport services and 4 percent in distribution and sales. Nearby one third of these youth are engaged in casual laborer without any guarantee of work. Most often (especially the female youth) their only compensation is daily meals. It is indeed shocking that in the age group 15-30 years 21 percent of males and 30 percent of female, workers work for no wages. This hidden unemployment is higher among the rural youth than other age groups. This situation of rural youth is very grim in Bangladesh.<sup>15</sup>

Labour force survey (1999-2000) of Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) shows that underemployment of the labour force is 31.9% in 1999-2000 and magnitude of this problem is prevalent more in rural areas (35%) than in urban areas (18.2%). Magnitude of underemployment accelerated more than twice in the last decade by increasing from 17.1% in 1983-84 to 31.9% in 1999-2000. The situation has worsen further because of high growth rate of labour force i.e. 50.7 million in 1959 to 59.0 million in 1995-96 and growing at a rate of 2.3% per annum.<sup>16</sup>

Table-1.2: Labour Force Characteristics by Sex (in million)<sup>17</sup>

Population Category	Male	Female	Both sex
Total Population	74.0	70.5	144.5
Economically Active Population	37.4	12.1	49.5
Employed Population	36.1	11.3	47.4
Unemployed Population	1.2	0.9	2.1
Youth Labour Force (15-29)	13.2	4.6	17.8

Source: BBS (2008), Report of LFS-2005/2006.

Youth labour force is increasing at a greater rate than the youth employment rate that is not matching with the increasing of youth force growth rate.

The right to employment has been recognized by the UNs as the essential foundation for economic democracy and every society has the responsibility to provide employment opportunities for everyone. Employment is not a privilege but a fundamental human right, according to Article 20 of our constitution (Constitution, GOB).

The growing unemployment can adversely increase incidence of poverty, which affected young generation, create unrest in the society and

<sup>15</sup> Ahmadullah Mia, "Main Social and Cultural Issues Affecting Youth", (Bangkok: ESCAP country Monograph on the profile of youth in Bangladesh. 1983). p. 121

<sup>16</sup> Md. Easin Ali, *Impact of Skill Development Training on Pro-active Rural Youth for Their Self-employment in CVDP Villages*, (Comilla: BARD, 1997), p.2

<sup>17</sup> Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, *op. cit.* pp. 7, 158 & 160.

even frustrate the career of employed people. Like other developing countries in Asia, employment opportunities in Rural Bangladesh are also becoming scarce for the youth people.<sup>18</sup> This situation urgently demands deliberate efforts towards devising vocational and extra-academic curricula, programmes and activities that suit various interests of youth, especially income generation and self-employment.<sup>19</sup> In this circumstance at the beginning of last century a number of youth's movement came into being in various names in different countries of the world.<sup>20</sup> Such as 4-H Programmes of USA, YMCA (UK), Boy Scout Movement (UK), TRISEM (India), Nehru Yuvak Kendras (India), Farm Guide Movement (Pakistan), Young Men's Club (Bangladesh) and Palli mongal Societies (Bangladesh) etc.

The United Nations has long recognized that the imagination, ideals and energies of young women and men are vital for the sustainable development of the society. This was acknowledged in 1965 by the member states of the UN where they endorsed the declaration on the promotion among youth of the Ideals of peace, mutual respect, and understanding between peoples. Two decades later, the call by the UN General Assembly for the observance of the 1985 International Year for the Youth, Participation, Development and Peace draw international attention to the important role for the young people play in the world, and, in particular their potential contribution to development and the goals of the United Nation charter.<sup>21</sup>

In 1995, on the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year, the United Nations Strengthened its commitment to young people by directing the international communities response to the challenges to youth into the next millennium. It did this by adopting an international Strategy–The World Programme of Action for Youth to the year 2000 and beyond to address more effectively. The Problems of young men and women are to increase opportunities for their participations in society.<sup>22</sup>

The importance of youth work in rural development has long been recognized. Rural youth work has been accepted as a way to introduce

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<sup>18</sup> Pk. Md. Motiur Rahman; *Poverty Issues In Rural Bangladesh*. (Dhaka: University Press Limited, 1994), pp. 96-97.

<sup>19</sup> A.B.M. Nurul Anwar, *Female Rural Youth: A Neglected but potential Force*, (Dhaka: The Daily Independent, 6 December, 1995).

<sup>20</sup> Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, *Training for Agriculture and Rural Development* (Delhi: Daya Publishing House, 2001), p. 163.

<sup>21</sup> The United Nations Youth Agenda, *The World Programme of Action for Youth – A Blue Print for Action*. (New York: United Nations, 1998), p. 2.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid.

new ideas into rural life and train leaders and citizens for the future. Rural youth work is educational. It aims at the total development of young people to prepare them for their role as useful citizens. Eighty-two countries have organized rural youth programmes of this type with an enrolment of 5 million young people. For a number of years scattered efforts in rural youth work were made by business firms, Church Mission, school and individuals in different countries. The most recent expansion has been directed by the government agencies, principally agricultural.<sup>23</sup>

In Bangladesh, 73 percent of youth live in the rural areas, most of them are either illiterate or school drop-outs and do not have much opportunity to learn any skill to engage themselves in productive activities. Young people are also disadvantaged by severe poverty, lack of adequate skills and training and thus most of them remain outside the mainstreams of the development paradigm. So, the vast youth force should be given the chance to find themselves in the periphery of the mainstream of our national development.<sup>24</sup>

In recent time, programmes for the development of rural youth are demanding increased attention among the national planners, thinkers, intellectuals and the administrators of Bangladesh. Now, it is very important to know the present condition of rural youth in Bangladesh, their opportunities for educations, their needs and interests and other related matters.<sup>25</sup>

In Bangladesh, organized private sector is growing slowly and the base of organized industrial sector is still narrow. Organized commercial sector provides little scope for generating sufficient employment. Organized service sector is also not capable to provide ample opportunity for employment. Government or public sector will remain small due to privatization and structural adjustment policies. About half of the agricultural labour force is landless and there is no sufficient land to engage the remaining half who own land, therefore, self-employment may be alternative source for generation of employment opportunities.<sup>26</sup>

Since no such study (ies) or research (es) has (have) been undertaken to assess the real impact of the DYD initiated self-employment projects

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<sup>23</sup> A.B.M. Nurul Anwar, "A Study for Involving Rural Youth in Extension Activities in three selected villages of Mymensingh district", (Mymensingh: Bangladesh Agricultural University, 1994), p.11.

<sup>24</sup> Md. Musharraf Hossain, "Human Resources Development through Department of Youth Development", *Souvenir of National Youth Day*, Department of Youth Development, 2003, p.16.

<sup>25</sup> A.B.M. Nurul Anwar *op. cit.*, p.13.

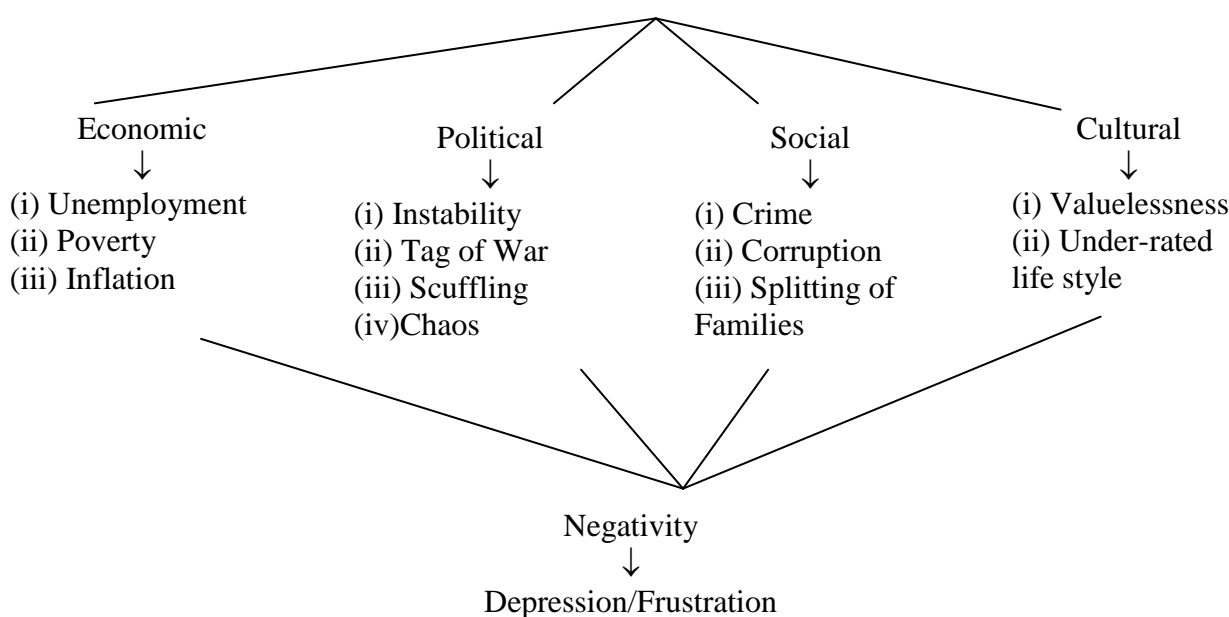
<sup>26</sup> Md. Easin Ali, *op.cit*, p.3.

from such a close proximity, it is expected that this study will shed important light on the advancement and effectiveness of the government sponsored youth activities in general, and the efficiency of Youth Training and Self-employment Programme of DYD in particular.

### 1.3 Justification of the Study

Youth is an important stage of life with long-lasting consequences not just for the individual but for society as a whole.<sup>27</sup> At the same time it is a product of society.<sup>28</sup> The overall performance and function of the society depends on the activities of young people. But the present trend of our young people is not in satisfactory level. The figure of the negative trend of the youth is presented below:<sup>29</sup>

Figure 1.1: Negative Trend of Youth Situation



Source: Brahmakumaris (2004)

If this vast resourceful population remains idle, there is a potential threat to the stability and continuing advancement of the society. Properly guided, mobilized and well integrated in development efforts, youth have demonstrated that they can make a positive power; but the ill-informed, unemployed, disenchanted, exploited and alienated youths, lacking a direction of their future goals of the life, have a tendency to be harmful to them and to the society at large.<sup>30</sup>

<sup>27</sup> World Bank, *The Provisional Outline of the 2007 World Development Report*, (Washington: World Bank's WDR Research Team, 2005), p.1.

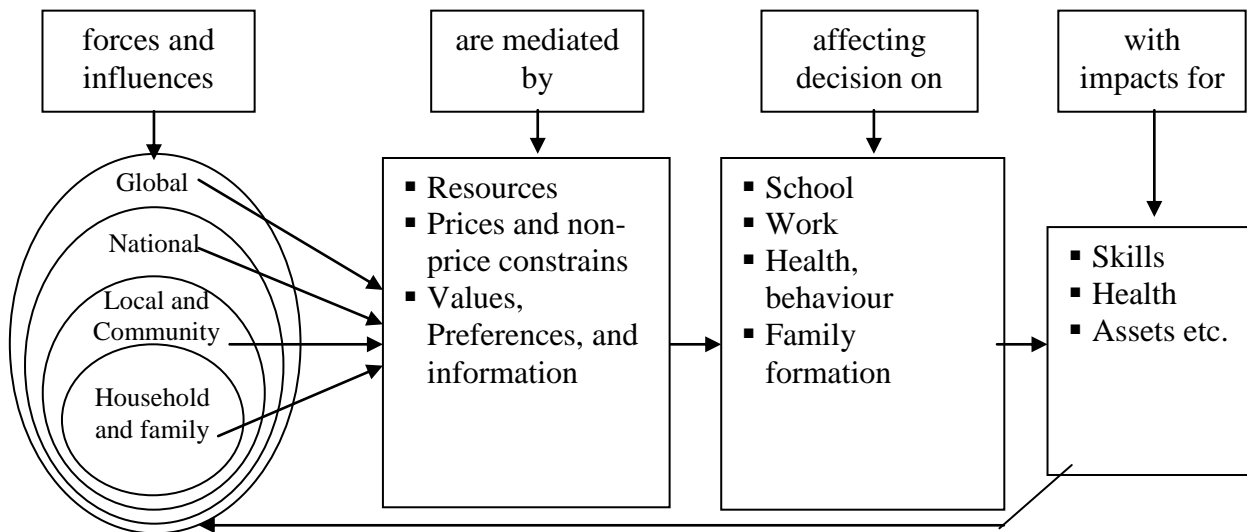
<sup>28</sup> Pramod Kumar Bajpai, *Youth Education and Unemployment-A Psycho-Social Inquiry*, (New Delhi: Ashish Publishing House, 1992), p.6.

<sup>29</sup> Brahmakumaris, *Positive Change-A Course Specially Designed For The Youth*, (Ahmedabad: Youth Wing of Brahmakumaris, 2004), p.10.

<sup>30</sup> Ahmadullah Mia, "Youth in Bangladesh: Socio-Cultural Issues Affecting Them," *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh (Hum)*, Vol. XXX(1), (June, 1986), p.65.

On the contrary, good outcomes can set young people on the right path. Building human capital in this phase of life is critical to growth and poverty reduction. The numerous determinants of youth outcomes can be shown in the figure 1.2<sup>31</sup>

Figure 1.2: The Many Determinants of Youth Outcomes



Source: World Bank (2005)

Youth outcomes are the means of achieving many of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Youth positive role can contribute directly to the MDG's on gender equality, maternal mortality, HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases, and global partnerships.<sup>32</sup>

Similarly, the youth population by its size constitute a major resources to the country, the proper utilization of which shall be make it a great capital and neglect of which would mean a liability and is likely to invite unbearable disaster socially, economically and politically. The immediate and most crucial needs of the youth, that is, education and training, work opportunity, health, involvement in meaningful community activities, adoption of moral values for personal and social well being and living by enriching the cultural heritage for greater life satisfaction are to be given priority attention among the national efforts, so that the positive aspects of the youth power can be realized to the nations interest.<sup>33</sup> In this context society desires to turn the unutilized youth force into assets. In this backdrop, the Department of Youth Development (DYD) was created in December, 1981. The DYD has introduced various programmes since its inception. Youth Training and Self-employment Programmes (YTSEP) is mostly important to them.

<sup>31</sup> World Bank, *op.cit.*, p.7.

<sup>32</sup> *Ibid.*, p.2.

<sup>33</sup> Ahmadullah Mia, *op. cit.*, p.67.

Till now data reflecting the various dimensions of the situation of youth and their integration in development are scarce. To that extent this study is a contribution to rebuilding the youth as a positive power and sustaining this power for a better society in the years ahead.<sup>34</sup> However, this study significant the following aspects:

- i) As this is a new phenomenon, studies on youth self-employment activities are few in number. Accordingly, there are very few literature available in the field of youth development. So, vigorous attempts have been taken to cover the relevant studies. Thus the study, being a pioneer work, has been conducted with caution so that other individuals can develop their research interest from this study.
- ii) There has been little or no comprehensive study done on the Youth Training and Self-employment Programme in Bangladesh so far. Hopefully, the present study may fill up the existing vacuum with regard to literature in this particular area of knowledge.
- iii) There has been a growing interest on youth self-employment activities in the academic arena. This study may add new area to the existing knowledge of the effectiveness of self-employment as well as the effect of the training.
- iv) In Bangladesh, there is a growing interest in the subject of youth & youth employment generation in the wake of rapid socio-economic change. This study might provide important insights to people, who are concerned with youth studies, as well as, those involved in youth movement in the country. Hopefully this may arouse awareness among the masses of youth about themselves in relation to creating public opinion regarding youth employment generation in society.
- v) There are some increasing government interventions in the development of youth because it is considered as the key tool to national economic development. This study also may help our policy makers to take a more realistic view in their understanding of this issue, and thereby, take a more objective and thoughtful approach in planning policies for the youth involved.
- vi) There should be a close look at the personal history, socio-economic traits, entrepreneurial performance, motivation, and constraints to youth self-employment activities in the rural area. This it may also provide inputs for further researches in these areas.
- vii) Moreover, this study is significant from the institutional point of view; since it has explored and analyzed the performance of training and credit and the impacts of these programmes on youth performance. So it is a significant research on present socio-economic context of Bangladesh.

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<sup>34</sup> Ibid., p.68.

## 1.4 The Key Concepts used in the Study

In social and behavioral study many terms are used which denote different meaning from different perspective and disciplinary point of view. This study is not exception regarding this. So, its requires clear explanation and definition of the key terms which have been used in this study.

**Youth:** The term youth has many ingredients and attributes. It is a diffused term and may carry many meanings. Sociologists, psychologists and anthropologists have studied the phenomenon of youth. But there is hardly a clear picture of the nature of youth as a form of human personality and the term ‘youth’ as an age category has been operationalized by researchers and authors indiscriminately. However, most agencies and individual agree that youth is a normal form of human personality and as an age category needs to be operationalized between 16-30 years in views of the changing condition in modern society.<sup>35</sup>

Landis has defined youth on the basis of three prevailing trends. The first is the *chronological view* point which conceptualises youth as a specific period or staze of human life. According to this view point an individual ceases to be youth as he/she crosses a certain age limit. The second view point describes youth from *psychological angle* which considers an individual as youth who has obtained emotional stability and has shed mental immaturity. It defines youth on the basis of quality of mind and mood which includes vigour venture freshness, enthusiasm, optimism and joyfulness. The third view point about youth is *social* which regards youth in a transitional period between a dependent childhood and self – dependent adulthood. It is the period when the ‘Self’ concept is fully developed and individual tends to join his own identity. In this period, one happens to be most creative, active, innovative, receptive, challenging agils and optimistic.<sup>36</sup>

Some thinkers visualise youth from *biological point* of view also. According to them youthhood is the period when individuals inner and outer organs are fully developed and he/she has achieved biological maturity. In this viewpoints youth are defined when inherent maturation process lead to the rapid acceleration of physical growth, changing bodily dimensions, the subjective and objective consequences of hormonal changes and increased sexual drive, the development of primary and secondary sex characteristics and further growth and differentiation of cognitive ability. In terms of age it

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<sup>35</sup> A.T. Uplon kar, “Youth : A Sociological Analysis”, *Indian Journal of Social Research*, Vol. 38, No.3, (1997), pp. 191-201.

<sup>36</sup> J.T. Landies, “Building a Successful Marriage,” in *Youth, Education and Unemployment – A Psycho – Social Inquiry* by Pramod Kumar Bajpai, (New Delhi: Ashish Publishing House, 1992), p.30.

seems convenient to say that childhood ends at age 13, that adolescence covers the years from 13 to 16, and that youths are persons over 16 who have not yet entered the labor force as full time participant.<sup>37</sup>

There is no unanimity regarding the ages of youth. The concept of youth depends upon each country's own legal definition of the age, consent, criminal responsibilities, compulsory school attendance and acquisition of voting rights.<sup>38</sup> The United Nations organization defines youth as persons belonging to the 12-25 age groups. But the definition of youth varies from country to country and is rooted in the biological and legal factors, as well as in socio-economic and politico-legal structures. The UN definition encompasses late childhood, adolescence and young adulthood. The Ministry of Youth and Sports, Government of Bangladesh considering young people in the age category of 15-30 years as youth while department of Social Welfare defines youth to include persons between 16-25 years of age. According to National youth policy 2003 of Bangladesh, people within the age group of 18-35 years are considered as youth.

In this study youth means a section of special group of people who are living in rural area and are under the age group of 18-35 years, whether they have taken training or not but they are involved in income generating activities.

**Self-Employment:** The simplest kind of entrepreneurship is self-employment. Self-employment is defined as being engaged in labour or work on one's own behalf, rather than being employed by someone else under a contract of services.<sup>39</sup> Self-employment means to be involved in such income generating activities from which one man or woman will be capable to earn in such a way that he or she can bear necessary expenses for him or her and his or her family members dependent upon him/her. Self-employment not only helps the unemployed to employ himself but also helps the under employed and persons below poverty line to implement income generating programme and to raise their economic well-being.

Self-employment by nature is individualistic. Here, the individual is the centre of all actions, he is to be motivated, educated/resourced and

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<sup>37</sup> Richard Flacks, *Youth and Social Change*, (Chicago: Markham Publishing Company, 1971), pp.9-10.

<sup>38</sup> Mohammed Sadeque, *op.cit.*, p.40.

<sup>39</sup> M. Nurul hoque and Md. Lutfor Rahman, "Impact Assessment on Self-employment Activities initiated by the DYD, Evidence from Three Selected Upazillas of Dhaka Divivision," (Savar: National Youth Centre, DYD, 2003), pp.5-6.



helped in marketing. Besides, the individual is under focus and is the point of interaction of forces acting in the field.<sup>40</sup>

Self-employment includes situations where a person works alone as an independent worker or contractor, as well as those situations where he/she engages in a business activity on his or her own behalf or is engaged in the operation of a business as a partnership or co-venture. Self-employment includes being involved in the operation of a business as a corporation. Unfortunately, on the downside, if the business fails it may take with it their job, their savings, their homes and families. Governments of the developed as well as the developing countries see self-employment as a route out of poverty and disadvantage and for this reason offer aid and assistance for small businesses/enterprises. The true justification for these actions are usually that this will help promote invention, innovation as well as imitation and thus create new jobs, new farms may also raise the degree of competition in the product market bringing gains to consumers, greater self-employment may also go along with increased self-reliance and economic well-being.<sup>41</sup> Self-employment rates differ consistently according to some worker characteristics, across age groups. Males are more likely than females to be self-employed. To develop theoretical arguments, one perspective suggests that self-employment will have positive effects on earnings. Another point of view argues that unemployed youth who moves into self-employment stands a better chance of long-term economic success on non-age aspects of employment and the quality of life. In view of human capital perspective, a spell of self-employment can lead to change in the human capital of the worker, through the change in on-the-job experience. In addition, self-employment can lead to negative non-pecuniary effects, such as higher job stress and health problems.<sup>42</sup>

Self-employment is regarded as a solution to unemployment problem in general. It has also been proposed as a solution to youth unemployment problems. Individual governments have developed programmes to assist youth in the formation of new enterprises, through financial assistance or specialized training, in both developed and developing countries including

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<sup>40</sup> Laxmi Devi, Ed., *Encyclopaedia of Rural Development*, (New Delhi: Anmol Publication Pvt. Ltd., 1996). p.90.

<sup>41</sup> M. Nurul hoque and Md. Lutfor Rahman, "Identification and Dissemination of Innovative and Unexplored Self-employment Opportunities for the Youths of Bangladesh". (Savar : National Youth Centre, DYD, 2003),p.2.

<sup>42</sup> Muhammad Jamal, "Job Stress, Satisfaction, and Mental health: An Empirical Examination of Self – Employed and Non – Self – Employed Canadians." *Journal of Small Business Management*, vol – 35(1997),pp.48-57

Germany, Great Britain, Italy, India, Bangladesh, Botswana and Zambia, among others.<sup>43</sup> In Britain and France, for example, government provides transfer payments to the unemployed while they attempt to start business. In the US, similar programmes are being implemented for unemployment insurance and welfare recipients. The governments in those developed countries also provide loans to small business, and even exempt small businesses from certain regulations and taxes. Furthermore, many local governments in the US have had programmes to encourage minority and female-owned small business.

The Government of Bangladesh also implements a number of skill training and credit programmes to make the youth, prepared for self-employment. The youth development programmes of the government especially those organized by the DYD provide vocational education and training to the underemployed and unemployed youth who otherwise would not find a job in or outside the government machinery.<sup>44</sup>

In this study youth self-employment programme means are those activities which have been implementing by the YTSEP of DYD for the benefit of youth under the age group of 18-35 years of Bangladesh.

### **1.5 Objectives of the Study**

The main objective of the study is to critically review the activities of the Youth Training and Self-employment Programme (YTSEP) during the period from 2003-2004 to 2007-2008 in the district of Tangail and to assess the impact on life of the self-employed youth's who participated in it in comparison to non-participants self-employed youth. However, the specific objectives of this study are:

- i) to find out the selected socio-economic and demographic characteristics of the participants and non-participants self-employed youth;
- ii) to identify the participation of self-employed rural youth in selected agricultural and non-agricultural activities for their self-employment;
- iii) to explore and analyze the impact of existing programme (i.e. training and micro credit etc.) on youth self-employment activities; and
- iv) to identify the problems of youth training and self-employment programme.

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<sup>43</sup> Donald R. Williams, "Youth Self-Employment: Its Nature and Consequences." *Small Business Economics*, kluwer Academic Publishers, vol-23(2004),pp,323-335.

<sup>44</sup> M.Nurul hoque and Md. Lutfor Rahman, "Impact Assessment on Self-employment Activities initiated by the DYD, Evidence from Three Selected Upazilas of Dhaka Divivision," *op.cit.*,pp,5-6.

## **1.6 Methods of Research**

This study is mainly a social survey and a combination of multiple methods and techniques of social research. A chronological description of the methodology used for this piece of research is presented below:

### **1.6.1 Selection of the Study Area**

This study has been undertaken in the district of Tangail. Tangail district with an area of 3424.39 sqkm is bounded by Jamalpur district on the north, Dhaka and Manikganj district on the south, Mymensingh and Gazipur districts on the east, Sirajganj district on the west. The district consists of 12 upazilas. The upazilas are Tangail Sadar, Basail, Bhuapur, Delduar, Dhanbari, Ghatail, Gopalpur, Kalihati, Madhupur, Mirzapur, Nagarpur, Sakhipur.<sup>45</sup> The reason for selecting Tangail was based on the consideration that it will fully represent the picture of a district and be homogenous in terms of socio-economic environment. Another reason for selecting this area are accessibility, familiarity with the areas, possibilities of establishing rapport with the respondents and expectation of support from influential person or leaders. Moreover, this district location is neither peripheral nor central so it is believed that it may represent the overall picture of the youth of Bangladesh.

### **1.6.2 Population and Sample of the Study**

The study is an evaluative one by nature. There was no bench-mark available for the evaluation study. The present study, therefore, took an alternative approach in which the self-employed youth under the Youth Training and Self-employment Programme (YTSEP) were to be compared with those of non-programme self-employed youth. Thus the study population was consisted by the self-employed youths those were facilitated by DYD under YTSEP and the self-employed youths that were not facilitated by DYD and were outside of YTSEP. They are called participants group and non-participants group respectively. The participants group consists of such youth who are engaged in different self-employment activities as well as facilitated by YTSEP. Similarly, for this study the non-participants group consists of the youth who are living in the different areas of Tangail district and not facilitated by YTSEP but involved in different self-employment activities.

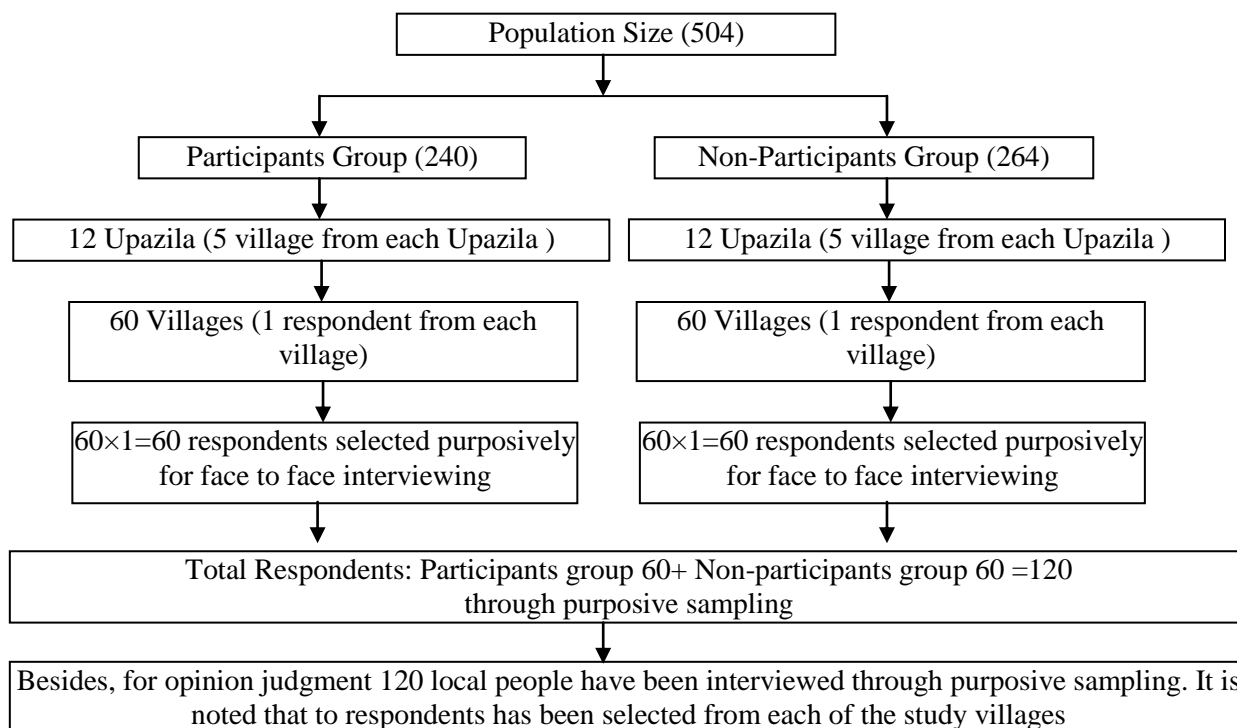
In order to identify the population of participants group a documentary enquiry was conducted verifying official records maintained by 12 Upazila DYD offices of Tangail district. Through this enquiry, name and

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<sup>45</sup> Sirajul Islam, ed., *Bangla Pedia-National Encyclopedia of Bangladesh*, Vol.10, (Dhaka: Asiatic Society of Bangladesh, March, 2003), p. 33.

address of total 240 self-employed youth have been selected which constituted the total eligible population units of participants group. Similarly to identify the population of non-participants group the researcher has made an assessment and found out 264 non participant population in the study area. In this way, total number of units of population have been selected 240 for participants group and 264 for non-participants group respectively.

Figure 1.3 Sampling Structure of the Study

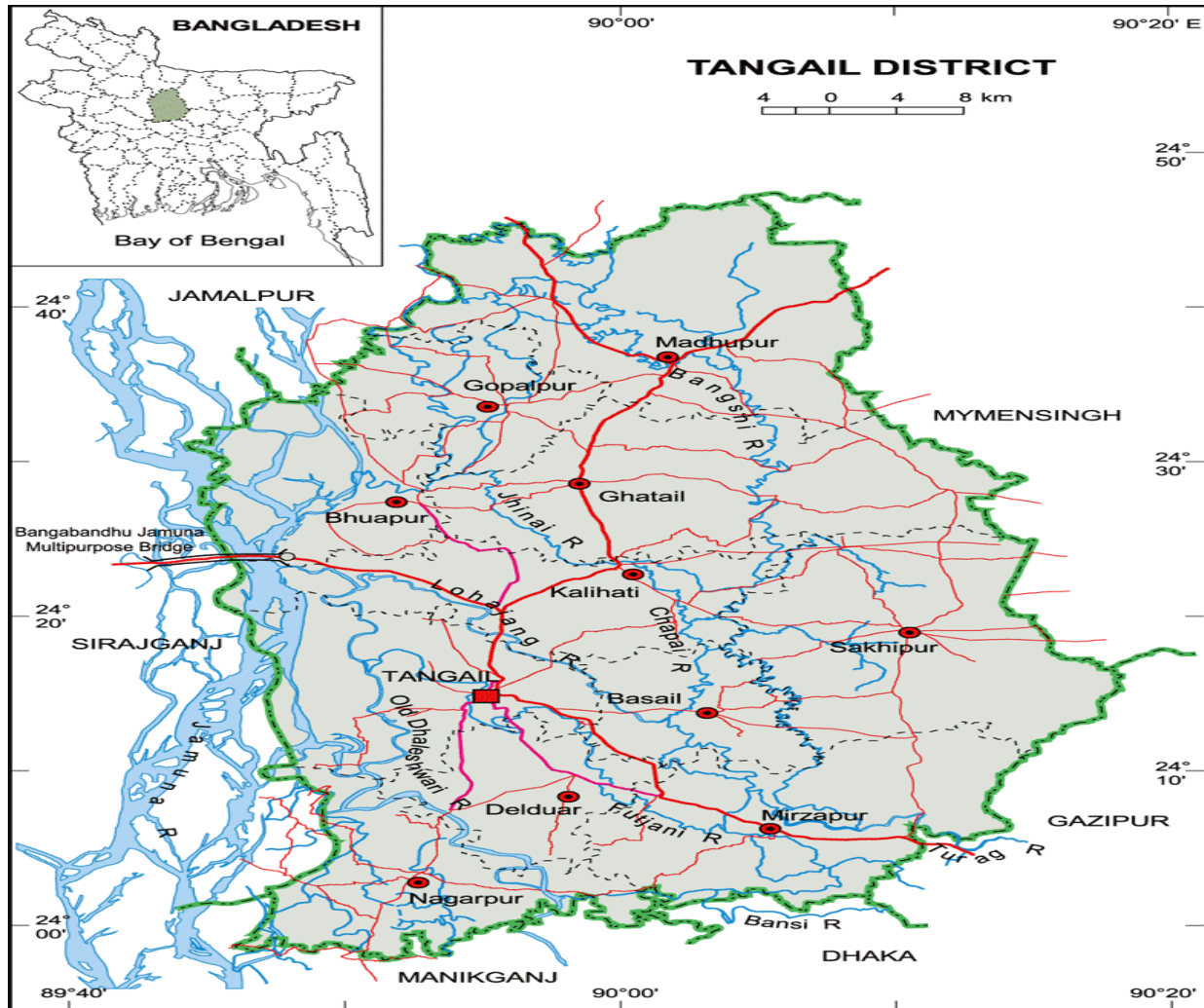


From the population list of both groups, the sample respondents have been selected by a purposive sampling techniques. In this regard, 5 self-employed youth of participants group and 5 self-employed youth of non-participants group have been selected from each of the upazila's of Tangail district for data collection. Thus 60 respondents for participants group and 60 respondents for non-participants group have been chosen as a sample purposively for the study. Youth who has been implementing self-employment activities in the study areas at least for one year have been taken as a sample for this study. The sample size represents 25% for the participants group and 22% for the non-participants group of the study population. Thus for this research, 120 respondent have been surveyed (60 participants + 60 non-participants).

Moreover, for each self-employed youth of both groups, one local people have also been selected as respondents. They have been selected absolutely on the basis of their availability from the same place of youth self-employment projects. The sample universe thus consisted of self-employed youth as well as their local people. In total the size of the

sample was 240 with a break up of 120 self-employed youth and 120 local people. In addition, nine in-depth case studies have also been conducted for the purpose of getting clear and details idea about the respondents of the study. Among these six (06) from participant and three (03) from non participant self-employed youth have been studied.

Figure 1.4: Map of Tangail District Showing the Study Upazilas



### 1.6.3 Sources of Data

Primary data have been collected through interviewing the self-employed youth of each project from the selected YTSEP and the non-YTSEP villages. Local people also selected for collection of data to know about youth self-employment project. Different books, journals, documents and various reports of YTSEP documents have been used as the major sources of secondary data.

### 1.6.4 Tools of Data Collection

For collecting primary data at household level a structured interview schedule has been applied with balanced combination of both closed and open-ended questions. Simple direct questions and some scales have also been included in the interview schedule.

The draft interview schedule was prepared in Bengali in accordance with the objectives of the study. The interview schedule was pre-tested on the 25 self-employed rural youth of the study area. Necessary corrections, additions and modifications were made in the interview schedule based on the pre-test observation. The modified and corrected interview schedules have been then finalized for application.

Another set of interview schedule has been prepared to determine the opinions of local peoples who observed the self-employment project of rural youth.

### **1.6.5 Methods of Data Collection**

The study, by its very nature, required field based in depth information. So the method of social survey has been followed for the purpose of the present study. After collecting national and macro-level data from secondary sources of information a sample survey has been conducted in the field for primary data. Purposive sampling has been used to select the respondents from 12 upazilas of Tangail district.

During the time of data collection the researcher has given due importance to have a closer view of work place of self-employment projects.

However, the documentary or secondary sources of information, as mentioned earlier, comprising available published as well as unpublished materials on the subject mostly in the form of books, journals, articles and reports etc. which have also been consulted for shaping the theoretical frame of the study.

In addition to all these nine (09) self-employed youth have also been selected for case studies.

### **1.6.6 Collection of Data**

Data have been collected by the researcher himself through personal interview schedule from the self-employed rural youth of the selected villages. At the time of data collection the researcher maintained enough sincerity to the respondent about the purpose of the study.

Appointments with each self-employed youth has been made for collecting data in a peaceful manner as desired by the respondents. The researcher was able to establish rapport with these self-employed youth and the local people. The pre-test was done in February, 2008. However, final collection of data started in May, 2008 and was completed in July, 2008.

### **1.6.7 Compilation of Data**

In order to arouse the accuracy of the information interview schedules have been edited this after finalized the data collection.

### **1.6.8 Processing and Analysis of Data**

The edited data have been processed and analyzed by using simple statistical techniques. Moreover, efforts have also been given to correlate the findings of the study emerged from statistical and logical analysis with the corroborating information available in other studies or sources of information.

## **1.7 Scope of the Study**

This study has been conducted in twelve upazilas of Tangail district. For the purpose of this study the efforts of the youth have been considered as youth self-employment activities which have been taken by YTSEP participants and non-participants self-employed youths with their own initiatives for their economic well-being. The areas of this study is limited to socio-economic background of the self-employed youth, nature of self-employment activities, income, expenditure, savings, profit earning, employment generation, socio-economic changes, social status, women empowerment and socio-cultural involvements through them, associated problems and prospects and making policy implications based on the findings. Moreover, various aspects of the training and loan activities and the impact of these support services have also been explored and explained such as skill development, increasing income, change in out look, welfare motive, positive attitude toward life and society as well as the psychological change of the youth have been studied. Finally, the attitude towards the programme support of YTSEP have also been studied.

## **1.8 Limitations of the Study**

A single study is not enough for any field. This study is not exception in the regards. So there are some unavoidable limitations of the study.

1. Most of the data have been collected from the respondents based on interview-schedule through memory recall technique, where both errors of omission as well as overestimation might have been occurred.
2. In the participants group, out of 240 DYD trained self-employed youth only 60 (25%) self-employed youth have been selected for data collection. If all the trained youth could be covered, perhaps details information could be obtained for the study.

3. The sample from one district may not be considered as representative of all districts. But in consideration of time, labour and communication and limitation of finance this sample was taken as model sample. Hence, the findings of this study will be normally applicable to the study area in Tangail district. However, considering socio-economic, cultural and geographical similarities, the findings of the study might also have application to other parts of Bangladesh and other developing countries with similar backgrounds.
4. Self-employed youth were mostly guided by the elderly members of the family, the village community, village level professional workers and other opinion leaders of the society. Considering relevance of self-employment activities as observer, the researcher selected local people to have their opinions on some related aspects of youth self-employment activities.
5. In this study a comparison has been done between participants youth group and non-participants youth group but the researcher has failed to include other socio-cultural factors behind their performance. Though these factors have been observed seriously in order to get the practical picture of the respondents' performance.

The policy makers and the expert have been excluded but it is felt that these people showed in under for getting comprehensive and clear idea of any study field. So it is also a noteworthy limitation of the study. The above mentioned limitations may have been affected the quality of the study lent the researcher was conscious about these limitations and he has tried to minimized the short coming of the study for getting practical and real picture of YTSEP on youth population of Bangladesh.



## Chapter- 2

# Review of Literature

Review of related literature helps to identify the knowledge gap of any research work. Keeping this aspect in consideration, a thorough review of relevant literature has been done in this chapter. The main focus of reviewing is to identify the knowledge gap in the field of self-employment activities of rural youth and the related aspects of this skill development and socio-economic status.

The theme of 'youth' has attracted a galaxy of scholars, academicians and teachers of various disciplines of social and behavioral sciences viz., Psychology, Sociology, Criminology, Political Science, Anthropology, Economics and Law. A good deals of research has been done on rural problems and aspects of life related with youth. But still, there are areas which are untouched by the insight and understanding of the scholars. So further research in this field is still a thirst to the researcher and some times is become essential for the required socio-economic development.

Mainly three types of literature can be found on the youth and related subjects, one is Journalistic literature scattered in various periodicals, Newspapers, Editorials and Survey reports; the another type of literature is academic literature that is based on the observations, insights and research of the scholars. Third type of literature is available in Government reports, documents and offices, that is termed as 'statistical literature.' Census reports and Planning Commission usually deal dealing with such type of literature. National sample survey, many a sample surveys and Employment Exchanges, also collect such statistical literature. Department of Youth Development has also in its possession, the statistical information relating to youth. Apart from that some International Agencies/Organizations also prepare statistical Bulletins and circulate through the member countries. During 'International Year of Youth', the Statistical office of United Nations Secretariat had prepared a booklet of Statistical Indicators on youth in cooperation with the Centre for Social Development and Humanities Affairs of the Dept. of International Economics and Social Affairs, United Nations Secretariat and the Statistical office of ILO, FAO, UNESCO and WHO. Forty statistical indicators have been outlined from International Data Sources in the fields with immediate concern of youth viz., population composition and change, education, training and literacy, economic activity, family formation and fertility and life expectancy and morality.

However, some relevant literatures with the study field have been reviewed.

**Sadeque (1978)** carried out a study on 'A Study of the educated Rural Youth' is a pioneer works in the field of youth study in Bangladesh. The main objective of the study was to find out socio-economic background of educated youth and to explore their participation in socio-economic programme. Moreover, it was mainly concerned with the aspiration and problems of the educated rural youth.

The study was conducted in Puthia upazila under Rajshahi district. For this study the researcher has mainly followed social survey methods for data collection. Firstly, the researcher visited several times of study upazila and contacted with the concern officials and others to collect first-hand information on the socio-economic conditions. On the basis of this census he identified 405 educated youth. From them the researcher interviewed 143(36%) educated youth who are selected on the basis of stratified random sampling. The areas of investigation were limited to conditions of educational institutions, socio-economic background of the educated youth, their economic involvement, their participation in community affairs and making recommendations on the findings.

The findings of the study regarding with the educated rural youth in Rajshahi revealed the following facts: i) communication gap between the young and older generation became very wide and adults of the society failed to provide timely guidance and opportunities to the rural youth despite their significant contribution in the War of Liberation in 1971, ii) Bangladesh badly lacked national youth policy, iii) youth programmes like Boy Scouts, Girl Guides and others were mostly concentrated in urban areas of the country, iv) rural schools and colleges had poor facilities for participation of youth in social and community welfare activities, and v) government programmes of vocational training had emphasis on urban youth in particular.

Other important findings revealed through Sadeque's study included: i) majority of the youth were between 20-24 years of age, ii) due to economic pressure many of rural youth discontinued their studies iii) almost all the youth and their fathers desired for hierarchical salaried government jobs, iv) about one-third of the youth listened radio programmes regularly and read news papers, v) only one-third youth expressed their intention for learning vocational skills, vi) a large number of youth suffered from a psychological feeling of deprivation due to lack of suitable backing in the way of procuring job vii) circumstances forced educated youth to be involved in family occupations and a large majority

of the youth helped their parents through participation in farming activities, business, viii) some fathers got their educated sons married in an attempt to make them responsible family members, ix) one-third of the self-employed youth were involved in farming during school days and only a small portion of the youth had participation in community affairs, and x) there was only one youth organization in the whole area and there was no existence of organised recreational activities in the villages.

In the background of such prevailing situation, sadeque's suggestions included: i) a national youth policy should be formulated based on proper recognition of the socio-economic needs of all categories of youth, ii) the courses of studies and methods of teaching followed in schools and colleges could be updated through fundamental change, iii) the eudcated youth would be better agricultural knowledge, iv)drastic land reforms have to be undertaken and land ceiling has to be brought down to 50 bighas, v) an intergated education system should gradually be introduced in phased manner, and vi) effective youth organizations need to be established at the union, upazila, district and national levels.

The study was exploratory by nature. It is mainly concerned with the aspiration and problems of the educated rural youth. It highlighted on their background as well as their involvement in socio-economic and community related affairs activities. Illiterate, unemployed, self-employed and urban youth could not received detailed attention in this study. Moreover, the researcher did not applied case study method. So the study have some serious limitation.<sup>1</sup>

**Cain (1980)** in his study on the 'Economic Activities of Children in a Village in Bangladesh' stated that: i) village children of age around six began economically useful lives, ii) boys assume responsibility for the care of cattle and also went for fishing at the age 8 or 9, iii) male children around the age of 11 did agricultural activities and iv) children's involvement and entry into economic activities depended on physical assets as land, livestock, tools and other materials of their families; households that did not possess the requisite assets, children participated only through wage employment, v) children aged 4-6 years worked approximately one-fifth as long as adults of the families, their work time increased to one-half when 7-9, to three quarters when around 10-12 and at 13 and above children works on average, as long as or longer than adults; vi) all boys less than 16 years spent more time in animal husbandry but at 8 years age boys had more work related to crop

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<sup>1</sup> Muhammed. Sadeque, "A Study of the Educated Rural Youth", (Rajshahi: Department of Social Work, R.U. 1978).

production; and vii) boys from landless families worked fewer hours than boys from landed families. Cain concluded that regardless of economic class children in a rural family participated a great deal or work in comparison to adults and reached adult equivalency at young ages.<sup>2</sup>

**Khan (1983)** indicated that: i) more than 90 percent of the youth in Bangladesh dwell in rural areas and constitute a substantial portion of the total work force engaged in agriculture on farm-related activities, ii) majority of the rural youth did not have the opportunity to develop their skills and had little access to educational facilities, iii) the percent of unemployed youth with higher secondary education (H.S.C) and graduation stood at 58 and 32 percent respectively. He further found in a study in Rajshahi that: i) all youth participants in the labour force were males and the youth had a tendency to get worried even when unemployed ii) there existed a rural tradition of paying a lower wage to a youth under 20 years of age, iii) youth were the major job aspirants in the labour market. They began their active life as child labourers in family enterprises and the rate of hidden unemployment was higher among the rural youth, iv) there seemed to be a trend with the youth, even having low education.

The-above study emphasised to avoid farming as profession and hence there was a need to demonstrate (by the extension agencies) that agriculture could be a paying profession, and youth were subjected to the general poverty, unemployment, and lack of organized training and skill development facilities. In connection with health situation of children and youth Khan's article high lighted the malnutrition among the youth. The nutritional status of the rural people in general was very poor. Malnutrition caused widespread chronic deficiency of nutritional elements and protein energy. Khan added that about 36 percent children suffered from first degree malnutrition while 20 and 8.3 percent children suffered from second and third degree malnutrition respectively. Vitamin-A deficiency, parasitic infection, anaemia, iron deficiency, diarrhoeal disease including dysentery were common health hazards of the youth and children.<sup>3</sup>

**Mia (1985)** stated that historically youth of Bangladesh had been known to be a great force which demonstrated creativity, dynamism and positive sensitivity. He emphasized the support of the community for the

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<sup>2</sup> Mead D. Cain, "The Economic Activities of Children in a village in Bangladesh," *Rural Household Studies in Asia*, Singapore, 1980.

<sup>3</sup> Abdur Roh Khan, 'Economic Aspects of the Lives of Youth in Bangladesh,' (Bangkok: ESCAP Country Monograph on the Profile of Youth of Bangladesh, U.N. 1983).

effective participation of the youth in national development in Bangladesh. Mia had the following observations regarding the youth in Bangladesh: i) only 20-22 percent of the youth were economically active and most of them (more than 80 percent) lived in rural areas, ii) unemployment on a large scale indicated rural poverty in its worst form, iii) a large proportion of youth neither attended any institution nor they gained any skill to engage in activity to earn a living, iv) most of the youth were out-of-school, unemployed, suffering from a lack of direction for future activities, v) youth were confronted with a serious struggle to make a living, they were frustrated, disenchanted, alienated, and demonstrated such patterns of thinking and action which were often termed as non-conformist behaviour; vi) parents, educators, community leaders, planners and administrators, and law enforcing authorities were alarmed due to increasing rate of youth abnormalities and violence; and vii) a large majority of youth who were economically active were employed in agriculture followed by transport and production.

In the prevailing youth situation in Bangladesh, Mia's suggestions included: i) in the rural development setting pilot development programmes under the guidance of professional personnel with emphasis on skill training, health and education and other related matters should be launched, ii) specific programme activities on the basis of the needs of the youth were to be undertaken, and iii) definite youth policy and youth organizations were urgent as because organizations between the youth and other social groups, between the government and the youth, and between the leaders and general youth members would make crucial links.<sup>4</sup>

**Khan and Rowsonazzaman (1985)** carried out a study on 'Role of Youths in National Development', This study was conducted on the celebrating as the International Year of the Youths (IYY) throughout the world at the behest of the United Nations. The study generated information on the status of the youths in Bangladesh with particular focus of their role in national development; hoping that this will help improving the data base for any future plan to be taken for the development of the youths and taking decisions thereto.

Sample survey method was adopted for collecting the information required for the study. The survey had been conducted in one selected city location, one town location and two village location of the country in order to generate primary data regarding the status of the youth, their needs and

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<sup>4</sup> Ahmadullah Mia, "Youth in Distress: A Psycho-Social Analysis of Youth Unemployment in Bangladesh," *Social Science Review, The Dhaka University Studies*, Part-D, Vol-II, Number-II, 1985.

problems and also to ascertain the roles they are now playing in national development, along with the exploration of the roles that the youths can play in the future. For this study, after identification of youths through census, the samples were selected through systematic sampling methods. Similarly, for the purpose of collecting information for the selected youths in the sample, three sets of questionnaires were used—one questionnaire for the survey of employed youths, another for unemployed youths and the third set for the students. The study was started in February 1984 and completed in November of the same year.

It was found from the study that in general, higher family income group entails large family size. The study also shows that there is a significant relationship between the educational level of the household and the family size. More or less literate families have smaller number of family members. Regarding the education system, more than 55% of the literate unemployed youths state that the present education system is responsible for creating unemployment in the country but only 45% students agreed with this view.

The study reveals that employed youths contribute about 35% and the unemployed youths contribution is only 1.76% to their family income. It was found from the study that 67.57% of the total youths do not know anything about the Department of Youth Development (DYD) while only 18.61% have just heard the name. About 17% of the youths know the name of DYD along with its activities. Moreover, 81.07% of the students know nothing about the DYD.

Regarding the employment situation of the youths the study shows that there is a positive correlation between education and level of employment. The higher educated youths are occupying the higher positions. 78.24% of the total employed youths are satisfied with their job in regard to their qualification, the rest are not satisfied. It is interesting to note that the duration of unemployment is not so acute within the illiterate, the percentage is only 11.11%, who are remaining unemployed for more than five years. The corresponding percentage is 31.32% for the youths who have S.S.C level education. Besides, unemployed youths are interested to get 'white colour job' rather than to do manual job. The study explored that 71.3% of the unemployed youths are aware about the job availability in the Middle East countries. Among the students, 92.16% feel that the courses they are studying now, are quite relevant with their expected career. Regarding the solution of national development issues the study shows that 24.15% employed youths can play the role of an initiator of self-employment scheme, and also in small and cottage industries. To solve the unemployment problem, 58.91% unemployed youths feel that creation of job opportunities through economic development is an effective measure for solving the

problems of unemployment. Similarly, the study reveals that almost all of the students are aware about major national problems of Bangladesh 73.47% students are participating voluntary activities.

With regard to values perception, more than 80% of all categories of youth have acknowledged that the youths are involved in crime and delinquency. Unhealthy socio-economic condition, large scale unemployment among the youths, weak law and order situation have been identified by them as the major reasons behind it. In respect of participation in recreation and leisure time activities, 24.44% employed youths have stated that the scope and facility for all types of games are insufficient in their respective localities. Similarly, it is 19% for unemployed youth and 36.47% for students respectively. So most of the youths pass their leisure time simply by gossiping with their family members or friends. The study also shows that 83% of the employed youth, 99% of the unemployed youth and 65.70% of students are frustrated respectively. Low income, unemployment and uncertainty about future are the major causes behind their frustration. The study indicates that most of the youths have guilt feeling for being addicted to drugs and even for smoking cigarettes. In respect of student participation in politics, out of 153 students 15.03% students directly participate in politics, 34.68% support politics and 50.33% do not support politics.

In the prevailing youth situation in Bangladesh, Khan's suggestions included: i) socio-cultural difficulties should be addressed for making education more attractive for female youths, ii) work oriented education should be given more attention, iii) marketability of the trained and skilled youths should also be looked after by the DYD, iv) appropriate motivational programme toward manual job should be introduced, v) employment policy particularly for the uneducated youths, should be drastically changed, and vi) an effective motivational programme should be introduced regarding drug addiction, smoking, crime and delinquency and student politics for the youths.

This study is a comprehensive one. The study collected data from the employed youths the unemployed youths, and from the students. Moreover, youths are selected relatively more from the urban, economically solvent and educationally advancement families. So rural areas do not get due attention in this study. Besides, in this study case study method is not applied. Therefore, this study is not in-depth by nature.<sup>5</sup>

**Bhattacharjee (1987)** carried out a study on 'Effectiveness of a Training Programme in Secretarial Science and Typing for the Unemployed Youth in

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<sup>5</sup> Abdur Rahim Khan and Mir Md. Rowsonazzaman, 'Role of Youths in National Development', (Dhaka: Social Science Research Council 1985),

Bangladesh: An Empirical Study' is relevant for this study. The study objective was to evaluate the training programme in secretarial science and typing for the unemployed youth and to assess the impact of skill training in promoting self-employment and others employment creation. To achieve the study objective it was assumed that a training programme in secretarial science and typing for the unemployed youth could bring more social benefits.

Sample survey method was applied for collecting the information as per the requirement of the study. The survey was designed to collect data only from participants who received training under the said programme during 1983-84 to 1984-85 sessions. The sample size of the trainee was 211, which constituted 10.48% of the total population. To select the sample random sampling technique was followed. In addition 33 instructors were interviewed from selected training centres. Besides, to measure the effectiveness of the programme, two types of indicators viz., quantitative and qualitative measures had been applied.

In respect of reasons for joining in the training programme, the study reveals that 61% of the participants joined the programme for getting job. 25% participants for starting own business and rest of the respondents opined that they would like to strength their existing project.

It is seen in the study that 19.4% of the trainees are drop-out from the programme. The reasons for drop-out were 23.5% for financial and 21.31% for lack of motivation respectively. Other factors responsible for drop-out were employment, perusing studies elsewhere and illness etc. It is observed in the study that the tendency of performance regarding training is upward among the participants. It was 90.07% in 1983-84 and 91.12% in 1984-85 respectively.

The study reveals that out of 211 respondents, 56% were found employed at the time of investigation i.e., about 28% of the trainees could get job after training, while 32.8% of them remained unemployment, Regarding the usefulness of training knowledge, 30.2% respondents thought that the training was much appropriate to their job. Among the rest of the participants it is 20.8% for very much related and 30.2% for some what relevant in obtaining their jobs.

With regard to increasing income as a result of training, 24.8% of the respondents opined that their income had some what increased. Only 3.1% of them reported that their income as perceived by them had substantially increased because of the training. A good number of the respondents (57.9%) opined that the training could not contribute to create self-employment projects.



In the prevailing situation, Bhahachrjees suggestions included: i) skill development through a modular course could be overemphasized, ii) a comprehensive programme of training for the under privileged and unemployed youth were to be undertaken, iii) an action oriented approach could be introduced at all stages starting from selection of trainees up to the placement and iv)for developing appropriate organizational set-up planning, monitoring and follow up measures should be strengthen. However, this research work is very relevant to this study. It only emphasized on the role of skill development training in secretarial science and typing. Others trades of skill development were not undertaken for evaluation in this study. Moreover, any case study is not described under this study. <sup>6</sup>

**International Labour Organization (1991)** conducted a study on ‘Self-employment Programmes in Bangladesh: Experience of Selected Organizations’ is an important work in this regard. It is a study on some selected organizations in Bangladesh. However, the study highlighted the experiences of ten organizations, five government and five non-government which are promoting self-employment and income generation programmes in Bangladesh. It covers two issues: first, an analysis of the experiences of major self-employment programme being implemented by selected organization, and second, analysis of the nature and extent of communication gaps that exist between the organizations and their beneficiaries in implementing the programmes of self-employment.

The information of the study has been collected from both secondary and primary sources. Firstly, a preliminary list of 94 organizations was prepared. From this list, 35 organizations had provided credit to about 3.5 million persons. Among the 35 organizations, ten were selected for detailed field survey and primary data collection. Thus, the organizations shortlisted for primary data collection through the field survey are: i) Department of Social Services, ii) Bangladesh Rural Development Board, iii) Department of Youth Development, iv) Bureau of Manpower, Employment & Training, v) Bangladesh Small & Cottage Industries Corporation, vi) Grameen Bank, vii) Swanirvar Bangladesh, viii) Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee, ix) Proshika Manobik Unnayan Kendra, and x) Rangpur Dinajpur Rural Service.

The study findings have been described in eight chapters. In chapter one, introduction, background information and methodology of the study and in chapter two, demographic profile and socio-economic condition of Bangladesh are discussed. In chapter three, government policies and programmes are reviewed. In chapter four contains analysis of self-

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<sup>6</sup> Durgadas Bhattacharjee, “Effectiveness of a Training Programme in Secretarial Science and Typing for The Unemployed Youth in Bangladesh: An Empirical Study,” *The Dhaka University Studies*, Part-C, Vol. 8 (2), Dhaka, 1987.

employment programmes while chapter five, six and seven deal with the impact of the self-employment programmes on the target group people and concluding remark of the study. The study reveals that there are instances where the support and motivation of the NGOs have enhanced the bargaining power of the poor and enabled them to claim their rightful share of public resources which were denied to them earlier because of their disadvantageous social and economical status. Thus, the economic and social impact of the self-employment programmes on the beneficiaries has been considerable. In the prevailing situations, the study's suggestions included: i) the ways and means of raising the effectiveness and efficiency of the various self-employment programmes are co-ordinations, motivation of functionaries, resource mobilization, and eradication of communication gaps.

This study is a profiles of selected self-employment organizations but it does not cover socio-economic needs of young people, their problems and impact analysis of DYD activities. Moreover, the study findings are not described in a tabular form. So there are some remarkable limitations of this study. However, from this study some aspects of the youth employment have been explained well which has help to conducting the present study.<sup>7</sup>

**Sultana (1997)** carried out a study entitled 'The Human Resource Development Activities of Young Women of the Department of Youth Development' is an important work in this regard. The main objectives of the study was to understand whether participation of young women in development programmes of the Department of Youth Development causes any changes behavior. The study is a comprehensive idea about the human resource development activities of DYD. In this study it was hypothesised that as a result of new employment opportunities women's social status will be improved.

The study was based on sample survey and documentary study as well as case study methods. In this respect the researcher reviewed various reports and publications of DYD's activities. Moreover, discussions were conducted with concerned officials and youth workers. In addition, seven case studies were conducted.

In this study the researcher has tried to identify how uneducated, semi-educated and educated young women of Bangladesh engaging themselves towards self-employment and income generating activate after getting training from DYD. In this respect the researcher only described seven cases. Moreover, involvement of young women in income generating was emphasized in the study report. Among the highlighted cases, it was found

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<sup>7</sup> International Labour Organization, "Self-employment Programmes in Bangladesh: Experience of Selected Organizations"(Dhaka: ILO Bangladesh Country Office 1991).

that DYD trained young women monthly earned from Taka 3000/= to Taka 4500/=. They creates employment opportunities not for themselves but also for others. It appears from the study that the number of others people who are working in their project was between 03 to 52 persons. All of them mainly engaged in dress making and block and batik. Only one were engaged in dairy.

They study report is a simple by nature. In this respect the researcher interviewed with twenty trained young women. But fruitful data have not presented in the report in a tabular form. Lack of adequate seriousness, she overcome primary data. Besides, up to date evaluative data were not expressed in the study report and this study did not include the training and aspects of the youth development. However, this study has been used as a reliable and rich rouse of this study.<sup>8</sup>

**Ali et.al., (1999)** carried out a study on ‘Impact of Skill Development Training on Pro-Active Rural Youths for Their Self-employment in CVDP Villages’ is a remarkable work in the field of youth development. This is an evaluation study of skill-development training under the Comprehensive Village Development Programme (CVDP) of Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD). The main objective of the study was to know present employment status of the persons trained in different skills under CVDP.

A survey was conducted among the trained youths in different categories of trades in the project areas of Kotwali and Bruichang Thana of Comilla district, Sonargaon of Narayangonj district and Sadar Upazila of Sylhet district.

The findings and overall impact of the self-employment training have been highlighted. In this study the researcher has given a details explanation and analysis of the government institutions for the youth development programmes. But finally he concluded that unemployment has become a critical problem in Bangladesh. The problems of underemployment and unemployment have thus become a priority task. It has been found that 2500 persons have so far been trained in different trades through the CVDP initiatives. The study only emphasized on the impact of skill development training under the CVDP initiatives. But it does not highlight the needs and dreems of urban young people. Moreover no cross tabulation has been designed to test any relationship between the variables of the study.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Salma Sultana, “The Human Resource Development Activities of Young Women of Department of Youth Development,” (Dhaka: Bangladesh Institute of Management, 1997).

<sup>9</sup> Md. Easin Ali, Md. Nuruzzaman, Md. Zahir Uddin and Md. Mostofa Kamal, *Impact of Skill Development Training on Pro-Active Rural Youths for Their Self-Employment in CVDP Villages*. (Comilla: BARD, 1999).

**Islam (1999)** carried out a study entitled 'Educated Unemployment Problem in Bangladesh: A Sociological Study' deserves the attention in this connection. The main objective of this study was to find out the extent, magnitude and causes of educated unemployment problem in Bangladesh. In this regard the proposition of the study was the purpose of education and the realities of economy can not achieve the aspiration of many young people for a kind of life.

In this study, the persons with educational qualification of class eight have been considered as educated persons. The educational qualifications of the persons however vary from class eight to Masters degree. Out of these educated persons, those who are seeking gainful employment in the modern sector and not getting suitable one, have been considered as educated unemployed.

The study was conducted in 12 village of Dourgapur North Union Under Sadar Upazila of Comilla district. To fulfill the study objectives it is followed social survey, observation and case study methods of social research. Firstly, the researcher conducted a census of the study union. Thus, he identified 2110 educated persons. From this population he selected 229(15%) respondents as sample on random sampling basis.

The study finds out the extent, magnitude and causes of educated unemployment problem, examines the present education systems and identifies the relationship between education and social structure with special reference to Bangladesh.

The study reveals that there are 2110 educated persons in the twelve villages of the study area, out of which 1859(88.10%) are males and 251(11.90%) are females. But all of them are not unemployed. It was found from the study that male and female ratio of educated is 7:1. The study shows that most of educated unemployed (male and female) are still unmarried due to the impact of education of high literacy rate. It was evident from the study that a significant number (30.57%) of the total respondent read up to class eight. Among others, 18.35% in class X level, 17.90% in S.S.C level, 14.42% in H.S.C level and 5.67% in Degree and Masters level respectively.

The study findings indicates that among the respondents 3.65% are engaged in agriculture, 12.60% are engaged in services, 12.40% are involved in trade, 21.42% are students and 48.76% are unemployed. It is clear that the percentage of educated unemployed in this study area is very high in comparison to the national average.

The study reveals that there is no scope for promotion of self-employment and informal economic activities of the educated unemployed and under

privileged class of the society. There exists no further scope for employment opportunities as the society and economy is unplanned.

In the prevailing situation, Islam's suggestions included: i) in order to remove inequality, rural-urban disparity and exploitation present social structure would be changed, ii) maximum importance should be stressed on universal primary education, non-formal and vocational education, iii) vocational education at secondary level and professional education at the university stage should be introduced and, iv) all-out efforts should be made for creating wider scope for self-employment and employment opportunities.

The study is very relevant to this study. It emphasized on the social structure and stratification, present education system and employment situation of Bangladesh. But the study does not emphasize socio-economic needs for the educated youth, their demographic profile and their dreams and realities.<sup>10</sup>

**Rahman (2001)** conducted a study on 'Socio-economic needs of the Young People and the Role of Thana Resource Development and Employment Project: A Case Study of Kawkhali Thana, Pirojpur District' is an important work in the academic arena of youths study. The study has mainly explored the effectiveness and impact of Thana Resource Development and Employment Project (TRDEP) which was initiated by the government of Bangladesh in early 1980s. The focus of this project is to improve social awareness among the youth and eradicate their poverty through family based approach.

This study is a questionnaire based sample survey. 200 beneficiaries of TRDEP are selected through simple random sampling from the two unions of Kawkhali thana/upazila, in the district of Pirojpur, Bangladesh. Both qualitative and quantitative methodologies are used. The study covered the period from March 1999 to March 2001. The study collected information on the youths main socio-economic challenges that include income-earning activities, health and nutrition, family planning, training and other social development programs. This project put particular emphasis on income generating project by providing micro-credit.

It was found that the beneficiaries of TRDEP have raised their income, purchased land and increased other assets. The conditions of their houses and food-intake have improved considerably. This study observed substantial improvement in social awareness of the beneficiaries. They could improve their housing conditions and sanitation. Their attitude towards drinking pure

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<sup>10</sup> Rafiqul Islam, *Educated Unemployment Problem in Bangladesh: A Sociological Study*, (Dhaka: Ahmed Publishing House, 1999).

water, uses of sanitary latrine, knowledge of nutrition, awareness of child education, uses of contraception also demonstrated significant improvement.

Finally, the study reveal that after enrollment in TRDEP the income level of the members have increased considerably. Again when TRDEP member's status is compared with that of non-members the intervention of the programs on their social and economic well being is more significantly established. The officials of TRDEP and other nation buildings department were found to have attached due importance to its activities. They study also found out certain difficulties in the implementation of TRDEP such as inadequate manpower, scarcity of training opportunities, inadequate financial support and lack of systematic monitoring and evaluation process etc.

The study recommends that the effect of TRDEP seem to be positive on the lives and attitude of the youth population of our country. So the size and amount of credit to be disbursed need to be increased. The impediments in the management of the program need to be eradicated.

This study is youth development related but it does not highlighted the youth problems and prospects of the population rather it was concentrated on several efforts and projects of the government for the youth. So there are some lacking in this study particularly the skilled and opportunity of the youth in income generating activities.<sup>11</sup>

**Ali (2002)** carried out a study on 'Contribution of Self-employments Projects of the Department of Youth Development to National Income: An Analysis' is probably one of the important studies ever attempted in the field of youth self-employment programme in Bangladesh. The main objective of the study was to estimate the contribution of the youth training and self-employment projects of the Department of Youth Development to the national income of the country.

The study was conducted in selected six upazilas from six administrative divisions of Bangladesh. The primary data have been collected through sample survey. The sample size of the respondents is 160 youths. The youths who have received only training and who have received both training and credit are included in the sample. To select the sample a multi-stage stratified and random sampling techniques were followed. In the sample survey, two sets of questionnaires have been administered in the sample locations. One set of questionnaire was designed to collect data directly from the upazila youth development offices on the youths received training and credit in different years. Another set of questionnaire was used to carry out the

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<sup>11</sup> Md. Afrifur Rahman,. "Socio-economic needs of the Young People and the Role of Thana Resource Development and Employment Project: A Case Study of Kawkhali Thana, Pirojpur District" (Rajshahi: Institute of Bangladesh Studies, 2001)

interviews directly with the sampled youths. In addition, participatory approach has also been followed throughout the study.

Regarding socio-economic background of the respondents, the study shows that 50% of the total respondents are male and another 50% are female. A large majority of the respondents belong to the age group of 15-40 years 45% are educated up to the levels of class VI to X. Another 41% of the respondents are educated up to the levels of secondary and higher education. Nearly 11% of the respondent have higher level of education. It is observed that average family size of the households is 6.0 persons, average number of earners is 1.8 persons, average land holding is 186 decimals, average monthly household income is Taka 6.851/- and average monthly household expenditure is Taka 4.485/-.

With regard to pre-training occupation, the study shows that a large majority of the respondent were either student or unemployed before receiving training from DYD. In respect of training experience, only a few respondents have reported to receive training more than one. Regarding trades on which the respondents received training included are fisheries, poultry, livestock, veterinary, sewing, nursery, typing and handicraft. Among the trades, poultry ranked first in order of importance followed by fisheries and sewing. The study indicates that the respondent have received training are more than three months time. A large majority of the respondent (90%) have reported that the quality of training was good and it has always been effective.

With regard to undertaking self-employment project, the study shows that about 40% of the trained youth have been able to engage themselves in self-employment activities. The study reveals that by undertaking self-employment project they monthly earn in an average Taka 9.463/-. Similarly, they create opportunity for others for employment generation. The study shows that each of the youths who has undertaken self-employment activities is capable of creating 2 full time employment including himself or herself.

The study also highlights the credit information of DYD. It shows that one-fourth of the respondents have received credit form DYD. Besides, a small portion of the respondents have also received credit from other sources. The study shows that 47.8% youth repaid their loans regularly, while 52.8% respondents are found irregular in credit repayment.

In respect of problems facing in youth self-employment project the study identifies some problems such as spread of diseases, lack of availability of proper medicine and veterinary doctors, problem of getting quality feed, natural disaster, social obstacles and lack of appropriate technology etc.

In the prevailing situations, Ali's suggestions included: i) introducing the modern technology in training, ii) procedures of getting loan should be made easier and increasing the loan amount, iii) providing support to ensure timely input, quality feed and necessary treatment for the animals, iv) providing marketing facilities for selling the products and v) necessary support should be provided if any project is affected adversely by natural disaster or similar other reasons.

The study is an important work for YTSEP. It emphasized on positive aspects and limitations of youth self employment project. However, the study does not included any cases for indepth information. In this study no attention has been paid to ascertain the extent of relationship between self-employment youth and support services influence their changes.<sup>12</sup>

**Ali et.al., (2003)** conducted a study on entitled 'Impact of Youth Development Programmes on Human Development in Chittagong Division. An Evaluation' is an remarkable work in this field. The study was undertaken to assess the impact of programmes on human development and to identify the problems, prospects and potentials of ongoing programmes under DYD.

The study was conducted in the selected four upazils of Chittagong Division where youth development programmes are being implemented. For this study from each upazila about 100 (hundred) youth stakeholders were selected from those who received training and other inputs under the programmes of DYD during 1997 and 1998. To select the sample simple random sampling was followed. Thus 401 respondents were interviewed. Method of before and after programme without control was followed to conduct the evaluation. Moreover, secondary sources were also used for better comparison.

The study reveals that the households size has increased with the increase of economic well-being. In this respect an average house hold size was found around 6 persons while is less than the national average size is 5.6 persons.

It is seen that 74% of the respondent belonged to the 15-35 years age group. 67% of the stakeholders belonged to the landless and small farmers category. 56% respondents belonged to the education level of I to X. 85% respondents received general training and credit facilities of DYD. Besides training about 14% of the respondent received other inputs particularly kit box, sewing machine etc.

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<sup>12</sup> Zulfiqar Ali, 'Contribution of Self-employment Project of the Department of Youth Development to National Income: An Analysis,' (Savar: National Youth Centre, DYD, 2002).



The study reveals that out of 401 respondents, 399(99%) have been able to engaged themselves in different types of income generating activities and contributing to the family income form 20% to 90% of the total income. It is observed that the social status of the respondents as well as their family status also increased due to self-employment and increase of income. Moreover, 72% self-employed youths under the programmes have been able to generate a remarkable number (680 persons) of employment opportunities for the unemployed, under employed and disguised employed persons in and out side the family. About 50% of the employed youths have become graduated and more or less fulfilled the basic requirements particularly health, hygienic sanitation (88%) and safe drinking water (89%) of their families and thus improved their livelihood. They now enjoy distinct prestige in their community.

The study findings also reveals that participation in income and household asset holding, literacy rate and schools enrolment ratio, use of safe drinking water and hygienic latrines have tremendously increased. On the other hand, the number of infant and child mortality has decreased over the last five years. Thus the study findings reveal that the human development so far achieved compared to the national figure.

In the prevailing situations Ali's suggestion included; i) to grow interest for projective youths from needy families, present procedure of training should be maintained in future, ii) in order to made sharing of gained experiences, refresher or motivational training may also be arranged, iii) duration of skill oriented should be increased, iv)adequate credit facilities and input supply should be increased and v) periodic followups and monitoring should be arranged for the newly trained initiators at upazila level by DYD.

The study is relevant to this study. The style of presentation is descriptive with statistical data dressed in tablur form. Simple statistical measurements have been done for analysis of data. No cross tabulation has been designed to test any relationship between the variables of the study. As a result, one may give little weightage to the tentative conclusions reached by the researcher.<sup>13</sup>

**Islam (2004)** carried out a study on 'Evaluation of DYD Programmes in Socio-economic Development and Poverty Reduction in Bangladesh' with a special attention. The main objective of the study was to assess the impact and performance of the DYD programmes.

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<sup>13</sup> Md. Easin Ali, S.M. Quamrul Hasan and Mohammad Abdul Malek, 'Impact of Youth Development Programmes on Human Development in Chittagong Division: An Evaluation', (Comilla: BARD, 2003).

The study was conducted on three selected upazilas from three administrative divisions. Both survey methods and focus group discussion (FGD) were applied for collecting considerable qualitative and quantitative information required for the study. The primary data have been collected through sample survey. The sample size of the respondents from is 302 youths from population. To select the sample a multistage stratified sampling techniques was followed. Moreover, methods of before and after programme without control was also followed during the collection of information from the respondents.

In this study the researcher has found that more than 90 percent of the beneficiaries belonged to either landless or small farmers at the time of joining DYD. This indicated that DYD was able to address the target group of youth selected from disadvantaged households. It revealed that one third i.e. 34% of beneficiaries had an average per capita income of Taka. 10,000/- in pre-project period and after the intervention of DYD, the number of loanees below the poverty line had declined by 15% i.e. a fairly good proportion of poor youths had graduated their fortune from the stage of poverty. The annual household real income level had increased significantly due exclusively to DYD @ 19%. A vast majority of the sample beneficiaries (66%) was able to create new assets for changing their economic condition and the income from DYD activities was the source of capital for their asset creation. The study also revealed that the highest number of institutional training was found in pisciculture (36.8%) followed by poultry (22.9%), cow fattening (18.2%), dress making (9.1%), Radio/TV repairing (5.6%), computer (2.6%) and Freeze / AC repairing (2.6%). On the contrary, highest number of mobile training was received in poultry (40%), followed by cow fattening (24%), pisciculture (12%), nursery (10%), dressmaking (7%) and handloom (4%). Considering gender issues, training received by male and female accounted for 63 and 37 percent respectively. Out of 13 different trades, the first three trades chosen by females were poultry (38%), cow-fattening (22%) and dressmaking (19%). The dominant trades pursued by males are pisciculture (34%), poultry (25%), cow fattening (20%), radio/TV repair (5%), nursery (5%), computer (2%) and freeze/AC repair (2%). The trainee respondents were happy with the achievement in training received in different trades. More than 77% trainees reported that the training helped them achieve the purpose of self-employment. Nearly, 57% of the beneficiaries used training in poultry, livestock and fishery. Another beneficiaries (24%) used training in other self-employment activities. Nearly 72% of the beneficiaries under study were not the members of youth clubs and those who attained membership had participated in a wide range of social activities. Regarding problems in using training, 71% respondents disclosed financial constraints either in the form of lack of capital (54%) or difficulty in getting DYD loan (18%).

The study further stated that nearly 70% beneficiaries received loans while 30% were deprived of loan facility for various reasons such as loaning procedure, collateral issue, etc. About 61 percent received individual loan while 39 percent received group loan. About 60% of the individual loanees received loans in the range of Taka. 10-20 thousand and 57% of female loanees got loans in the range Taka 3-5 thousand only. There were different responses by the respondents on problems of loan management such as size of loan (27%), collateral (16%), interest (22%), dual loans (13%).

The study recommended raising the loan size, selection of appropriate borrower, and effective supervision for the effective functioning of micro-credit programmes of DYD. Regarding self-employment projects, the major source of investment was self financing (68%) followed by DYD source (20%), bank loan (5%), money lender (4%) and friends/relative (3%). The overall achievement score of DYD programmes was found to be 58. The maximum score was assigned to skill development (0.70%) followed by employment generation (0.65), awareness creation (0.58), increased income opportunity (0.57), enhanced living standard (0.53), social status (0.53) and women's empowerment (0.51).

The study came up with some policy implications on training and credit financing. Regarding training, increasing duration, using demonstration as method, need based training, promising trade based training, improving training logistics specially for females, identifying appropriate persons for training as well as qualified trainers etc. were suggested. On credit, measures such as increasing quantity of credit, reducing duplication of loans, linking credit with training, more credit for promising IGAs like poultry, livestock and fishery, strong credit monitoring system, effective poverty friendly interest rate structure etc, were suggested for the consideration of DYD.

In this study simple statistical measurement have been done for analysis of data. Moreover, the researcher has tried to particularly quantify some of the impacts on the basis of perceptions of the beneficiaries such as changes in income or improvement in quality of life. So this study is not an impact study in the truest sense of the term.<sup>14</sup>

Moreover the some other studies have been reviewed as a related documents of this study among these the following are mention worthy: Warburton<sup>15</sup> (1952), Wilkening<sup>16</sup> (1952), Elizabeth<sup>17</sup> (1953), Looms<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> KM Nabiul Islam, "Evaluation of DYD Programmes in Socio-economic Development and Poverty Reduction in Bangladesh" (Dhaka: Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, 2004).

<sup>15</sup> C.W. Warburton, 'Twenty five years of Extension Work', (Washington DC: USDA, 1952).

(1953), Wilson<sup>19</sup> (1956), Bulls<sup>20</sup> (1958), Chaube et. al.<sup>21</sup> (1958), Versuluyts (1958)<sup>22</sup>, Sherman (1958)<sup>23</sup>, Obioba<sup>24</sup> (1958), Gertrude<sup>25</sup> (1959), Franklin<sup>26</sup> (1962), Razvi<sup>27</sup> (1964), Duxbury (1965)<sup>28</sup>, Schmidt (1971)<sup>29</sup>, Anwar's (1972<sup>30</sup>, 1994)<sup>31</sup>, Rangaswami (1973)<sup>32</sup>, Hanumappa (1973)<sup>33</sup>, Ganorkar<sup>34</sup> (1978), Aslam (1983)<sup>35</sup>, Karim and Banu (1984)<sup>36</sup>,

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<sup>16</sup> E.A. Wilkening, 'Acceptance of Improved Farm Practices in Three Coastal Plain Countries,' (Raleigh NC: Agricultural Experiment Station, 1952).

<sup>17</sup> B. Elizabeth, 'Extension Work with Rural Youth's,' (Wagenengin: University of Wagenengin, 1953).

<sup>18</sup> B. Looms, "The Job of County Agents," *Extension Service Review*, Vol-24. Washington DC:, USDA 1953.

<sup>19</sup> M.S. Wilson, 'Community Development in India,' (India: Community Project Administration, 1956).

<sup>20</sup> J. T. Jr. Bulls, 'Report on Third Assignment with Punjab and Northern Region,' (India: US Technical Cooperation, 1958).

<sup>21</sup> M.U. Chaube and D.K. Mishra, 'Yuvak Mangal Dals of Uttar Pradesh,' (New Delhi: Extension Directorate & Training, 1958).

<sup>22</sup> J.D.N. Versuluyts, 'Some Consideration and Extension Service in Asia,' *Agricultural College Magazine*, Vol (1): 57-58, Nagpur, 1958.

<sup>23</sup> M. Sherman, 'A Study of the Members of the Rural 4-H Club Bellrammi County, Minnisota, to Determine the Relationship of the Parents Occupation to the choice of Projects.' (Wisconsin: Department of Agriculture and Extension Education, 1958).

<sup>24</sup> N. A. Obioba, 'A Plan for Organization of Boys and Girls Club in Rural Nigeria,' (Wisconsin: Department of Agriculture and Extension Education, 1958).

<sup>25</sup> L.W. Gertrude, 'Building of a Better America Through the 4-H Clubs', (Washington DC: Extension Service 1959, USDA, Bulletin-AIV 58).

<sup>26</sup> M.R. Fraklin, *The 4-H Story*; (Ames: The Iowa State University Press, 1962).

<sup>27</sup> S.U.H. Razvi, 'The Rural Boys Clubs in Pakistan,' (Wisconsin: Department of Agriculture and Extension Education, 1964).

<sup>28</sup> D.E. Duxbury, 'A Study of Selected Characteristics of Youth from Low-income Families,' (Wisconsin: University of Wisconsin, 1965).

<sup>29</sup> W.E. Schmidt, *How Extension Youth Programmes Strengthen Extension Work with Adults*, (Rome: FAO, UN, 1971).

<sup>30</sup> A.B.M. Nurul Anwar, 'Opinion of Adults and Youth for Organization of Youth Club in Two Selected Villages of South Mymensingh,' (Mymensingh: Department of Agricultural Extension Education, BAU, 1972).

<sup>31</sup> A. B. M. Nurul Anwar, "A Study for Involving Rural Youth in Extension Activities in Three Selected Villages of Mymensingh District." (Mymensingh: Bangladesh Agricultural University, 1994).

<sup>32</sup> S. Ragaswami, *Functional Literacy for Rural Youth in India*, (New Delhi: Directorate of Extension, 1973).

<sup>33</sup> P. Hanumappa, 'Importance of Organizing Rural Youth for Agricultural Development,' (India: 1973).

<sup>34</sup> P.N. Ganorkar, 'Youth Participation in Agricultural Development,' (Alahabad: Chugh Publication, 1978).

<sup>35</sup> M. Aslam, 'Youth and Development (An Asian Perspective),' (Comilla: *The Journal of Rural Development*, BARD, 11 (1 & 2): 30-35, 1983).

Naqvi (1988)<sup>37</sup>, Sadangi and Singh (1992)<sup>38</sup>, Bajpai (1992)<sup>39</sup>, Miller and Bowen (1993)<sup>40</sup>, Anwar and Kashem (1995)<sup>41</sup>, Faroque (1997)<sup>42</sup>, Rashid (1998)<sup>43</sup>, Roy et al. (2005)<sup>44</sup>.

From the reviewed of literatures, it is not possible to arrive at a conclusion regarding the effectiveness of ongoing Youth Training and Self-employment Programmes of DYD. These studies do not often provide adequate analysis of historical patterns and conclusive evidence on youth employment as well as poverty alleviation through training and micro-credit interventions. Furthermore, these studies do not raise any of the questions and issues, which are required to explore the dynamics of change. However, there remains the point of departure for a more specific and contemporary status at the state of the effectiveness of Youth Training and Self-employment Programmes particularly in the field of training programme and its impact on the performance of the rural youth in Bangladesh. Though it is apparently believed that there is a significant impact of training on youth performance and the experts opined that training and technical support is essential for the desired development of the youth population of Bangladesh but none of the above studies have given attention to these issues. This knowledge gap has been clearly identified from this literature review along with the various aspects of youth, youth development and other government initiatives regarding the issue.

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<sup>36</sup> Md. Rezaul Karim and Shirin Banu, "Employment In Livestock Rearing: An Overview of Youth Development Activities," *The Journal of BARD*, Vol-13 (1 & 2), Comilla, 1984.

<sup>37</sup> H.M. Naqvi, "Rural Youth and Agricultural Development." *Journal of Rural Development Administration*, Vol. 20 (1), 1988.

<sup>38</sup> B.N. Sadangi and R.P. Singh, "Occupational Analysis Between Diversifier and Non-Diversifier Rural Youth," *Indian Journal of Extension Education*, 1992.

<sup>39</sup> Pramod Kumar Bajpai, *Youth, Education and Unemployment: A Psycho-Social Inquiry*, (New Delhi: Ashish Publishing House, India, 1992).

<sup>40</sup> J.P. Miller and B.E. Bowen, "Competency, Copying and Contributory life skills Development of Early Adolescent," *Journal of Agricultural Education*, Spring.

<sup>41</sup> A.M.M.N.Anwar, and M.A Kashem, "Participation of Rural Youth in Selected Income – generating Activities"; *Bangladesh Journal of Agricultural Science* 22(1), 188-192, 1995.

<sup>42</sup> M.G. Faroque, "Participation of Female Rural Youth in Selected Homestead Activities in Two Selected Villages of Bhaluka Thana under Mymensingh district." (Mymensingh: Bangladesh Agricultural University, 1997).

<sup>43</sup> M. M. Rashid, "Willingness of Dropout Rural Youth for Undertaking Selected Agricultural Entrepreneurships in their Self-employment" (Mymensingh: Bangladesh Agricultural University, 1999).

<sup>44</sup> M.K. Roy, M.K. Hasan and S. U. I. Sayed, 'Cross Cultural Community in Bangladesh: A Study of Amua,' (Comilla: BARD, 2005).



## **Historical Perspective of Youth Development Strategy**

### **Introduction**

Developed and developing countries identified youth as a separate group for human resource development and special programmes have been designed and implemented for the development of young people. The emergence of youth development in Europe was in the thirties of twentieth century. Many countries in Asia distinctly identified youth as a separate group and started youth development in the fifties and sixteen of the last century. Youth development activities in Bangladesh started in the seventies of last century. Youth development activities were also recognized by United Nations and Commonwealth in the sixties and seventies of same century. At present, youth development is increasingly gaining importance all over the world. However youth development of a country depends on the needs, hopes and aspirations of that particular country.

The past history has its great importance to know the present and to build up the future. Therefore, an attempt has been made to review briefly the past experiences of youth development in the world as well as in Bangladesh. This chapter also intends to highlight the various youth development efforts which are being made by different countries and organizations.

### **3.1 Origin and Concepts of Youth Development**

Youth is the best period of life. Full of vigour and energy, youth is the most precious gift from God. A young man/woman has the power of creativity, a sound mental and physical strength, and a spirit of high hope and dream. Let us utilize this asset in a productive way through different pragmatic activities so as to achieve national progress and prosperity.<sup>1</sup>

Youth was the focal point for discussion, even from the ancient time. Most of the sagacious men were concerned for the youth and it was the topic for discussion at all ages. Even in 300 B.C., Aristotle expressed his concern by saying that “when I look at the younger generation, I despair for the future of civilization”. Socrates also expressed similar concern in 500 B.C., by saying “our youth to day love luxury, they have bad manners, contempt of authority, disrespect for older people”.

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<sup>1</sup> Mustafa Mohiuddin, “Youth Organization and Our Youth Development”, *Souvenir of National Youth Day*, Department of Youth Development, 2002, p.6.

“Children now a days are tyrants, they do no longer rise when elders enter the room, they contradict their parents, they chatter before company, gobble their food and tyrannize their teachers”. “They have execrable manners, flout authority, have no respect for their elders. What kind of awful creatures will they be when they grow up”. The above statements indicate sufficiently to prove the importance of youth development activities undertaken even in the ancient time.<sup>2</sup>

The negative statement of Aristotle and Socrates on youth now needs to be analyzed based on the statements of the leaders, philosophers thinkers who valued youth as an asset and future of any country. An Arabian proverb valued youth by saying, “Show me your youth, then I will predict the destiny of your Nation”. Similarly Maxim Gorky commented on youth that “Treasure your youth there is nothing better, nothing more valuable in the whole world”. In modern time Martin Luther King (Jr) reposed great faith on youth and commented that “our understanding of the youth has to undergo a change. They can play great role in solving the various problems, which elude satisfactory answers. It is not enough we praise their abilities. We should trust them and assign them responsible roles”. There is a proverb of China to emphasize on the importance of youth development –

‘If you Plan for a year, Plant Paddy,  
If you Plan for ten years, Plant trees,  
If you Plan for hundred years, develop youth.’<sup>3</sup>

The developed and developing nations across the globe have placed priority on the development youth, which amply supported by the comment of Ex-UN Secretary General Mr. Kofi Anan – “A society that cuts off from its youth, severe its life line. It is condemned to bleed to death”.<sup>4</sup>

The youth development activities have been evolved for grooming young people. Taking into account of all comments and saying we can easily derive a conclusion that youth need to be considered as an asset of the society and nation. The need of the hour is to invest on youth and groom them properly to lead the country in future. Future of the country now lies with the young people, who could lead the country in economic, political, sports and cultural field. But the programme of activities differed from country to country in different parts of world depending on the country's social and economic condition. According to Pittman and Fleming youth development activities,

<sup>2</sup> Md. Abdul Momen, “Youth Programme in SAARC Countries”, *Souvenir of National Youth Day*, Department of Youth Development, 2002, p. 17.

<sup>3</sup> Md. Mukitil Islam, “Development Speech (In Bangla)”, *Souvenir of National Youth Day*, Department of Youth Development, 2002, p. 34.

<sup>4</sup> Md. Abdul Momen. *op. cit.*



as “the ongoing growth process in which all youth are engaged in attempting to- (i) meet their basic personal and social needs to be safe, feel cared for, be valued, be useful, and be spiritually grounded and (ii) build skills and competencies that allow them to function and contribute in their daily lives.”<sup>5</sup> In Bangladesh, the definition of youth development means<sup>6</sup>

- The development of the youth that is the youth will work for the youth.
- The development by the youth that is the youth will work for the society.
- The development for the youth that is society will work for the youth.

The youth development activities have become much more complex due to the impact of global economic and social change. The global economic and social change causes wide gap between and within the societies, affecting young. The programme needs to be developed to bridge the gap focusing young people.

### **3.2 Youth Development Programmes in Selected Developed Countries**

At the beginning of twentieth century a number of youth movements came into being in various names in different countries of the world. Many of these reached great heights and popularity, while others lasted for a short time. Main features of successful youth organizations as available from literature have been discussed in the following:

#### **3.2.1 4-H Organization in U.S.A<sup>7</sup>**

The 4-H is a youth education programme of the Cooperative Extension Service. This informal educational programme is conducted by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. State Land-Grant Universities County Governments and combines the work of Federal, State and local Extension staff and volunteer leaders. Participation in the 4-H programme is open to all interested youth, regardless of race, colour, sex, creed, national origin or handicap. Participants are primarily between the ages of 9 and 19 and reside in every demographic area, farm, city and in between. The success of the 4-H programme is attributed to nearly 600,000 volunteer leaders who are backed by strong educational base of the Land-Grant University staff in every country of the nation.

The mission of 4-H is to assist in youth acquiring knowledge, developing life, skills, and forming attitudes that will enable them to become self-

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<sup>5</sup> K. Pittman and E.W. Fleming, *A new vision promoting youth development*, (Washington : Center for Youth Development and Policy Research, 1991), p.8.

<sup>6</sup> Mohammad Shahidul Alam, “Some Thoughts On National Youth Policy”, *Souvenir of National Youth Day*, Department of Youth Development, 1998, p. 51.

<sup>7</sup> A.B.M. Nurul Anwar, “A Study for Involving Rural Youth in Extension Activities in Three Selected Villages of Mymensingh District,” (Mymensingh: Bangladesh Agricultural University, 1994), pp. 22-23.

directing productive and contributing members of society. this mission is carried out through the involvement of parents, volunteer leaders and other adults who organize and conduct educational activities/projects in community and family settings. Learning-by-doing experiences of 4-H youth are supported by research and extension functions represented by the Land Grant Universities. 1890 Institutions and Tuskegee Institute, USDA and cooperating countries with support from the National 4-H Council and other private support.

The 4-H participants are youth taking part in programmes provided as the result of action planned and initiated by extension personnel in cooperation with volunteer leadership at the local level. This includes youth participating in programmes conducted through the 1890 colleges and universities and those involved in the Expanded Food-Nutrition Education programme.

Youth may participate in 4-H through a variety of programme delivery modes. These include organized 4-H clubs. 4-H special interest or short-term groups, 4-H school enrichment programmes, 4-H instructional TV, 4-H camping or as individual 4-H members.

The 4-H youth contribute to energy conservation, environmental improvement, community service, and food production and participate in programmes that aid youth employment and career decisions, health, nutrition, home improvement, and family relationships. As a result of international co-operation with many countries, 4-H is also contributing to world understanding. In the process, 4-H youth apply leadership skill, acquire a positive self-concept and learn to respect and get along with people.

A dynamic growing organization, 4-H has expanded steadily for the past 25 years. The most recent statistics indicate that there are approximately 5 million boys and girls involved in this youth educational programme of extension. Since 1914 over 40 million youth from all States, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, and and Guam have participated in 4-H.

### **Major activities of the 4-H Youth Programme:**

- i) Acquire subject-matter skills and knowledge in certain areas of agriculture, home economics, science and technology
- ii) Acquire a positive self-concept
- iii) Learn to respect and get along with people
- iv) Learn and practise leadership skills, and fulfill leadership roles
- v) Develop and practise responsible skills related to the environment
- vi) Learn and use accepted practices for mental, physical, emotional and social health

- vii) Explore and evaluate career and job opportunities
- viii) Establish positive attitudes toward productive use of leisure
- ix) Participate in community affairs

#### **Activities and duties of the 4-H volunteers:**

- i) Acquire skills in interpersonal relationship
- ii) Improve skills essential to fulfill their 4-H leadership responsibilities
- iii) Demonstrate leadership skills by helping others learn.

#### **3.2.2 Future Farmers of America (FFA)<sup>8</sup>**

Future Farmers engage themselves in a wide variety of activities. Through these activities, the members learn how to take part in meeting, follow parliamentary procedure, speak in public, and cooperate with fellow students in programmes for individual and community betterment. Local chapters sponsor recreational activities, conduct safety campaign, home improvement campaigns, and hold parent-son banquets.

The FFA activities stimulate the boys to do more and better work in vocational agriculture. Awards are offered through the FFA for outstanding achievement in such fields as farm mechanics, soil and water management, dairy farming, crop production, and, farm safety. This stimulates increased effort by the members to gain proficiency in the various phases of agriculture.

#### **3.2.3 American Youth Commission<sup>9</sup>**

American Youth Commission was established in 1935 by the American Council of Education from which it received a mandate to:

- i) Consider all the needs of youth and appraise the facilities and resources for serving there needs;
- ii) Plan experiments and programmes which will be most helpful in solving the problems of youth;
- iii) Popularize and promote desirable plans of action through publications, conferences and demonstration.

#### **3.2.4 The Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA)<sup>10</sup>**

The Young Men's Christian Association' (YMCA) started in England in 1844 by George Williams and spread across the nations. In many cities of America there is at least one YMCA. These organizations are found also in Asian and

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<sup>8</sup> Ibid., p. 24.

<sup>9</sup> L, Lewis Lorwin, *Youth Work Programmes, Problems and Policies*, (Washington: American Council on Education, 1941), p. Preface VI.

<sup>10</sup> A.B.M. Nurul Anwar, *op. cit.*, p. 24.

European cities. Civic minded people organised these associations to provide sports and games, recreational activities, and many other facilities for the members and non-members as well. Every year YMCA launches giant campaign to solicit funds and new members. Huge rallies are held at which national and local political civic and, social leaders attend to give their approval and support.

### **3.2.5 Boy Scout Movement<sup>11</sup>**

Boy Scout movement was started in 1908 in Great Britain for the purpose of training boys in the essentials of good citizenship. The idea of scouting for boys originated with Lieut Gen. Sir (Oater Lord) Robert S.S. Baden-Powell (1857-1941). This has been an organization whose programme is designed to develop character, citizenship and physical fitness in boys from 8 to 18 years. The programme is composed for three groups: (i) Cub Scout (8-10 years) take part in activities centred around the home; (ii) Boy Scouts (11-13 years) take part in outdoor activities like nature study camping, first-aid, handicrafts, swimming, signaling and life savings; and (iii) Explorer Boy Scouts (14 years and above) are organized in crews in Boy Scout Troops and in Explorer Posts, Sea Explorer Ships, or Air Squadrons. Scouting quickly spread to other countries and by 1970 there were Boy Scout Organizations in 110 nations. In every country the same basic pattern exists; a moral code, an emphasis on outdoor activities; and a progressive training rewarded by the granting of certain badges.

### **3.2.6 Youth Movement in Germany<sup>12</sup>**

The most important voluntary working community was the German federal Youth Ring in which was associated eleven Land Youth Rings and 14 Youth organizations with over 6 million members. Its main aim was to make it possible for the young people to lead a life that is healthy in social, moral and cultural aspects. It is also aimed to strengthen democracy and promote international understanding. There was a “roof” organization (Working Community) for the care and welfare of young people. It provided a link among all rings and clubs, and bodies responsible for assisting young people including those devoted to social and socio-pedagogic work.

## **3.3 United Nations & Commonwealth Initiatives for Youth Development**

### **3.3.1 United Nations Initiatives & Recommendation for Youth Development**

After the Second World War the economic recession had created a disorderly situation throughout the world. In either big or small countries movements,

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<sup>11</sup> Ibid., pp. 24-25.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid., p. 25.

terrorism and anti-social activities have increased for recession. The restless situation throughout the world has influenced the youth community movement, struggle, protest and counter attacks are the inherent trends of the youth. That is why the youth have engaged themselves in this restless situation very naturally. The involvement of the youth has made the world leaders throughout. The problems of the youths have been discussed in different forums. For the first time the youth community has been recognized as a different spirit of the nation throughout the world.<sup>13</sup> In light of this realization, the United Nations has long recognized that the imagination, ideas and energies of young women and men are vital for the continuing development of the societies in which they live. This was acknowledged in 1965 by the Member States of the UN when they endorsed the declaration on the promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between peoples.<sup>14</sup>

Based on the recommendations of the 24 nation Advisory Committee for International Youth Year (IYY), UN General Assembly adopted a specific programme in 1985 calling for a local and national focus for the youth. Under this programme, each nation was to look at the situation of her youth in the age category of 15-24 years. Youth are the key to the future, but many observers feel that the 15-24 year-old age group has been ignored for too long. Young people today live in societies undergoing rapid social and economic change in which finding productive employment grows ever more difficult. Youth unemployment will increase in the next decade beyond its already disproportionately high levels compared to society as a whole. In 1983 UN convened five regional meetings dedicated to International Youth Year (1985): in the June in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia for Africa, in July in Bangkok, Thailand for Asia and Pacific, in September in contest, Romania for the European region, in October in San Jose, Costa Rica for Latin America and in Baghdad, Iraq for Western Asia. These meetings showed countries at widely different points in their progress towards comprehensive youth policies. The purpose of the meetings was to assess the youth situation in each region. The regional plans revealed comprehensive information ever assembled on youth. They provided a framework for the formulation of global long-term plan of action for youth on the basis of their potentials and problems. UN organisers found that young people shared a desire to harness their energies to become a dynamic force in the struggle to eliminate poverty, hunger, illiteracy and disease. Among some of

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<sup>13</sup> Sayed Abdul Kaium, "Chorological Development of Youth Programmes (In Bangla)", *Souvenir of National Youth Day*, Department of Youth Development, 2002, p. 42.

<sup>14</sup> United Nations, *The United Nations Youth Agenda*, (New York : United Nations Publications, 1998). p.2

important resolutions and suggestions of different UN Regional Meetings related to rural youth included the following:<sup>15</sup>

1. Agricultural development agencies in the nation should review extension programmes and policies in order to ensure that villages youth are not only trained in modern agriculture but also receive follow-up assistance and support they require in order to make full use of their training.
2. Agriculture and rural development strategies should focus on the youth group, the future of the rural areas, to develop programme and to meet the basic needs of young people.
3. Income-generating activities for young people in the rural areas in the field of agriculture, animal husbandry, small-scale industries or services should be promoted and ensured for maximum assistance to these young people.
4. Government should promote physical and sports activities for young people giving priority to mass involvement.
5. Government should prepare a “youth charter” regarding the contribution of youth in independence, peace and development and to make them aware of their role, their rights and responsibilities to the society.
6. The creation of labour-intensive projects should be explored to provide large numbers of young people in income earning activities.

Realizing the importance of youth development members of the United Nations general Assembly through their resolutions no. 34/151 took the decision to observe International Year of Youth (IYY) in 1985. Two decades later, the call by the UN General Assembly for the observance of the 1985 International Youth Year: Participation, Development and Peace drew international attention to the important role young people play in the world, and, in particular, their potential contribution to development and the goals of the United Nations Charter. That same year, the Assembly also endorsed the guidelines for further planning and suitable follow-up in the field of youth, which are significant for their focus on young people as a broad category comprising various subgroups, rather than a single demographic entity.

Since the International Youth Year was proclaimed in 1985, the UN General Assembly has defined youth participation as including the following components:

- Economic participation, which relates to work and to development;
- Political participation, which relates to decision-making process and distribution of power;

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<sup>15</sup> A.B.M. Nurul Anwar, *op.cit.*, p.5.

- Social participation, which relates to community involvement and the peer group;
- Cultural participation, which relates to the arts, music, cultural values and expression.

In 1995, on the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year, the United Nations strengthened its commitment to young people by directing the international community's response to the challenges to youth into the next millennium. It did this by adopting an international strategy — the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond — to address more effectively the problems of young men and women and to increase opportunities for their participation in society. This World Programme seeks to make Governments more responsive to the aspirations of youth for a better world, as well as to the demands of youth to be part of the solution rather than part of the problem.

The World Programme is a blueprint for action which covers ten priority areas: education, employment, hunger, poverty, the environment, drug abuse, juvenile delinquency, leisure-time activities, girls and young women, and the full and effective participation of youth in the life of society and in decision-making. In each of these areas, the programme looks in depth at the nature of the challenges and presents proposals for action. These ten priority areas are interrelated and intrinsically linked.<sup>16</sup>

On 17 December 1999, in its resolution 54/120, The United Nations General Assembly endorsed the recommendation made by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth (Lisbon, 8-12 August 1998) that 12 August be declared International Youth Day.

The theme of different's year's International Youth Day were the following:<sup>17</sup>

- IYD 2001- Addressing Health and Unemployment
- IYD 2002- Now and for the Future: Youth Action for Sustainable Development
- IYD 2003- Finding decent and productive work for young people everywhere
- IYD 2004- Youth in an Intergenerational Society
- IYD 2005- WPAY+10: Making Commitments Matter
- IYD 2006- Tackling Poverty Together: Young People and the Eradication of Poverty

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<sup>16</sup> United Nations, *op. cit.*, p. 2.

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.UN.Org/en/events/youthday>

- IYD 2007- Be seen, Be heard: Youth participation for Development
- IYD 2008- Youth and Climate Change: Time for Action
- IYD 2009- Sustainability: Our Challenge. Our Future
- IYD 2010- Dialogue and Mutual Understanding

First Observance of International Youth Day 2000. The thought behind celebrating the day is to establish youths values worldwide.

In their Millennium Declaration, the heads of state or government at the Millennium Summit resolved to “develop and implement strategies that give young people everywhere a real chance to find decent and productive work.”

In 2001, the Secretary General’s Youth Employment Network was established as a joint initiative of the UN, the ILO and the World Bank to translate the Summit Commitments into actions.<sup>18</sup>

In December 2009, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/64/134 proclaiming the year commencing International Youth Day (12 August 2010) as the International Year of Youth. During the International Year, the United Nations and its youth organization partners will focus on the need to encourage dialogue and understanding across generations, cultures and religions.<sup>19</sup>

### **3.3.2 Commonwealth Youth Programme**

In 1971, the Commonwealth Heads of Government met in Singapore to deliberate on various issues faced by the member countries and this meeting identified many issues for incorporation in their declaration which was treated as Singapore Declaration in 1971. In this declaration, education and training for the development of youth were preferred to bring them in the mainstream of development. Through this meeting, member countries including Bangladesh were requested to draw up a separate programme for the youth. On the basis of Singapore Declaration, the Commonwealth Secretariat identified areas of youth works and placed them before the Commonwealth Youth Ministers’ Meeting (CYMM) for inducement which ultimately endorsed/authorized the Secretariat to implement the programme. This was finally sanctioned by the CHOGM held in 1973 at Harare. Thus, the Commonwealth Youth Programme (CYP) was established in 1973 and its head office was set up in the Commonwealth Secretariat, London. Thereafter, CYP established three regional centres in four regions of the

<sup>18</sup> United Nations, *The United Nations Today*, (New York: UN Department of Public Information, 2008). pp. 202-2003.

<sup>19</sup> <http://www.un.org/en/events/youthday/sg.shtml/>



Commonwealth to pursue youth activities in the member countries & its monitoring roles were entrusted to CYP head office in London.<sup>20</sup>

The Commonwealth Youth Programme (CYP) has adopted to guide its work is to promote the Commonwealth values of social justice, democracy and human rights amongst the youth people of the Commonwealth. Since its foundation in 1974, CYP has worked to promote youth empowerment through education and training, expanding employment opportunities and increased participation in decision-making.

CYP works towards a society where young women and men are empowered to develop their potential, creativity and skills as productive and dynamic members of their societies and participate fully at every level of decision-making and development, both individually and collectively, successfully promoting commonwealth values.

While the kinds of programmes administrative by CYP have changed since it began in 1974, its overall goal to promote youth involvement in and benefit from national, social and economic development has remained constant currently, CYP programme emphasize:

- i) education and training
- ii) providing support to youth enterprise and self-employment initiatives
- iii) promoting national youth policies
- iv) addressing youth health concerns including HIV/AIDS
- v) increasing the participation of young women in all aspects of development
- vi) promoting literacy at a local level
- vii) increasing youth awareness about sustainable development.

CYP is unique among all the programmes of the Secretariat because of its regional base. There are four Regional Centres: in Zambia (Africa), India (Asia), Guyana (Caribbean), and the Solomon Islands (South Africa). These are enables CYP to reach more young people and to offer a wider variety of training programmes and projects tailored specially for the needs of young women and men in each region.<sup>21</sup>

Youth policy of the Commonwealth countries of the Asia region, both at national and agency level was declared. Bangladesh, India, Srilanka and

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<sup>20</sup> Md. Easin Ali & at. al., "An Assessment of the Effectiveness of the Ongoing Programmes of Department of Youth Development," (Savar : National Youth Centre, 2006), p. 4.

<sup>21</sup> Commonwealth, *Commonwealth Values in Youth in Development* (London: The information and Publication Affairs Division, Commonwealth Secretariat, 1998), pp. 6-9.

Pakistan are having national youth policy. In Brunei Darussalam and Maldives, the official youth work is guided by agency based-policy. The situation is similar in Singapore where the youth work programme comes under the purview of the people's association. Hong Kong that has done some spade work only regarding the formulation of a youth policy. Broadly taken in Asia, youth policy are either focused on (a) youth participation in national development activities including education, training and employment or (b) culture, sports, recreation and national identity.<sup>22</sup>

Table 3.1: Status of Youth Work in Asia Region

Country	Commencement of Youth Work	Agency Responsible	Executing Agency	Status of Youth Policy	Definition of Youth	Target Group
Malaysia	1964	M/O Culture, Youth & Sports, now M/O Youth & Sports	Youth Division Malaysian Youth Council Malaysian Association of Youth Clubs	2 Legislative enactments Society Act, 1960 Amended Society Act. 1972 Youth Policy declared in 1985	15-40 yrs	Dropout & Unemployed Youth
The Maldives	1979	Under direct Control of President now, M/O Youth Women Affairs & Sports, 1993	Maldives Youth Centre, now Youth Division	No declared Youth Policy or Legislative Enactments	15-35 yrs	All Categories of Youth
Pakistan	1989	M/O Culture Youth and Tourism, now M/O Women Affairs & Youth	Youth Division National Level Youth, Culture & Sports Director at the State Level	Youth Policy declared in 1989, but no Legislative Enactments	10-24 yrs	All Categories of Youth
Singapore	1972	People's Association (PA) (Autonomous body)	Youth Division of PA National Youth Council	No declared Youth Policy or Legislative Enactment, Policy Statement of PM	15-30 yrs	All Categories of Youth
Srilanka	1969	M/O Planning (YD) M/O Youth Affairs & Employment in 1979 now M/O Youth & Sports	National Youth Services Council (NYSC) Autonomous body)	Youth Work & Youth Policy covered by the Youth Act of 1979	15-29 yrs	All Categories of Youth with emphasis on Dropouts
Bangladesh	1979	M/O Youth Development, now M/O Youth & Sports	Department of Youth Development	Policy approved in 1985, no legislative enactment	15-30 yrs	Unemployed Youth Dropout Poor Youth
Brunei Darussalam	1974	M/O Culture, Youth & Sports	Welfare, Youth & Sports Department Brunei Youth Council	No declared Youth policy or legislative Enactment	15-35 yrs	All Categories of Youth
Hong Kong	1965	Social Welfare Department	Social Welfare Department Hong Kong Federation of Youth (NGO) Central Co-ordination Committee for Youth Work (1985, IYY)	No declared Youth Policy or Legislative Enactment	15-24 yrs	All Categories of Youth
India	1969	M/O Education and Youth Services, now M/O Human Resource Development	Department of Youth & Sports (National Level) State Youth Directorate	Youth Policy Declared in 1987. No legislative Enactment	15-35 yrs	Student and non-student Youth

<sup>22</sup> Nur, Muhammad, "Status of Youth Work in the Commonwealth Asia Region", Department of Youth Development, Department of Youth Development, 1996, pp. 29-33.

### **3.4 Youth Development Programme in South Asian Countries**

#### **3.4.1 Youth Programme in India**

The overwhelming majority of the population in India lives in the rural areas and the problems of rural poverty and unemployment have been causing grave concern to the Government of India. Hence, since the fifties decades of the last century, the Government of India launched a number of rural youth programs for the development of youth as well as to cope with rural poverty and unemployment. India's youth development activities commenced in 1969 under Ministry of Education and Youths Services, now, Ministry of Human Resource Development. The youth development activities are targeted for student and non-student youth with age range in between 15-35 years. The youth work in India is implemented at 2-level, one at the national level and another at the state level.<sup>23</sup> Major rural youth programmes have been discussed in brief in the following:<sup>24</sup>

##### **i. Training of Rural Youth for Self-employment (TRYSEM)**

In August 1979, the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India initiated the National Scheme of Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment, popularly known as TRYSEM. The principal objectives of this programme were: i) to remove unemployment among the rural youth between 18-35 years of age, ii) to equip them with necessary skills and technology, and iii) to enable them to undertake vocations of self-employment. The Ministry of Rural Development put forth the main objectives of the TRYSEM in the following manner:

- a) Equipping rural youth, ages between 18-35 years, with necessary skills and technology to enable them to seek self-employment. For this purpose, it is envisaged that training will be practical, based on concept of "learning by doing" and will be in selected trades which can lead to self-employment in agricultural and allied sectors, small industries and service sector. It is expected that a detailed exercise of training needs will be carried out at the state and district level for each district. Trade will be selected at district based on local resources and block level taking into account the local needs and potentialities. Each block in the country will cover a minimum of 40 youths per year under this training scheme.
- b) Trainees to be selected from small and marginal farmers, landless agricultural labourers, artisans and people falling below the poverty line with preference for members of Scheduled Castes/Tribes and women, otherwise the selection criteria is supposed to be flexible with no minimum educational qualifications required.

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<sup>23</sup> Md. Abdul Momen, *op.cit.*, p. 20.

<sup>24</sup> A.B.M. Nurul Anwar, *op. cit.*, pp. 26-31.

- c) After completion of training, the trainees to be given appropriate credit support for setting up their own enterprise. Since guarantee covered in respect of these loans is proposed to be 90 percent, it is expected that the banks will not require any collateral security/guarantee.

The elements included in the TRYSEM are: i) the trainees, ii) the trainers, iii) community leaders, and iv) the officials.

## **ii. Youth Programmes Conducted by the Directorate of Extension (Dept. of Agriculture)**

The Directorate of Extension has taken up the following programmes for farm youth:

### **a) Pilot young farmer's club around extension training centers**

With the very start of the Community Development in India, the Directorate of Extension undertook the responsibility of training the Gramsevakas and Gramsevikas (village level male & female workers) in rural youth activities. After training they could organise youth programmes in development blocks. In order to provide them project oriented training in this aspect, ten Pilot Young Farmers Clubs were organised in selected villages in each development blocks attached to the Extension training Centres. The staff and trainees of the Extension Training centres organize training for the youth club members. The training included leadership development, organization and management, skill development in the field of agriculture and project activities.

After training, a regular follow up was done to provide continuing education and guidance. There were separate clubs for boys and girls and the membership varied between the age group of 15-25 years. The members of the club undertook projects related to crop production, grain storage, horticulture, animal husbandry, home science and fisheries.

### **b) Training of young farmer's in farmers training districts**

A massive programme of Farmers' Training and Education has been taken up in 100 selected districts with a view to train the farm family i.e. farmers, farm women and, farm youth in modern farming technology. The young farmers within the age of 20 to 30 years are participating in programmes like demonstration-cum-training camps, short duration training courses and discussion groups. Special courses of 3 months duration were organized previously for young farmers but later on they were discontinued as the courses were felt to be too long is now planned to organise short duration courses of specialized nature and follow it up regularly through discussion groups.

### **c) Training of young farmer through voluntary organization**

National Level Farmers voluntary organizations are being encouraged to take up training programmes for the benefit of young farmers by organising short duration training courses, seminars and exchange visits. Financial assistance is being provided to the 6 national level organizations by the Directorate of Extension for undertaking programmes relating to agricultural production. These organizations have branches at the State and District level and they work through them. One of these organisations is Young Farmers Association of India which has set up young Farmers Training Centres at Rakhra and Vlsakhapatnam to provide institutional training facilities in various disciplines of agriculture and animal husbandry. They have also been organising youth activities in selected areas and are operating young farmers' exchange programmes within and outside the country.

### **iii. People's Action for Development, India (Dept. of Agriculture)**

The People's Action for development, India receives aid from FAO and other donor countries to provide assistance to voluntary organizations and training institutes for taking up programmes for rural youth development and young farmers training. Some of the projects which were financed under this programme are: (a) Kitchen Garden Competition among Rural Youth Clubs around selected Extension Training Centres; (b) Development of village youth clubs in District Agra (U.P.) and Udaipur (Rajasthan); (c) Poultry development programme through youth clubs in selected villages near Narendrapur (West Bengal) and: (d) Establishment of Young Farmers Training Centres at Visgakhapatnam (A.P) and Rakhra (Punjab).

### **iv. Department of Community Development and Yuvak Mandals**

The Department of Community Development took up the rural youth programme with the inception of the Community Development Programme in the country. The Rural Youth Clubs organised under this programme are known as 'Yuvak Mandals' and are open to both rural boys and girls within the age group of 15-30 years. There are about 5,000 blocks in the country and the average number of Yuvak Mandals in each block is reported to be about 20. The basic objective of these clubs is to provide training ground for the youth club members to become better farmers, better homemakers, better citizens and better leaders. For this purpose, they take up economic, social, cultural and recreational projects. These activities aim on the one hand at developing civic sense and civic responsibility and on the other hand provide channels for dissemination of new knowledge and essential skills and techniques in agriculture, and allied fields. The project activities include agriculture, horticulture, dairying, poultry, pisciculture, piggery, home management, spinning, tailoring, embroidery, food preservation etc.

### **v. International Farm Youth Exchange Programme with U.S.A. and other Countries**

This scheme of the Directorate of Extension is intended to provide practical training experience to youth farmers in modern methods of agricultural production including livestock raising and to develop goodwill and better understanding among them by living, working together and sharing experiences. Besides, the scheme was taken up in 1953 with the co-operation of the National 4-H Club Foundation of United States to provide opportunity to young and promising farm boys and girls to visit and stay there in rural areas as guests of selected host families for a period of nine months to study and participate in the programme of rural youth development, leadership development and training.

The main objectives of the programme are (i) to create understanding and good will by exchanging willing young farmers between India and the USA (ii) to provide opportunity to get acquainted with 4-H club and other youth activities in the field agriculture of the USA (iii) to develop rural youth leadership (iv) to gain knowledge of agriculture and allied subjects by living, working and sharing experiences with the host families.

Youth farmers between 20 and 30 years of age, with rural background and practical experience of farming/home management, who can contribute to farming on their return from abroad to participate in this programme.

### **vi) Nehru Yuvak Kendras**

The programme was inaugurated on the 14<sup>th</sup> November, 1972. Eighty Nehru Yuvak Kendras were established in 1972 by the Ministry of Education, Government of India, and it was decided that all districts should be covered by this programme by the end of the Fifth Five Year Plan.

The main aim of the scheme as originally visualised is to enable the non-student youth to act as the vanguard in the process of development in the rural areas and popularisation of nationally accepted objectives. In furtherance of these objectives, the Nehru Yuvak Kendras have been organising a variety of activities which include non-formal education, vocational training, social service including work in better rural environment, sports and games and physical culture, recreational and agricultural activities etc. Over the past few years, the Nehru Yuvak Kendras have been trying to evolve models of mechanisms for developmental approaches for the non-student youth.

### **vii) Youth for Rural Reconstruction (National Service Scheme)**

Emphasis in National Service Scheme (NSS) from 1976-77 had been given on the programmes of rural reconstruction and activities aimed at

improvement of conditions of life of economically and socially weaker sections of the community. The theme for the special camping programme name was given "Youth for Rural Reconstruction." Some of the broad areas and activities which form part of the programme of rural reconstruction under NSS including Special Camping Programme are: (i) Education and Recreation; (ii) Relief and Rehabilitation work during national calamities; (iii) Environment enrichment and conservation; (iv) Health, Family and Nutrition; (v) Production Oriented Programmes for improved agricultural practices; (vi) Social service in welfare institutions: and (vii) Improvement of status of women.

### **3.4.2 Youth Programme in Srilanka<sup>25</sup>**

With the creation of a Division of Youth under Ministry Planning, youth development activities in Sri Lanka commenced in 1969. However, in 1979, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Employment was formed and again it was renamed as Ministry of Youth and Sports. Since the inception of youth activities, the National Youth Services Council, (NYSC), an autonomous statutory body implemented programs. The youth policy and youth work are covered under the Youth Act of 1979 and making provision for all categories of youth between the age of 15-29 years with emphasis on dropouts.

The youth activities in Sri Lanka are- skill and leadership training programs, promotion of self-employment and youth enterprises development, promotion of voluntary national service formation of youth clubs, sports and recreational activities, cultural activities, youth exchange youth information, career guidance and counseling etc. The Federation of Youth clubs organizes and implement programs under the guidance of the officials of NYSC. The self-employment and enterprise development programs are implemented by the NYSCO (Youth Cooperative Society an offshoot of NYSC). A separate ministry named as Ministry of Samurdhi has been created to deal exclusively to create employment opportunities for unemployed people. The ministry also extends credit facilities for the promotion of self-employment and enterprise development. The youth related Dept of Education, Women Affairs, Vocational training authority and National Dangerous Drugs Control Board also implement activities. The NGOs and other local institutes such as Sarvodaya, Jana Savya Trust, Cooperative Women's Bank, Rural Bank and SANASA (Cooperative Loan Bank) also complements the youth development activities of the government.

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<sup>25</sup> Md. Abdul Momen *op.cit.*, p. 22.

### 3.4.3 Youth Programme in Pakistan<sup>26</sup>

In Pakistan, a Division of Youth was created in 1989 under the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Tourism. A State Minister heads the Youth Division and a Secretary is responsible for program planning and implementation. Subsequently the ministry has been reorganized and named as Ministry of Women Affairs and Youth. The responsibility of program implementation at the national level lies with the Youth Division and at the State level with Directorate of Youth, Culture and Sports. In 1989, Pakistan has declared youth policy targeting all categories of youth and defined the youth under age category in between 18-30 years. Youth policy declared in 1989, now has been revised, but has not enacted by Legislation. In the revised policy document, suggested youth age range is 10-24 years. Earlier most of the youth NGOs, Rural Development Foundation (RDF) and Academy for Education Development (AED) undertook youth development activities. The major youth development activities in Pakistan are-promotion of self-employment, literacy youth welfare activities, creative activities, promotion of NGOs activities, youth exchange and compulsory National Cadet Corps. The welfare and creative activities for youth includes skill training, credit through YIPS (Youth Investment Society of Pakistan), community service, traffic management, training on fire fighting, establishment of youth hostels, mobilization of youth for welfare activities, painting, music, folk dance and so on. YIPS are engage in skill training and provide credit for the promotion self-employment. The youth related other ministries; departments and NGOs also implement activities. The Dept of Education provides the training facilities on technical and vocational education and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare conduct the programs on HIV/AIDS, Drugs and population control. State level programs are generally sport, youth exchange and cultural activities. NGOs are working to complement the works of government efforts.

### 3.4.4 Youth Programme in Bhutan<sup>27</sup>

Bhutan Youth Welfare-Association (BYWA) started youth development activities in sixties backed by the Royal Government. BYWA is a non-governmental body organize its activities with support from the government. BYWA is also a coordinated body for national youth movement. The main activities of BYWA are - publications, training, organization of conferences, organization of youth camp, implementation of voluntary services project and cultural performances. The Royal government declared national youth policy and various ministries and divisions do its implementation. Under the youth policy, the government has placed priority in 3- areas, which are - (a)

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<sup>26</sup> Ibid.,

<sup>27</sup> Ibid., p.22.



Youth policy and programs (b) Youth worker training program and (c) Rural youth program. The responsibilities of youth policy and program implementation lie with the religious National Council of Social & Cultural Division. The division is under Dept. of Education, Ministry of social service. The youth worker-training program is conducted and implemented by the Ministry of Trade. The program for rural youth work is conducted by Ministry of Agriculture. The programs and activities of youth servicing Department and Ministries are coordinated by a national body i.e. Bhutan Youth Welfare Association.

### **3.4.5 Youth Programme in Maldives<sup>28</sup>**

The youth development activities in Maldives commenced in 1979. With the creation of Maldives Youth Center as chief executing authority, it started functioning under the President's office. In 1993, the Government of Maldives has created new ministry -called Ministry of Youth, Women Affairs and Sports by decentralizing its activities from Presidential office and Maldives Youth Center has been renamed as Youth Division. Youth policy of Maldives has not been enacted by the legislation, but the youth policy has been finalized for the implementation. The youth development activity has been targeted to all categories of youth with age range in between 16-35 years. Youth NGO activities in Maldives is still in the rudimentary stage. Therefore, youth, activities are centered on government-sponsored programmes. The major areas of youth activities are-skill development training, sports and recreation, cultural activities and social services that includes counseling on family problems and frustration, overcrowding in Male, abuse of substance. The health issues specially HIV/AIDS and smoking related diseases are gradually becoming a concern for youth development work in Maldives, The ministry has also created environmental network among organizations dealing with environmental issue and making effort to keep the Maldives free from environmental hazards. A strong awareness programme on health and environment has been taken to make the aware of the problems.

### **3.4.6 Youth Programme in Nepal<sup>29</sup>**

The Royal Kingdom of Nepal initiated the youth development activities by forming National Youth Council back in 1962. The Royal Kingdom of Nepal has formulated the youth policy and Ministry of Education coordinate the youth policy through a committee called 'Youth Activities Coordination Committee' in co-operation with other related ministry and major NGOs.

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<sup>28</sup> Ibid., p.21.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.,

The Ministry of Education and Culture is responsible for implementation of youth policies and programs and youth workers training program looks after by the Ministry of Labor and Social service. The adolescent health program is implemented by Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture conducts rural youth program. The various student association and All Nepal National Free Students are involve for the welfare activities of student under (be banner of national youth. movement. The national youth organization undertake the activities of afforestation, literacy, family planning, vocational training income generating activities and publish bulletin, newsletter etc. The major fund for the implementation of youth development activities comes from the government. The National Youth Activities Coordination Committee (NYACC) also plan and implement the youth development activities on primary health care, literacy campaign, industry based income-generating program, afforestation, agriculture, community development program a conduct training evaluation through various youth related ministries and NGOs.

SAARC regional countries could plan and develop number of programs for its members and share their experiences of best practices. This is for the common interest of the millions of young people living in the SAARC region. The Youth Charter drafted by the SAARC youth officials in Male should be put into action for the benefit and welfare of the youth of this region. Members can also exchange their youth and NGO official to observe the pioneer works of the members and exchange views for development of programs that can be useful in their own context. The literacy works of Maldives, Sri Lanka and India (Kottayam experience) could be useful in Bangladesh and others can also learn from Bangladesh on micro-credit program. A concerted effort on trafficking drugs and young women can be taken by forging differences. Documentation and networking (national and regional NGOs) could be another area of common interest.

### **3.5 History of Youth Development Programmes in Bangladesh**

#### **3.5.1 Genesis of Youth Development in Bangladesh**

From the beginning of the twentieth century there was an increasing concern among the educational leaders and social workers about the special needs and problems of youth. As a result, there have been over the year's scattered and diverse youth activities. Youth movement in this part of the world had success stories and organizing youths for development was done by many philanthropists in different periods. In the early part of twentieth century, G.S Datta, a civil servant, made a revolutionary attempt to organize youth for voluntary work which took the shape of a movement called Bratachari

Movement. Through this movement, he introduced 16 Vows and 17 No's with some priorities, rule of conduct as well as faith<sup>30</sup>.

### **3.5.2 Youth Development Programme Prior to 1971**

Prior to independence of Bangladesh in December 1971 the government did not have any regular and comprehensive youth programme in the rural areas. There was definite policy for the integrated development of the youth in the country. However, the sporadic programmes launched in the past from time to time during the British and Pakistani rule and the existing programmes for the youth development have been briefly summarized in a report by Mohsen.<sup>31</sup> A brief account of the various youth activities prior to 1971 are presented below:

#### **i) Youth Movement in Rural Areas**

In the rural areas youthful vigour was beginning to find expression in the early twenties. Such organization has Young Men's Club, Pallimongal Societies and Public Libraries were organized during this period.

In 1947, the young men and students were advised by the politicians to go back to their studies. For sometime they kept silent. But with the schools and colleges inadequately equipped, and not enough employment opportunities to absorb the young men, they became frustrated, and turned to political activities. As a result government has made some provisions for proper direction of the youth activities.

#### **ii) Provision in Five Year Plans**

The government wanted to engage the attention of youth towards constructive activities. The First Five Year plan included schemes for cultural and recreational activities. But these-schemes were not implemented for want of technical and financial resources. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> Five Year Plan, Part III, apart from improvement of educational facilities, the government paid attention to the promotion of art, culture, sports, military training, scouting, provision of better playing conditions and coaching facilities.

#### **iii) Social Welfare Department**

The Social Welfare Department started a few community development projects in the towns, and gave some encouragement to vocational and cultural activities of young men's group. This department drew up a plan for starting youth welfare programmes.

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<sup>30</sup> Md. Easin Ali et.al., "An Assessment of the Effectiveness of the Ongoing Programmes of Department of Youth Development," (Savar: National Youth Centre, 2006), p.4.

<sup>31</sup> A.K.M Mohsen, *Youth Worked at Comilla-Backgrounds and Annual Report for 1963-1964*, (Comilla: Pakistan Academy for Rural Development, 1964), pp. 2-13.

#### **iv) Bureau of National Reconstruction**

The Bureau of National Reconstruction started some programmes since 1959 to encourage rural and urban clubs for recreational and vocational programmes. They also organized Work Camp Associations and Youth Hostels. But these were all very limited in scope and nature.

#### **v) Ansar Organization**

Ansar organization was established after 1947 for enrolling voluntary participation of rural young men as a territorial force and for social work. This organization obtained participation of about one million rural young men. Though this organization was made up wholly of volunteers, the police and civil administration made it almost a semi-government institution. This organization demonstrated that a significant portion of rural youth could be organized for work in rural areas.

#### **vi) The Village Agricultural and Industrial Development (V-AID) Programme**

The V-AID Programme which was initiated in Bangladesh in the fifties of last century, planned a transformation of rural people towards economic development. It included “Youth Work” to give an agricultural bias to rural education system with rural schools and students. It also aimed to work with rural youths out side the schools. Youth work was divided into two sections – The Chand Tara Club for boys aged 11 to 18 and the Youth Club for those between 19 and 25. This programme adopted the project method whereby the young men could “learn by doing”. Most projects were in improved methods of agriculture and community living. Efforts were made to adopt and apply the experiences of the 4-H club and Future Farmers of America (FFA) to local conditions.

Village AID Academy (now Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development-BARD) took over Comilla Kotwali Thana as its laboratory in 1960. Along with other experiments about the different phases of rural development, the academy also started work with rural youth. They just began youth work with the students of primary and high schools. David C. Phillips, a Peace Corps Volunteer in BARD (Who joined in November, 1961) observed the youth programmes in Comilla and helped the Education Committee of the academy in redrawing a plan for youth work. According to Phillips, primary school offered the best opportunities for guided youth work. He helped five schools in holding project exhibitions in 1962. The projects of individual members included the vegetable, horticulture, poultry, cattle raising, handicraft, clay modeling, stitching and needle work. Group projects, such as cultivation of vegetables, fruits and gardening in the school compound were also exhibited. But owing to various reasons the programme

could not achieve its desired results. The name of youth clubs in Comilla Kotwali Thana was changed from Chand Tara Club to Sabuj Sangha with the objectives of a) a better school education, b) strong and sound health, c) individual and group projects, d) good character and work, e) self-help, and f) constructive social work.<sup>32</sup>

From its inception, available data show that the students undertook individual projects number of which increased from 14,635 in 1963-64 to 24,360 in 1983-84 with the increase in membership from 2,941 to 7,866 during the same period, but number of projects per student dropped from 9 to 3. Vegetable gardening (36%), poultry raising (34%) and fruit-plant cultivation (27%) were the most common individual project.<sup>33</sup> Among the collective projects, agriculture farming in the school yard was the most common one (28%), which was followed by cooperative stores (26%). About 18% members participated in the savings scheme and 16% in museum project. The least number of members (12%) participated in the library project.<sup>34</sup>

### **3.5.3 Youth Development Programmes After Independence in 1971**

Since the independence in 1971 the government of the new nation was seeking a direction and opportunities for the youth in the participation of nation building activities and various development programmes. The various youth development activities after the independence in 1971 are found in different documents and reports published by BARD, CIRDAP and DYD. The youth development activities have been summarized in the following:

#### **i) The Comilla Youth Development Scheme**

After independence BARD launched a separate scheme in 1974, Youth Programme, for the socio-economic development of youth by organizing them into co-operatives. The programme was introduced to organize rural youth aged 13 to 25 through village-based co-operatives for their socio-economic development. It aimed at creating jobs for the unemployed rural youth by undertaking income generating activities in the villages. It also enhanced the possibility of maximum use of local resources on a self-reliant basis. The objectives of the programme were:<sup>35</sup>

<sup>32</sup> Salehuddin Ahmed and M. A. Momin, *Rural Vocational Training in Asia and the Pacific: Comilla Youth Development Scheme in Bangladesh*. (Islamabad: International Labour Organization, 1986), p.17.

<sup>33</sup> Md. Abdul Quddus and Saleha Begum, *Evaluation of Sabuj Sangha Programme (1961-62 to 1983-84)*, (Comilla: Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development, 1986), p. 46.

<sup>34</sup> Ibid., p. 42.

<sup>35</sup> Salehuddin Ahmed and M. A. Monim, *op. cit.*, pp. 19-20.

1. To inspire the rural youth of different socio-economic categories, so that they may engage themselves and others in social and economic activities promoting a common cause for removing poverty, hunger and illiteracy.
2. To remove the outstanding evils and unscrupulous ideas of the society to make socio-economic progress to extend education among the villagers and to emphasize the importance of maintaining law and order.
3. To create an atmosphere for the rural youth so that they may turn their minds to improve the standards of their morality, education and culture, to review the values of life in different activities. To form a class unity and thus to attain fraternity among themselves.
4. To help in providing employment to the unemployed rural youth by extending to them vocational training so that they may become self-reliant.
5. To propagate the mottos of “Back to the village, live in the village, rebuild the village, work with the farmers. The village is our Bangladesh and Bangladesh is our village.”

The Comilla Youth Development Scheme is a three-tier programme. The tiers are the village-based Primary Youth Co-operative Society, Regional Youth Co-operative and Thana (Sub district) Youth Co-operative Federation. The number of youth co-operatives in 1974 was 52. As of June 30, 1982, the number was 85.<sup>36</sup> The economic activities of the Youth Co-operative Societies are project development, savings and purchasing shares. The activities of these societies may be divided into individual and joint projects.<sup>37</sup> The social development activities of youth societies are building and repair of roads, building of bridges, organization of night schools, assistance in family planning and formation of village defence party.<sup>38</sup> The economic development activities of the youth co-operative societies have helped to reduce migration from the rural areas to the urban areas.<sup>39</sup> But this programme could not be implemented properly and were abandoned in 1982.

## **ii) Special Programme for the Upliftment of Out-of-School Youth**

In Bangladesh only 17 percent of those youth who have completed primary education move on to the secondary level, the rest dropping out failing in the process to make any use of their learning in the process of life progression. In the past there was no programme to meet the needs of this disadvantaged group. In recent years a number of non-governmental organisations as well

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<sup>36</sup> Ibid., p. 22.

<sup>37</sup> Ibid., p. 25.

<sup>38</sup> Ibid., p. 38.

<sup>39</sup> Ibid., p. 27.

as the government have taken an attempt to reach this group through programme designed specifically for the members of the group.

Since 1964, the Directorate of Education has been running an adult education programme in 4 thanas. According to a report of the Directorate 1,39,763 illiterate adults received literacy education from the centres between 1964 and 1979. Although the programme was designed mainly for adults, a recent evaluation, study shows that a vast majority of the participants were in the age range 15-30 years i.e. mainly the out of school youth. During the period 1964-79, 14,476 centres, including 6964 centres for females, operated in the programme areas. A total of 3,83,666 students were enrolled and 1,22,972, i.e. 32 percent, finished the programme and got certificates. There has been marginal increase in the overall rate of literacy in the thanas covered under the programme. The curriculum used in the course was not very appropriate and the successful students made very little use of their learning skill after receiving their certificates and the teaching methods used are of doubtful value considering the need of the masses to be involved in the development process.<sup>40</sup>

### **iii) Youth Programmes of other Ministries/Divisions of the Government**

Besides the Department of Youth Development Division, the Ministry of Women's Affairs, the Ministry of Local Government and Cooperatives, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Labour and Manpower and the Directorate of Social Welfare had a number of programmes of their own for the development of the youth during the Second Five-Year Plan period. The Ministry of Women's Affairs started projects in the areas of cottage industries, vegetable growing, garment making, knitting etc. for young women in schools and out of schools. The programme has not yet been evaluated.

The Rural Development and Cooperatives Division of the Ministry of Local Government and Cooperatives undertook a very ambitious programme for the youth, the Bangladesh Youth Cooperative Complex to be implemented by the Bangladesh Rural Development Board (the former Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP)). This programme proposes to train 3000 youth, mostly out-of-school per annum in the skills required for rural development works and assist them in forming cooperatives. Initially, this programme would cover 65 thanas (16 percent of the 403 rural thanas of Bangladesh). If properly organised, managed and implemented, this massive programme can yield the desired results for the target group in particular and the society in general.

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<sup>40</sup> Sayed Abdus Samad, Debabrata Datta Gupta, and M. Rejaul Karim, "Role of Rural Youth in Integrated Rural Development, Bangladesh," (Dhaka: CIRDP Study Series-69, 1985), pp.65.

The Community schools Project of the Ministry of Education is a package deal combining general education and training in skill formation for both school going as well as the out-of-school youth. A total of 400 secondary schools would be included in the project at the first phase. The project has a separate component for women. The courses for men would include a) agriculture, b) carpentry, c) masonry, d) fitting and e) electricity.

The Second Five-Year Plan would see the implementation of a variety of other programmes designed for the youth. Only a few have been mentioned here. As observed earlier, the success of the sectoral programme and projects under the aegis of the different Ministries would depend on a number of factors the most crucial of which is finance. In the past many viable and sound projects had to be abandoned for want of financial resources.<sup>41</sup>

#### **iv) Youth Development Programme under the Ministry of Youth & Sports and the Department of Youth Development**

In 1978, the government had no definite programme for the development of youth but the importance of the role of youth in national development was acknowledged and appreciated by the planners. As a result, a full fledged Ministry for youth development was created in 1979 with the following objectives:<sup>42</sup>

- i) To deal with matters relating to youth-their welfare, training and prospects.
- ii) Organization and mobilisation of the youth for voluntary participation in the development activities of the country.
- iii) Coordination of youth services, liason with concerned Ministries.
- iv) Administration of grants-in-aid under specific projects.
- v) Indicating programme to encourage a sense of adventure, responsibility, confidence and achievements in youth.
- vi) Encouraging research and study on youth and youth development activities.
- vii) Youth awards.
- viii) Promoting activities for creating employment opportunities for the unemployed and underemployed youth.

In 1979, Bangladesh Jatyio Jubo Sangstha (BJJS) was created under government patronage to bring an awakening and a movement among the youth so that their individual and collective strength could be fostered. The role of this

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<sup>41</sup> Ibid., p. 66.

<sup>42</sup> Ibid., pp. 47-48.



organization was also to involve the youths indirectly in policy and programme formulation. Through workshops, seminars and conference, BJJS sought to have the needs and problems of the youths felt in government programmes and plans.<sup>43</sup> In addition, a nucleus office named Central Youth Registration Office was also created to create a list of youth for skill development training. In the first part of 1981, a full fledged Department for Youth Development was created by merging the Central Youth Registration Office to plan and implement the project and undertake other promotional activities. The Department of Youth Development (DYD) has been given full responsibilities to carry out youth activities, coordinating with Jatio Jubo Sangstha. The activities of Jatio Jubo Sangstha were however, far from satisfactory and were abolished in 1982 during the martial regime through the formulation of Martial Law Order. The monitoring and policy making roles were with the Ministry of Youth. Before coming to the present stage of the ministry, it underwent lot of changes and finally became the Ministry of Youth and Sports.<sup>44</sup>

According to National Youth Day publication of DYD the different aspects of DYD are described in the following:<sup>45</sup>

### **Vision of the Department of Youth Development**

1. To transform the unemployed youth into organized, disciplined and productive workforce.
2. To facilitate the unemployment youth for gainful wage employment/self-employment at home and abroad providing vocational/skill development training and micro-credit support.
3. To involve the youth in the mainstream of national development process.

### **Objectives of the Department of Youth Development**

1. To encourage the youth for self-employment and wage employment through motivation, training and other necessary supports.
2. To organize the youth through voluntary youth organizations and motivate them to take part in community development and nation building activities.

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<sup>43</sup> Ahmadullah Mia, "Youth in Distress: A Psycho-Social Analysis of Youth Unemployment in Bangladesh." *Social Sciences Review, The Dhaka University Studies* Part-D, Volume II, December 1985. No. II, pp. 12-13.

<sup>44</sup> Md. Abdul Momen, "Genesis of Youth Work Education and Training in Bangladesh", *Souvenir of National Youth Day*, Department of Youth Development, 2005, p.15.

<sup>45</sup> Department of Youth Development, *Activities of the Department of Youth Development at a Glance* (Dhaka: National Youth Day publication, Jubo Bhaban, 2009), pp. 30-55.

3. Promoting the formation of youth organizations at grass root levels and ensuring their participation in national development process.
4. To involve the youth in socio-economic development activities like literacy programme, disaster management, primary health care, environmental improvement, resource conservation and awareness building against anti-social activities, drug abuse, AIDS/STDs etc.
5. To take necessary steps for empowerment of the youth by providing skill development training with micro-credit support for establishing self-employment projects and thus ensure their participation in decision-making and national development process.

### **Organizational set-up**

The Department of Youth Development is headed by Director General who is associated by Five Directors and Project Directors to implement different programmes all over Bangladesh. There are 64 districts, 476 upazila and 10 metropolitan unit thana offices and 111 Youth Training Centres of the Department of Youth Development. There are 6685 Officers and Staff for implementing the programmes of the Department in revenue and development budget.

Programmes of the Department of Youth Development

### **1. Skill Development training programme for the youth**

#### **a. Institutional Training Courses:**

1. Livestock, Fishery & Agriculture Course
2. Aquaculture (Fresh water) Course
3. Dress Making Course
4. Computer Basic Course
5. Computer Graphic Design & Video Editing Course
6. Electrical & House Wiring Course
7. Refrigeration & Air-conditioning Course
8. Electronics Course
9. Block, Batik & Screen Printing Course
10. Wool Knitting Course
11. Aquaculture (Coastal Area) Course
12. Housekeeping & Laundry Operations Course
13. Food & Beverage Service (Catering Service) Course
14. Pattern Making Course
15. Modern Office Management & Computer Application Course

16. Poultry Rearing and Bird-Flu Control and Biodiversity Management Course
17. Flower & Vegetable Production, Processing, Packaging, Preservation and Marketing Course
18. Mushroom Production, Processing, Packaging, Preservation and Marketing Course
19. Hair Dressing Beautification Course
20. Sweater Knitting Machine Operating Course
21. Linking Machine Operating Course
22. Meat Processing Course
23. Nursery, Propagation, Making of Fruit garden and Management Course
24. Korean Language Course
25. Arabic Language Course
26. Dairy Rearing and Beef Fattening Course
27. Welding and Fabrication Course
28. Welding (G-6) Course

#### **b. Proposed Courses under Programmes**

1. Housekeeping & Laundry Operations Training Course
2. Food & Beverage Service Training Course
3. House hold Service Training Course
4. Sweater Knitting Training Course
5. Linking Machine Operating Training Course
6. Oven Sewing Machine Operating Training Course
7. Pattern Making Training Course
8. Computer and ICT Related Training Course
9. Mobile Engineering Training Course
10. Beautification Training Course
11. Modern Office Management & Computer Application Course

#### **2. Self-employment and credit programme for the unemployed youth**

There are two types of credit programme such as:

##### **a. Group Based credit programme**

The members of each group are to be blood-related or closed neighbourly-people. The member of each group is 5. The lowest ceiling of group based

macro-credit is Taka 8,000.00 and highest ceiling is Taka 16,000.00. A group is entitled to get loan for 5 times.

#### **b. Individual credit programme**

Trained youths are given individual micro-credit and they must be trained from the Department of Youth Development. The lowest ceiling of individual micro-credit is Taka 20,000.00 and highest ceiling is Taka 75,000.00

### **3. Poverty alleviation programme**

#### **a. Family Based Employment Programme**

The programme is in operation for reducing poverty of the rural landless and the poor people, especially the poor youth. The main objective of this programme is to identify the family as a unit of development activities. This programmes attaches more importance to group dynamics. The members of each group are to be blood-related or closed neighbourly-people. Five members form a group and the members of the group are given loan for undertaking income generating activities. The lowest ceiling of group loan is TAKA 8,000.00 and highest ceiling is TAKA 16,000.00. This programme is being implemented in 82 upazilas. The average realization of loan is 96%.

#### **b. Youth Training and Self-employment Programme**

It is described in the next part.

### **4. Motivational and awareness programmes**

Youths are given motivational and awareness training on reproductive health, prevention of HIV/AIDS, STDs, substance abuse, norms, values, gender and development, good governance, disaster management, behavioral development, environment conservation, civic education for responsible citizenship, primary health care and immoral activities.

### **5. Public Private Partnership programme**

Training and awareness building programmes are being implemented on different trades through joint collaboration of public private partnership with different government and non-government organizations through signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The names of partner organizations are– BGMEA & BIFT, Western Marine Services Ltd., Day Bangladesh, Bangladesh Agricultural University, BLRI, Bangladesh Women Lawyers Association, TMSS, VSO and Save the Children-USA.

### **6. The National Service Programme**

As per the commitment of the Election Manifesto of the present Government the National Service Programme has been approved for providing

employment to the unemployed youths whose educational qualifications are from S.S.C to above the unemployed young people will be employed for a period of two years on temporary basis.

Presently, as piloting programme, three poverty stricken districts, namely Kurigram, Gopalganj and Borguna have been implementing the programme and an amount of Taka 33 crore 51 lakh 63 thousand was allocated for the year of 2009-2010. The Government has allocated an amount of Taka 190 crore for the year of 2010-2011. Firstly, the unemployed youths are provided three month's basic training on ten selected modules and then they are being attached with different nation building department/autonomous bodies/local government bodies etc. During the training period the trainees will get Taka 100- as training allowance per day and after completion of the training they will be given Taka 200 - daily in their employment period. If any one desires, he/she may quit his/her job before the completion of the tenure. The incumbent will be awarded certificate after successful completion of his/her tenure and they will be given loan from the Department of Youth Development provided he she is trained in a particular trade. This employment does not guarantee in any government job. Among these three piloting districts the honourable prime minister inaugurated 'National Service Programme' on 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2010 in Kurigram 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2010 in Barguna and 31 July, 2010 in Gopalganj. Mentionable that the number of the youth male or female under the programme are 31,620, 17,734, 19,394 in Kurigram, Barguna and Gopalganj respectively. Among them 9950, 4000 and 5000 youth male and female meanwhile are brought under training.<sup>46</sup> The National Service Programme will be expanded gradually in all districts and upzilas all over Bangladesh.

## **7. Special Programme**

### **a. National Youth Day**

The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has taken the decision to celebrate National Youth Day on 1<sup>st</sup> November every year. The successful male and female youths who can show exemplary contribution on self-employment and social service are rewarded with National Youth Awards on National Youth Day. Up to now the National Youth Awards have been given to 255 successful male and female youth. This year 15 successful male and female youth have given National Youth Awards as a mark of recognition to their outstanding contribution.

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<sup>46</sup> Mahbuba Nasrin, "Our Youth: Present Perspective and Mutual Understanding (In Bangla)," (Dhaka: A paper presented at Juba Bhaban in observance of the International Youth Day, 12 August, 2010), p.3.

The slogan/theme of different's year's National Youth Day were as follows:

- 1986-1990 - The Youth are the main strength for poverty eradication in Bangladesh
- 1991 - Development of human resources is the key strength of the youth
- 1992 - The involvement of the youth is essential in the development process of the country
- 1993 - The youth are the life force of the nation
- 1994 - Self-reliant youth are the emancipation of the nation
- 1995 - Youth are the source of development
- 1996 - The youth are wealth, the youth are prospect
- 1997 - The youth will fight, the youth will build up Golden Bengal
- 1998 - Skilled Youth beget skilled economy
- 1999 - Skilled youth are the commitment of the twenty first century
- 2000 - The youth will fight, the youth will build up Golden Bengal
- 2001-2005 - Youth will build the country braving the sufferings and pains
- 2006-2007 - The youth are wealth, the youth are prospect
- 2008 - The befitting training is the end of the unemployment of the youth
- 2009 - Young people will fight to make Digital Bangladesh
- 2010-2011 - Call for change, Employment of the Youth
- 2012 - Trained Youth Force, Flourished Economy.

### **b. International Youth Day**

The General Assembly of UN endorsed the recommendation made by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth (Lisbon. 8-12 August 1998) on 17 December 1999, in its resolution 54/120 that 12 August be declared "International Youth Day" and requested all member countries to celebrate this day with due significance. Till then Bangladesh is celebrated "International Youth Day" on 12 August every year with different colorful events.

### **c. Club Enlistment and Grant-in-Aid**

The Department of Youth Development has been assigned with the responsibility of involving youth organizations in community development programmes. For active participation of youth organizations in the development process the Department of Youth Development has taken steps for enlistment of youth organizations. Until now 14,343 youth organizations have already been enlisted with the Department of Youth Development. To encourage club based activities government has created a welfare fund in the name of "Youth Welfare Fund" and since its inception in 1985 an amount of Taka 720.01 lakh has been sanctioned to 6864 youth clubs. A sum of Taka 107.85 lakh has also been sanctioned against 1954 youth organizations as grant from Revenue Head.

#### **d. National Youth Policy**

Cabinet has approved the updated National Youth Policy in the year of 2003 and the ongoing youth programmes are being implemented in the light of approved National Youth Policy. The registering of the youth clubs by the Department of Youth Development is yet to be implemented.

#### **e. Relations with other International Agencies**

UNDP, UNFPA, ESCAP, ILO, UNESCO, JAICA and KOICA are extending their cooperation in implementing the programmes of the Department of Youth Development under the Ministry of Youth & Sports. At present 04 volunteers of JAICA, 08 volunteers of KOICA are working in the Department of Youth Development. Already 44 volunteers of JAICA, 49 volunteers of KOICA, and 97 volunteers of American Peace core, and 46 UNVs have left Bangladesh after completion of their tenure.

#### **f. Commonwealth Youth Programme**

The Department of Youth Development organizes Distance Training Courses, Workshops, Seminars. Youth Exchange programme in collaboration with Commonwealth Youth Programme, Asia Centre. Until now a total number of 76 officers & youth leaders have so far obtained Diploma in “Youth Work and Development” from CYP, Asia Centre. Moreover a Diploma course in “Youth and Development Work” is being conducted jointly by Bangladesh Open University and the Department of Youth Development under the distance training course of Commonwealth Youth Programme, Asia Centre. So far 99 participants obtained Diploma in the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle. The 4<sup>th</sup> cycle is running.

#### **g. Khas Ponds & Tanks Lease for Youth Employment**

To involve more youth in income generating activities the government has given the authority to the Department of Youth Development to lease out khas ponds & tanks up to 20 acres. With this authority the Department of Youth Development leased out up to the size of 20 acres of khas ponds and tanks to the registered youth co-operative societies enlisted with the Department of Youth Development. Up to June, 2007 a total number of 12,033 ponds and tanks has been leased out amongst the registered youth co-operative societies all over Bangladesh and an amount of Taka 33 crore 81 lakh and 22 thousand has been collected as lease money and deposited in the government treasury.

#### **h. Commonwealth Award**

Eight youth organizers have received Commonwealth Youth Service Award, seven youth organizers have received Commonwealth Award for Excellence Youth Work from Bangladesh for their outstanding contributions in self-

employment and social service since the introduction of Commonwealth Youth Award by the Commonwealth Youth Programme, Asia Centre. One successful self-employed youth has received Pan-Commonwealth Youth Service Award and three youth organizers have also received Commonwealth Youth Silver Award for their exemplary contribution in social development.

#### i. SAARC Youth Award

SAARC Youth Award Scheme was introduced in 1997 and since then 02 (two) successful youth organizers have received “SAARC Youth Award” for their exemplary contribution in social work.

### 8. Others Programme

1. Youth Leadership training programme.
2. Programme for involvement of youth organizations in different nation-building activities.
3. Programme for involvement of youth in population control and family welfare activities.
4. Programme for involvement of youth in environment development and community development activities.
5. Research works on youth development.

### Physical Performance of DYD

The progress of DYD programmes at a glance for 1981-2012 (Up to June), as reported in various secondary documents, is presented in Table 3.1.

Table 3.2: Physical Progress of the Department of Youth Development since the inception upto June, 2012

No.	Particulars	Performance
01.	Total number of trained youth	38,50,537 persons
02.	Total number of self-employed youth	19,56,756 persons
03.	Total amount of capital received as credit fund.	Taka 166,91.51 lakh
04.	Total amount of loan disbursed	Taka 107951.72 lakh
05.	Total number of beneficiaries	7,77,274 persons
06.	Total service charge received from the credit fund	Taka 134,99,15 lakh
07.	Total credit fund including service charge	Taka 301,90,66 lakh
08.	Average rate of loan realization	92.00%
09.	Total number of leased ponds	13,210 Nos.
10.	Revenue earned from the leased ponds	Taka 4814.69 lakh
11.	Total amount of grant disbursed from Youth Welfare Fund	Taka 720,01 lakh
12.	Total no. of youth organizations received grant-in-	6864 Nos.



No.	Particulars	Performance
	aid from Youth Welfare Fund.	
13.	Total capital of Youth Welfare Fund	Taka 15 Crore
14.	Total amount of grant-in-aid disbursed to the youth organizations from revenue budget.	Taka 107.95 lakh
15.	Total number of youth organizations received grant-in-aid from revenue budget.	1954 Nos.
16.	Total number of enlisted youth organizations clubs.	14,343 Nos.
17.	Total number of successful youth received National Youth Award.	285 Nos.
18.	Total number of youth workers received Diploma in Youth Works & Development from Commonwealth Youth Programme	175 Nos.
19.	Total number of successful youth and youth organizations received Commonwealth Youth Award	19 Nos.
20.	Total number of youth organizations received SAARC Youth Award.	02 Nos.
21.	Training Centres	111 Nos.
22.	Average monthly income of self-employed youths	Taka 3000/- to Taka 50,000/-

*Source: Adopted from Activities of the Department of Youth Development at a Glance, 2012, pp. 63-64.*

### **3.6 An Overview of Youth Training & Self-employment Programme (YTSEP)**

#### **Background of the Programme**

Government in 80<sup>th</sup> decade of the last century introduced youth development programme in a small scale to overcome poverty and increasing youth unemployment. It was conceived in the beginning of youth programmed, unemployment will be alleviated through the training programme for the skill development of the youth. But this conception was proved to be false later on. It was observed that many young people could not manage employment even after taking effective training. Rather many young people became frustrated for not managing employment after receiving training. In this situation self-employment was regarded as the alternative of employment by the policy makers. In the prevailing situation self-employment for which a project was undertaken entitled ‘Assistance to the trained up unemployed youth’ in the financial year of 1983-84. The activities of the project were implemented initially in 22 districts and 42 Upazilas. Dairy and poultry training were included in this project in 1985 with the title ‘The Training and Self-employment Project of different trades for the youth.’ The activities of

the project were evaluated by the Kaiser Corporation during 1986-87 to verify the feasibility of the project activities. According to the recommendation of the Kaiser Corporation, the project was divided as 'Assistance to the Trained Youth for Self-employment and 'Vocational and Skill development Training for the Unemployed Youth' and this project continued upto 1989-90 with these two names.<sup>47</sup> After the end of third five year plan, the expansion of the youth programme became uncertain in 1990. In that time instead of the expansion of the youth programme, rather previously undertaken three project namely a) 'Vocational and Skill Development training for the Unemployed youth', b) 'Assistance for the trained youth in Self-employment activities' and c) 'Motivation, Publication and Rewarding for the youth' have been transformed into another project titled 'Assistance for self-employment, skill development and motivation for the unemployed youth.' In this integrated project 3 youth training centres, apart from 22 districts and 42 Upazilas, 8 districts were brought under revenue budget and 8 upazilas were in the development budget. Later on in the earlier period of fourth five year plan (1990-95), a project was taken under the title of the 'The establishment of Youth Training Centres in Feni, Bogra, Mymensingh and Jessore'. In a project review meeting held on the last 22.4.1993 chaired by the honourable Secretary of the Ministry of Youth and Sports took some decisions. According to decisions taken in the meeting those projects namely 'Assistance for self-employment, skill development and motivation for the unemployed youth' and 'The establishment of Youth Training Centre in Feni, Bogra, Mymensingh and Jessore' were broken down. They were merged into two separate projects viz. i) Establishment of Youth Training Centre Project and ii) Youth Training and Self-employment Project.<sup>48</sup> The said Youth Training and Self-Employment Project (YTSEP) is a partial but continuous reform of the previous project related to 'Assistance for self-employment, skill development and motivation for the unemployed youth'. The view of the project was to involve the unemployed youths in productive channel for the sake of removing unemployment and poverty alleviation throughout the country.

### **Evolution of YTSEP**

Department of Youth Development (DYD) began this project in July, 1990 and it continued up to June, 1994. In this context of need for reorganization and readjustment of the existing experimental project, reformulation of the YTSEP felt necessary. The reformulation was started with a new dimension since July, 1994. At this stage, the project convinced and attracted

<sup>47</sup> Syed Abdul Kaium, *op.cit.* p.42.

<sup>48</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 43.

government supported by its explicit and remarkable output. For this reason, the project are extended from 22 district to 64 districts and from 50 upazilas to 230 upazilas. Due to the delay of the project approved, it became impossible to recruit all officers and employees within the tenure, the tenure was extended to June, 1996. There are some impediments to the implementation of the projects. The implementation period of the project from July, 1990 to June, 1996 may be called as first phase of YTSEP, which functioned under the Fourth Five Year plan of Bangladesh. The second phase of the project was started in July, 1996 and ended in June, 2001. In this phase the project activities were expanded from the previous 64 districts and 230 upazilas to 64 districts and 470 upazilas in July, 1997.<sup>49</sup> At the same time the credit fund was uplifted from 54 crores to 75 crores. Later on the youth credit fund was elevated to 175 crores. The third phase of the project was started in July 2001 and ended on 30 June, 2003. In this phase, due to the severe flood situation of 1998, the Project Proposal was amended for the third time and the tenure was extended to June, 2003. Thus the activities of the project began July 1, 1990 and ended in June 30, 2003.

This project is the largest and nationally preferred project of the Department of Youth Development (DYD). This project is being implemented at present in the revenue budget from July, 2003.

### **Aims and Objectives of YTSEP**

The prime aim of the programme is to impart skill development training to the unemployed youth on different trades and provide them credit facilities for establishment of self-employment projects. The specific objectives of the programme are:

- a) To make skilled and semi-skilled manpower providing training to unemployed youths as per requirement.
- b) To make revolving fund for financial assistance to unemployed youths trained from this department.
- c) To ensure supply of capital (as loan) to trained youths for implementing self-employment projects undertaken by them (loan is given to individual youth or youths organized in groups).
- d) To motivate the youths to participate in national development process through making them morally, mentally and spiritually developed.
- e) To alleviate poverty and overcome unemployment involving Department of Youth Development trained youths in self-employment activities.
- f) To enrich the youths with the qualities of patriotism, national solidarity, love and sympathy towards human being.

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<sup>49</sup> Ibid., p. 45.

- g) To reward the youths as a mark of recognition for establishing glaring instance through exceptional performances.
- h) To prepare and demonstrate motivational films and publish brochure, souvenirs and magazines for youth.
- i) To organize seminars/workshops with youths to come forward in the services of nation and to create youth leadership for it.

### **Target Group**

- a) The unemployed youths aging from 18 to 35 years.
- b) School and college drop out students.
- c) Poor or rich, urban or rural unemployed youths have easy entrance in the project facilities.
- d) The project attaches special importance to the youths under poverty level.
- e) Youths completing education without having job.

### **Programme Activities**

- a) Skill development training (institutional and mobile) at district, upazila, union and village level.
- b) Motivation.
- c) Self-employment.
- d) Micro Credit (youth loan) as financial support for self-employment. Estimated cost of loan fund during the project period Taka 7500.00
- e) Rewards to successful youths.
- f) Grant and supply of working capital to successful youth organizations.
- g) Technical assistance to youths.
- h) Environment development.
- i) Youth exchange.

### **Major Components of the YTSEP**

The following are major components of current YTSEP:

#### **a. Skill development training**

The programme provides two types of training for the unemployed youths. The first one is institutional training and second one is mobile training. The courses under institutional training are pisciculture, block and batik printing, dressmaking and embroidery, wool-knitting, steno typing, secretarial science etc. The mobile training course includes more than 35 (Thirty-five) trades. It is determined as per requirement of rural and urban people. The duration of institutional courses ranges from one month to one year. On the other hand, mobile training course period varies from 7 days to 30 depending on type of trade.

Institutional course is held at district level and mobile is arranged at upazila, union and village level. The trainees are selected through a selection process. At first applications are invited from the unemployed youths interested in getting training from the DYD through advertisement. There is a specific admission committee at district and upazila levels. The committees make an arrangement for admission test and select the deserving candidates and then start training. The unemployed youths of class-VIII to H.S.C. passed and above are admitted into training courses. There are 178 institutional training centres and 476 mobile training centres under the said programme.

### **b. Self-employment**

Self-employment is the most significant component of the programme. The youths after being trained are motivated by youth officers and staff to be self-employed. There makes a close contact between trained youths and DYD's manpower. Even to create self-employment activities they are given financial and technical assistance through local offices of DYD.

### **c. Credit management**

To gear up self-employment activities supply of capital is mostly needed for poor youths. Keeping it in view credit facilities have been initiated from financial year 1995-96 under the programme directly. Beneficiaries getting mobile training may get loan upto a limit of Taka 25,000/- and beneficiaries having institutional training may have it upto a limit of Taka 50,000/- submitting loan application in prescribed form.

Upazila Youth Development Officer is empowered to sanction a loan amounting upto Taka 25,000/- in respect of mobile-trained youths and in case of youths trained in institutional courses loan proposal is forwarded to district committee for approval after being recommended by Upazila Youth Development Officer. Upazila Youth Development Officers finally disburse approved loan amounts among youths in form of cheque. After loan is given a beneficiary is allowed 1-3 months grace period for its repayment. These loans are repayable with a simple interest Taka 16/- within a period of two years for mobile and institutional trained youths. Estimated cost in credit fund during P.P. period was Taka 7500.00 lakh that is handled as revolving fund.

Noted that except mortgage against loan money having third person guarantee and guarantor's/creditor's suitable land documents the trained youths are allowed to have it. Again, loan is given to individual youth. There is a system of savings for the loanee youths under the credit programme.

#### **d. Motivational workshops/seminars**

The programme has designed to organise workshops/seminars at national level and field levels to motivate the youths and youth organisations to be conscious for participation in development process.

#### **e. Rewards and grants**

The programme has a provision to reward and grant the youths and youth organizations (in money and materials) for exceptional performances in self-employment, income generation, skill development training, mobilisation of resources etc. The monetary value of reward or grant ranges from ‘Taka 1000/- to Taka 10,000’/-. The other components are environment development, civic education, gender balance etc.

### **Organization and Management of the Programme**

Head office of the programme is headed by Director (Administration) who is responsible to Director General (Head of the Department) for programme implementation. Besides, programme Management includes programme administration and finance, monitoring and evaluation. It has developed a monthly, quarterly and yearly monitoring and evaluation system for smooth implementation of the programme. Except its coordination meeting is arranged at sponsoring Ministry, DYD headquarters and district levels monthly, quarterly and yearly where YTSEP manpower and concerned personnel attend to discuss management of the programme.

#### **Administrative Set-up**

Head office of DYD has developed a suitable working relationship with field level offices for smooth running of the programme.

a. Office	Head office 1 District office 64 Upazila office 476 (including 10 metropolitan unit thana)
b. Training Centre	Institutional 178 (Pisciculture-64, Dress making-68, Block & Batik-9, Secretarial science-5, Stenotypist-32, Mobile-476 centres. These centres provide mobile training in different trades (about 40 trades) as per local requirement for the youths.
c. Manpower	1 <sup>st</sup> class 124 2 <sup>nd</sup> class 557 3 <sup>rd</sup> class 1605 4 <sup>th</sup> class <u>625</u> Total = 2911

Two Deputy Directors and four Assistant Directors assist the Director (Administration) in Head office. Deputy Directors/Assistant Directors and Upazila Youth Development Officers are administrative heads at districts and upazila levels respectively. Besides Deputy coordinator/Senior Instructor/Instructors work as centre head in training centres.

<b>Program Personnel</b>		
<b>A. Head office</b>		
1.	Deputy Director	2
2.	Assistant Director	4
3.	Accounts Officer	1
4.	Computer Operator	2
5.	Accountant	2
6.	Photographer	1
7.	Computer operator	1
8.	Auditor	4
9.	Dress Sales Asstt.	1
10.	Transport Mechanic	1
11.	Store Keeper	1
12.	Driver	5
13.	Cashier	1
14.	Office Asstt. cum Typist	5
15.	Dispatcher	1
16.	Cash Sarker	1
17.		
18.	MLSS	4
19.	Guard	1
20.	Sweeper	1
		39
<b>B. Field Level</b>		
1.	District Office - 64	
	Assistant Director	64
	Office Assistant	49
	MLSS	36
		149
2.	Upazila Office - 476	
	Upazila Youth Development Officer	393
	Credit Supervisor	950
	Cashier-cum Typist	475
	MLSS	475
		2293
3.	Training Centres (District Level)	
*	Dress making & wool knitting Centre-68	

<b>Program Personnel</b>		
	Instructor (Dress)	68
	Junior Instructor (Dress)	70
	Guard	67
		205
*	Block and Batik Printing Centre -9	
	Deputy coordinator (Block, Batik & Dress making)	1
	Senior Instructor	9
	Demonstrator (Block)	9
	Junior Demonstrator (Batik)	9
	Guard	9
		37
*	Secretarial Science Centre – 5	
	Senior Instructor (Computer)	12
	Mechanic (Computer)	5
		17
*	Steno typist Centre – 32	
	Senior Instructor(Computer)	32
	Instructor(Computer)	32
	Computer Mechanic Helper	11
	MLSS	32
		107
*	Fish Cultivation Centre – 64	
	Instructor (Fish)	64
4)	Training Centres (Upazila level) – 476 Mobile	
	Upazila setup have to implement the training courses.	
	Grand total = (39+149+2293+205+37+17+107+64) = 2911	

*Note: In 82 upazilas, officers of other programmes have been employed under the Department of Youth Development. Consequently, provision for employing 82 Upazila Youth Development officers under this programme has been omitted.*

There is a Steering Committee at national level to look after the programme. Problems and issues raised for programme implementation are put up to Steering Committee for guidelines and directives for further action. The meeting of the committee is invited from time to time in need. The committee consists of the following members.



1. Secretary, Ministry of Youth & Sports	Chairman
2. Secretary, Ministry of Finance	Member
3. Secretary, Ministry of Local Govt. & Rural Development	Member
4. Secretary, Ministry of Children & Women Affairs	Member
5. Secretary, Ministry of Forestry & Environment	Member
6. Secretary, Implementation, Monitoring Evaluation Department, Ministry of Planning Commission	Member
7. Joint Chief, Planning Commission	Member
8. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Youth & Sports	Member
9. Deputy Chief, Ministry of Youth & Sports	Member
10. Director (Planning) Department of Youth Development	Member
11. Project Director of this Project	Member
12. Director General, Department of Youth Development	Member

### **Major Strategies of YTSEP**

The following are the major strategies followed by YTSEP to achieve its goal and objectives:

#### **i) Developing Opportunities for Self-employment**

The important attractive for the youths has been provided in this programme by arranging for vocational preparation of the youths and assisting them some capital or equipment to take up economic schemes for the production of marketable goods and this for earning an income. The economic activities were aimed at developing opportunities for self-employment of youth either at home setting or outside.

#### **ii) Encourage Entrepreneurship**

Vocational training was provided to promote youth's technical skills in various crafts work. Capital assistance or material suppliers were made available to encourage entrepreneurship among youths.

#### **iii) Marketing of Products**

Marketing of the products of the self-employed youth was facilitated through the YTSEP in order to complement the economic production schemes.

#### **iv) Motivation on Socio-economic Issues**

A break through in the family and social life style was attempted by motivating various forms of youth activities, dignity of labour, discipline, moral values, self-employment entrepreneurship development, health care, nation building, drug abuse and STD's & HIV etc.

### **v) Change in Better Living**

It was predicted that the economic and social activities with a clear promise of a better living condition would bring about a significant change in the youth's attitude towards life and modernize their behaviour in conformity with the requirements of better living.

### **Contribution of YTSEP**

The following are the most important contribution of YTSEP:

1. The YTSEP can make considerable contribution to engage the youths in self-employment activities through acquiring training and credit from DYD.
2. The continuous skill training efforts for unemployed youth have been contributing to the development of human resources. It helps the youth to utilize the acquired skills in own farms. As a result, it accelerates the self-employment process to a great extent in the rural areas.
3. By undertaking self-employment activities young women have been able to gain more from the training and credit received.
4. The YTSEP can make considerable contribution to earn more income by undertaking self-employment projects. As a result, rural poverty reduced in a remarkable proportion.

### **Major Achievements of YTSEP**

The major achievement of YTSEP can be highlighted as below:

1. An effective and strong institutional set-up has been developed in the upazila level in the organization and management of the YTSEP. Youth are also brought into mainstream development efforts through their self-employment activities.
2. A remarkable achievement have been made in order to helping the unemployed youths to have employed in self-employment activities. Nearly 40% of the total youths who received training are able to engage themselves in self-employment activities. Each of the youths who has undertaken self-employment activities is capable of creating 3 fulltime employment including himself or herself.
3. By undertaking self-employment projects a significant amount of own capital and assets have been accumulated by the self-employed youth. In one-third cases, they finance the small projects from their own sources. In respect of monthly earning, total profit earning and repayment of credit the participants of YTSEP have achieved remarkable success.
4. Youth training and self-employment programme proved itself as a mentionable institution in developing socio-economic and standard of life style of programme participants.

## Physical Performance of YTSEP

The physical performance of YTSEP started from July, 1990 to June, 2010 has been presented in the table 3.2. The YTSEP disbursed a significant amount of loan from revolving fund. YTSEP conducted various skill training activities successfully.

Table 3.2: Physical Progress of YTSEP upto June, 2012

No.	Subject	Target	Achievement (cumulative), 2012
1.	Training	11,48,368 persons	22,94,969 persons
2.	Self-employment	7,89,608 persons	14,57,902 persons
3.	Credit fund	Tk 11,556.58 Lakh	Taka 55,925,92 Lakh
4.	Beneficiaries	1,75,000 persons	2,67,508 persons
5.	Seminars/Workshops	3514 numbers	3515 numbers

*Source : Adopted from Activities of the Department of Youth Development at a glance, 2012. pp. 41-42.*

## Conclusion

Youth development activities depends more on the practical implications of youth that affects their day to day life. The importance and activities of youth development also differs from country to country, and programmes, activities directed and implemented based on the needs of young people. Therefore, in the context of Bangladesh, the target group and purpose-based approaches had been under extensive implementation for the last few decades. No institution, government or NGOs, could claim that the objectives were fully achieved. Youth Training and Self-employment Programme (YTSEP) of DYD, by this time, has completed its experimental and demonstration phases. It is now being considered for implementation as a national youth development programme. Consequently the target of this programme has not been full field for various practical reasons but the achievement is quite satisfactory in the context of Bangladesh.



## Chapter 4

# Youth Development Policies and Programmes of The Government

### Introduction

Youth policy or system for emergence of youth into the current of life of community is nothing new in human societies. Such systems existed in the most primitive societies and in fact still exist in the simpler societies of the world and meet their respective requirements adequately. It is only when a society becomes complex due to very rapid social upheavals resulting from sudden and unexpected political disturbances, changing economic patterns affecting the social structure or the impact of foreign cultural influences, that being in a dazed condition, it is forced to give up its old and tried practices of preparing youth for the tasks and duties that lie ahead without stimulus creating adequate alternate practices. The resulting disadvantages take time to appear on the task in hand once again, but the gap produced as a result of late realization of the problems is rarely filled. It would be daring to suggest that in most cases, the root cause of such mistakes is that societies fail to analyze the problems confronting them in an objective manner prior to taking them. This mistake usually occurs either due to lack of expert advice or to failure to adapt expert advice to local conditions.<sup>1</sup>

Our country is not far from the above conditions. Gradually we develop a social responsibility for youth development. In our country youth development is considered with the national development as a whole. Youth development is envisaged here with human resource development. The main objective of youth development is to develop socio-economic conditions of youth and thereby transform unproductive youth into a productive human resource that accelerates the pace of national development.<sup>2</sup> Youths have always been treated as a vital force in national development. Consequently it is seen that since Pakistani regime the question of youth development has been gaining momentum in the five-year plans. The policy priority has been modified from time to time and has undergone changes over the years. Bangladesh is gradually improving in the field of youth development. During

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *A Reader on Youth and Development*, (Bangkok: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Far East (ESCAFE), 1971), p.11.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Review of the Youth Situation, Policy and Program in Asia and the Pacific*, (New York: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, 1997), p. 51.

the last three decades, both government and non-government organizations implemented a lot of youth development programmes. The main objective of this chapter is to focus the national attitude and on going programmes for the development of youth community through reviewing the five-year plans.

#### **4.1 Programmes and Policies of Pre-Liberation Period**

During the Pakistan period we have passed three five-year plans. The plan periods were 1955-60, 1960-65, and 1965-70. There was no separate youth policy rather it was considered with national human resource development policy. The plan periods are discussed below in respect of youth development.

##### **The First Five-Year Plan (1955-60)**

In this plan period a national development framework was designed through which youth development was focused. In education and training sector the main objectives were substantial improvement in the quality of primary, secondary, college and university education, a large expansion of facilities for education and training in the technical, vocational and professional fields to provide the trained manpower needed in all sectors of the development programmes.<sup>3</sup> In the field of labour and employment a programme of strengthening labour organizations, enforcing labour laws, improving worker-management relations and advancing research and training was undertaken.<sup>4</sup> The plan provides for increased agricultural production, better nutrition, more widespread education and better housing. All this will make a major contribution to improving health conditions.<sup>5</sup> In the field of child and adolescent recreation program encouragement should be given to all organizations providing good recreational facilities for children and young people such as scout and guide troops, youth hostels and sports and games associations.<sup>6</sup> In short during the plan period youth development was considered important in national development as a whole.

##### **The Second Five-Year Plan (1960-65)**

In the second five-year plan Youth did not get special attention. The development of human resource suffered much neglect during the first plan period. Measures are suggested in the second plan to make up some of the deficiencies. Education is accorded a high priority. Institutional facilities are to be expanded and emphasis laid on technical and vocational education,

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<sup>3</sup> *The First Five Year Plan 1955-60*, Government of Pakistan, National Planning Board, December 1957, p.51.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, p.55.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*,

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, p.628.

particularly to meet requirements of the plan. A nationally coordinated programme for the training and use of manpower is to be undertaken. Health and social services facilities are to be recognized and expanded. Consideration is also given to improvement in the living and working conditions of the workers and to provision of a measure of social security. Housing facilities particularly for lower income groups are to be extended, although it will not be possible to eliminate the housing shortage in the near future. Finally a provision is made in the plan for organizing a program of family planning. Hitherto, the fruits of economic development have been almost completely absorbed in maintaining an increasing population.<sup>7</sup>

### **The Third Five-Year Plan (1965-70)**

In the third five-year plan youth development was viewed like the past. In this plan one of the main objectives of education and training was to provide the youth of the country with conditions conducive to the full-fledged development of their individual capacities and character. Another objective was to raise the quality of education at all levels so that it may properly fulfill its nation building tasks.<sup>8</sup> The health program of the third five-year plan is conceived within the context of the long-term goal of providing adequate health protection within the next 20 years.<sup>9</sup> In social welfare sector there was a provision of social services for youth. In all nearly 750 service units are needed for serving the national youth Government will provide 29 model units; one in each district in East Pakistan and one in each division in West Pakistan. Besides the youth hostel, youth camps, boy scouts, girls guides and other organizations working in the field will be covered by the programmes and will be given grants-in-aid for building youth hostels, organizing camps, for establishing youth service centers and for undertaking other activities.<sup>10</sup> In this period financial allocation for social services youth were 2.50 million rupees.<sup>11</sup>

## **4.2 Programmes and Policies After Independence of Bangladesh**

After achieving freedom in 1971 we have already passed five five-year plans and two two-year plans periods. The sixth five-year plan is going to start. These plans related to youth development are discussed below.

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<sup>7</sup> *The Second Five Year Plan 1960-65*, Government of Pakistan, National Planning Board, p.6.

<sup>8</sup> *The Third Five Year Plan 1965-70*, Government of Pakistan, National Planning Board, Publishing the Manager of Publications, Karachi, 1965, p. 185.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, p.247

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, p.276.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, p.285.

### **The First Five-Year Plan (1973-78)**

During this plan period youth development was considered as an integral part of the national development as a whole. In this plan youth development was included as a section of social welfare sector. One of the main objectives of this sector was to provide opportunities to the youth of the country to be of service to the society.<sup>12</sup> In addition to on going programmes which will be involve an amount of Taka 2 lakh, ten youth hostels and youth welfare centres will be improved in the plan period at a cost of Taka 10 lakh to harness the youth energy for development of the country.<sup>13</sup> The development of youth was enhanced by uplifting non-formal education system. It may take various forms such as literacy program for adults and youths, health education, nutrition and family planning programme, occupational skill training for youth and adults, youth clubs with sustained educational activities.<sup>14</sup>

### **The Two-Year Plan (1978-80)**

In 1979 Youth Development Ministry has been established. During the two-year plan period an attempt was made to utilize youth force in productive development activities through organized programmes. A sum of Taka 1.60 crore was allotted for three scheme involving the youths under the social welfare sector. The scheme were intended to create employment opportunities for the youth by imparting training and organizing production programme through utilization of the existing youth organizations. A sum of Taka 10 crore was allocated for the youth development program in the ADP of 1979-80. Five development schemes relating to training of unemployed youths and organizing youth forces under 'Bangladesh Jatio Jubo Sangstha (BJJS)' were prepared under the scheme entitled 'Planning and Development Cell' under the Ministry. Training under all the programmes started at the later part of 1979 and approximately 42,000 unemployed rural youth were imparted training in various trades self-employment and organizing co-operatives.<sup>15</sup>

### **The Second Five-Year Plan (1980-85)**

During this plan period youths have got some attention. Some of the main objectives of youth development were to mobilize youth population and to

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<sup>12</sup> *The First Five Year Plan 1973-78*, Planning Commission, Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh, November, 1973, p.531.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, p.533.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*, p.480.

<sup>15</sup> *The Second Five Year Plan 1980-85*, Planning Commission, Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh, Dacca, May 1980, p.XVIII-39.



include in them a sense of identity and self-reliance with a unified direction for their own and national development, to organize the youth forces through village level organizations and involved them in the execution of development programmes in their respective areas, to train the youth force in agriculture, livestock, poultry, farming, fisheries and co-operatives with a view to equipping them for self-employment and to train educated youth in skilled, semi-skilled and administrative jobs taking into consideration the job opportunities at home and abroad. Following these objectives some programmes were also initiated. These include socio-economic programmes for the youth like self-employment assistance programme, a juba Bhaban and some juba hostels and youth academy training complex. Financial assistance to voluntary youth organization was also given. A sum of Taka 125.00 crore was allotted for implementation of programme of Youth Development Ministry.<sup>16</sup>

### **The Third Five-Year Plan (1985-90)**

In the third five-year plan, an amount of Taka 17.00 crore was allocated for youth development activities. During the TFYP period, i) Skill development training for unemployed youth; ii) Support for self-employment activities for the trained youth; iii) Youth motivation, publication and award and iv) Upazila Resource Development and Employment Project (URDEP) were taken up for implementation.<sup>17</sup> The physical target fixed for the TFYP was to train 43,935 unemployed youths in different trades, out of which a total of 37,935 youths were trained upto June, 1990. The target under the self-employment project was set up at 18,830, out of which 12,777 youths had taken up self-employment programme. Moreover, at the same time 1000 youths were awarded, grants were provided to 460 youths and 8 motivational books were published. Besides, under URDEP 12,750 beneficiaries were privileged.<sup>18</sup>

### **The Fourth Five-Year Plan (1990-95)**

The fourth plan envisaged programmes for the youth for self employment promotion, poverty alleviation, skill development training, and community development through voluntary youth organizations. An amount of Taka 1,600.00 million was allocated through ADPs for these programmes. Expansions of micro-credit facility among the trained youth were an

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<sup>16</sup> Ibid., pp. 40-43.

<sup>17</sup> *The Fourth Five Year Plan, 1990-95*, Planning Commission, Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh. Dhaka, June 1990, p. XIII-9.

<sup>18</sup> Tahmina Akhter and Razina Sultana, "Youth in Bangladesh: Problems and Prospects", *The Journal of Social Development*, Volume 8, Number 1, December 1993, p.55.

important feature of youth development during this period. Poverty alleviation programme of Upazila Resource Development and Employment Project (URDEP) was extended to 32 upazilas with the assistance of Asian Development Bank (ADB). The total target of beneficiaries was 192,000.00 and all of them were brought under micro-credit.<sup>19</sup>

Encouraged by the success of poverty alleviation programme of Upazila Resource Development and Employment Project (URDEP) project, Family Based Employment Programme was undertaken in 50 selected upazilas with TAKA 1,250.00 million as credit fund during the same plan period. Youth training centers on residential basis were expanded to train the rural youth in livestock, poultry, fishery and tree plantation and also to motivate them to get involved in different socio-economic activities including literacy, primary health care, family welfare, environmental improvement, resource conservation etc. During this plan period youth activities were extended from 50 upazilas in 31 districts to 230 in 64 district.<sup>20</sup>

### **The Fifth-Year Plan (1997-2002)**

The over all objectives of the youth development programme will be to organize and mobilize the youth properly to ensure their spontaneous and pro-active involvement in the development process. In order to achieve these objectives some programmes like skill development training, self-employment programme, community development programme, development of youth leadership, participation of youth in population and health care, supply of input to trained youth, technology transfer programme etc. have been taken. Micro-credit programmes are also expanded for poverty alleviation. The poverty alleviation programmes under Upazila Resource Development and Employment Project (URDEP) model show that government organizations can undertake such activities with success and on a competitive cost basis. Since its inception the Department of Youth Development (DYD) has trained up a number of 4,34,802 unemployed youth in various trades up to June 1996. During the fifth plan period Upazila Resource Development and Employment Project (URDEP) alone expects to provide credit facilities for self-employment to around 5,50,000 rural youths.<sup>21</sup> In the fifth five year plan a sum of Taka 6,280.00 million is estimated to be made available for different projects for youth development.<sup>22</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> *The Fifth Five Year Plan 1997-2002*, Planning Commission, Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh, Dhaka, March 1998, pp.516-17.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*, p.517.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*, p.520.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*, p.521.

### **4.3 National Youth Policy-2003**

#### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 As per Article 15 part 2 of the constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh it has been recognized that one of the fundamental responsibilities of the state is to attain, through planned economic growth, a chronological rise in productive force and a steady improvement in the substantial and cultural standard of living of the people. Except this, importance has been given to welfare and development of total population including youth community in articles-14, 17 & 20 of the constitution.
- 1.2 The youth constitute one third of total population in Bangladesh. For this important portion of population, determination of national outlook is undeniable. The history of our nation is enlightened by the heroic contribution of the youth. The youth of the country played vital role in the language movement of 1952, mass upsurge of 1969, liberation war of 1971 and in all crises after liberation. . It is indispensable to encourage the youth in light of their glorious history of the past.
- 1.3 The Youth are a most strong, self-confident, creative and productive guiding force of any nation.. It is possible to reflect hopes & aspirations of a nation through the youth. The endless potential of the youth shall be utilized for their own, for the society and for the nation. Development of a nation is totally dependent on the spirit & urge of work of the youth. For this, it is evident to explore and utilize all the potentialities of them. On the basis of above philosophy the aims & objectives of the present National Youth Policy have been formulated.
- 1.4 To ensure favorable environment towards productive practical education, training and self-employment for the youth and bringing out all dormant potentialities including their leadership quality aiming at national progress. The main objective of the present National Youth Policy is to create disciplined and efficient work force having responsibility of good citizen and creative mentality with a view to involving the youth in the national development stream also having respect towards national heritage and culture through a planned process.
- 1.5 The present National Youth Policy is the updated as well as comprehensive form of the youth policy which was formulated in the eighties of twentieth century and is being followed in the youth sector of Bangladesh. In light of changing global socio-economic situation, rapid advancement in the fields of science & information technology, the problems, rights, responsibilities of the youth, existing youth activities etc. the subject matter of National Youth Policy has been determined.

According to this National Youth Policy all Bangladeshi citizens aging 18-35 years shall be treated as youth.<sup>23</sup>

## **2. Specific Objectives of National Youth Policy**

- 2.1 To create sense of respect and awareness among youths towards the constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and justice and ethics along with moral values and social responsibilities.
- 2.2 To empower youths and create appropriate opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship development through proper practical education and skill developing training.
- 2.3 To encourage youths especially the unemployed youths towards self-employment through proper utilization of local resources and by providing credit and create favorable situation with a view to bringing out all the dormant potentialities of the youth.
- 2.4 To build the youth so that they can effectively involve themselves in the main stream of national development.
- 2.5 To create awareness amongst the youth about all glorious heritage and feelings so that they feel encouraged to engage themselves in the ethical and social activities and keep themselves aside from all kinds of unethical deeds.
- 2.6 To motivate and encourage the youths for voluntary services and at the same time to be effectively involved in national service oriented activities as vaccination, tree plantation, preventive campaigns against AIDS and drug abuse, rehabilitation activities etc.
- 2.7 To create facilities and opportunities for participation of the youth and their contribution in literature, culture, sound recreations including sports and games and patronize these aspects from all corners.
- 2.8 To facilitate expansion of all sorts of IT facilities with a view to involving youths effectively with the tremendous advancement in the field of global IT.
- 2.9 To ensure uninterrupted flow of information on youth through information and research centre for the youth.
- 2.10 To implement appropriate and productive scheme with eligibility and efficiency of the youth creating modern facilities in rural areas.
- 2.11 To create opportunity for participation of male youth and female youth equally in every step of development and decision making process with a view to promoting national development activities.

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<sup>23</sup> Government of Bangladesh, *English Version of National Youth Policy 2003*, Ministry of Youth and Sports. (Dhaka, 2003), p. 2.

2.12 To impart training on youth health. social right of handicapped youths including their human rights and introduce special programme on developing leadership qualities among youths so that they can undertake political, social and economic leadership of the country in future.

### **3. Youth Problems**

In identifying youth problems, it is essential to give equal priority to want of moral education and discipline, existing poor practical education, incompleting formal education (dropout), negative attitude towards supply of labour, different types of unemployment, involvement of youths in antisocial and immoral activities including AIDS and drug addiction, unawareness in health care, scarcity of credit and less scope for undertaking self-employment project, backwardness in technology, inefficiency in IT, absence of favorable environment in the fields of sports and games and sound recreations, lack of sense of responsibility to family and society, moral degradation etc. It is necessary to identify youth related problems towards undertaking any step of development for the youth. It is urgent to emphasize opinion of the youth.

### **4. Youth Rights**

- 4.1 Like every citizen of the country the youth community will have the right to meet all the basic needs including food, shelter, clothing, education, health care.
- 4.2 Considering quality and quantity of work in exchange of reasonable labour, the youth will have employment opportunity at home and abroad including self-employment.
- 4.3 The youth will have opportunity to spend rest and recreation and leisure under reasonable circumstances.
- 4.4 The youth will have the right of social security, that is to say, the public assistance in cases of undesired want arising from unemployment, illness or disablement, or suffered by widowhood or orphanage or other such cases.
- 4.5 The youth will have the right to work as representatives in decision making process regarding youth affairs.

### **5. Responsibilities of Youth**

- 5.1 To have respect on national unity, social solidarity, general consensus, tolerance and law and order.
- 5.2 To strengthen themselves for self- dependence and creativity by having regular education, training and other fruitful exercises.
- 5.3 To enrich and preserve all historical and cultural heritage.
- 5.4 To create good mentality to pay respect and good services to women. children, elders, handicaps and neglected people.

- 5.5 To play pivotal role in creating a wealthy society free of terrorism, social injustice, exploitation, corruption and crime.
- 5.6 To have active role in accelerating sustainable development through different development oriented activities undertaken by government. To have positive participation in industrialization, afforestation & tree plantation for conservation of environment.
- 5.7 To be confident in working initiatives through expansion of job oriented education and make contribution towards expansion of creative education.
- 5.8 To work as ambassador of national, regional and international development.
- 5.9 To ascertain the rights and interests of future generation by dint of present performance.
- 5.10 To build up mentality in playing pivotal role for facing natural calamities, epidemics and national problems.

## **6. Youth Activities**

- 6.1 With a view to building up a national outlook massive programmes on skill development training and self-employment opportunities for the youth will be extended throughout the country irrespective of caste, religion, colour, creed, education and geographic situation. In this respect, facilities will be given in creating integrated initiatives among government and non-government sectors at grassroot and national levels.
- 6.2 At the time of taking youth programmes equal distribution and proper utilization of local resources and resources received will be ensured with a view to giving special attention to disadvantaged and unemployed youths living under poverty.
- 6.3 It will be a part and parcel of every youth activity to encourage the youths to be respectful to labour and be confident upon working ability.
- 6.4 Representation of youths will be ensured in all decision making processes relating to all round development of the country. This will help ensure the rights & responsibilities of the youth.
- 6.5 For creating avenues of youth self-employment and making it easier micro credit will be distributed at low rate of interest under simple terms and conditions.
- 6.6 Steps will be taken to make provision of registration of non-government youth organizations/youth cooperatives to organize and involve them in development work.
- 6.7 Necessary steps will be taken to support registered youth organizations with monetary grant of the government for adoption and implementation of youth activities.

- 6.8 Awareness building programmes will be taken regarding HIV/AIDS/STDs, worse effect of drug abuse and such type of terrible problems. Motivational programmes will continue to abstain the youths from these unwanted circumstances.
- 6.9 Massive youth development programmes including utilization of rural resources will be introduced with utmost importance for self-employment of the rural youths to discourage their migration tendency towards urban areas. Advocacy programme will be undertaken through various medias and registered youth organizations with a view to prompting awareness among youths seeking employment abroad.
- 6.10 Right will be ensured for all young women in decision making process including education, health, especially reproductive health including cultural amenities of life.
- 6.11 A special initiative will be taken to give concrete ideas to adolescents and related people on adolescence reproductive health.
- 6.12 Youth organizations will be encouraged and patronized to involve the people in the planned industrialization, fish cultivation, afforestation and plantation for the conservation and development of environment.
- 6.13 IT project will be introduced to create skilled manpower in the fields of computer and acceptable technology enriching the youth through science based thoughts and knowledge.
- 6.14 Adoption of special programme for increasing the leadership quality amongst the youth.
- 6.15 Attempt will be taken in all youth activities to create constructive outlook and mentality amongst the youth to pay significant contribution in resisting terrorism, exploitation, corruption, offence and menace to build up a free society.
- 6.16 To establish youth related information and research centre to support the preparation of youth development programmes.
- 6.17 Youth exchange programme will be extended and strengthened in different countries and inside the country.
- 6.18 Govt. acquired uncultivated lands and marshes will be leased out to the youth on simple terms and conditions for the purpose of poverty alleviation.
- 6.19 The youths confronted with distress and problems will be given necessary legal support.
- 6.20 An initiative will be taken separately to be sure on youth population aging from 18-35 years during the period of census.

## **7. Implementing Strategy**

- 7.1 To establish network of training and technical advice centre for the youth from national to grass root level with a view to imparting skill development training to youths for human resource development under the initiatives of government and private sectors. Training programme of the centre will be conducted by consulting with local administration, youth representatives and internationally reputed persons if necessary in accordance with local needs.
- 7.2 Self-confidence and sense of respect to personal working capacity and labour among youths will be enlightened with the help of documentary film, short film, reporting and interview etc. with the assistance of government & private medias. Awareness building activities will also be introduced amongst the youth against drug abuse, AIDS, STD including terrorism, all sorts of anti-social activities and immoral deeds. Initiatives will be taken for regular and widespread publicity of existing youth related activities and success stories of exceptional self-employed youths through broadcasting medias for motivating other youths. For this purpose, a high level steering committee will be established headed by the Ministry of Youth & Sports including representatives from different related Ministries and Divisions.
- 7.3 To make the process of self-employment easier the trained youth will be given micro credit easily at low rate of interest. For the purpose a suitable credit manual will be followed too.
- 7.4 Logical framework will be made to empower Department of Youth Development for registering youth organizations. In this regard, Ministry of Youth & Sports will take necessary steps with the cooperation of other related Ministries.
- 7.5 On the basis of development projects grants will be given to youth organizations registered by Department of Youth Development for their active participation, inspiration and recognition in development activities. Arrangement will be taken to award youths; youth organizations youth organizers at national level.
- 7.6 Realistic and updated training centers will be established throughout the country including supply of modern training equipments in the existing training centres. Proper training on entrepreneurship development will be given to youths from these centres.
- 7.7 By turns computer training infrastructure will have been brought under internet connection up to upzila level.
- 7.8 Cooperation will be extended towards youth co-operative society, voluntary youth organization and self-employed youths for marketing their products.



- 7.9 Government and private organizations working in youth sector will be encouraged to introduce programmes for keeping young women away from all kinds of social superstition, exploitation and violence, expansion of education facility for young women, youth health especially rendering services towards reproductive health, empowerment of young women etc. The noted organizations will also extend their cooperation towards other organizations for the initiatives in these fields.
- 7.10 Assistance will be given to concerned Ministry/Department and if necessary to youth organization for offering grant and recognition in developing industry, fish cultivation, afforestation and plantation by youth organizations.
- 7.11 Appropriate technology based training programme will be extended with the cooperation of related departments/ organizations for creating scientific mentality and environment amongst the youth.
- 7.12 Books relating to spiritual development of the youth, creation of family and social values, improved life style, patriotism and creating belief in national feelings will be published in easy language by subject related specialist and scholars. These books will be distributed free of cost in different training centres, voluntary organizations, library & students of educational institutions.
- 7.13 An information and research centre will be established under the Department of Youth Development for collection of correct statistics, information and data and for analysis and research with a view to preparing right plan for the youth.
- 7.14 Action will be taken to appraise the result of all youth activities undertaken by the government for welfare and development of youth community.
- 7.15 Advocacy programme will be given emphasis for encouraging members of youth organizations towards sports and healthy recreation for their physical and mental growth honestly. In this regard, an effective communication will be made with other organizations including local shilpakala academy and sports agencies.
- 7.16 Realistic planning will be formulated through coordinating efforts of related Ministries and private organizations for adopting youth exchange programme in country and international level. Financing will be there. Initiative will be taken to link up this programme with regional and international organizations like SAARC, Commonwealth and United Nations. Besides, initiative will be taken to introduce "Youth Award" under these organizations.
- 7.17 A non-governmental central body will be established for effective coordination amongst the voluntary youth organizations.

## 8. Advisory Committee for National Youth Policy

For necessary directions and instructions in implementing National Youth Policy smoothly, there will be a high powerful Advisory Committee headed by Hon'ble Prime Minister, Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. As members. Hon'ble Ministers relating to youth development will be included in the committee. Ministry of Youth & Sports will be responsible for secretarial services of the Advisory Committee.

## 9. Implementation, Monitoring and Review of Youth Policy

Having representatives from the youth community there will be an Interministerial Standing Committee headed by the Secretary of the Ministry of Youth & Sports to implement and monitor the National Youth Policy. On the other hand the National Youth Policy will be made up to date keeping changing time and requirements in view on the basis of counsellings of Advisory Committee for National Youth Policy and recommendations of Monitoring Committee. The Ministry of Youth and Sports will be responsible for implementation, monitoring and review of the National Youth Policy.

### 4.4 Limitations of Youth Policy and Programmes

The Government of Bangladesh also implements a number of skill training and credit programmes to make the youth, prepared for self-employment. The youth development programmes of the government especially those organized by the DYD provide vocational education and training to the underemployed and unemployed youth who otherwise would not find a job in or outside the government machinery. There are some limitations in implementing process of various youth programmes in our country.

1. The resource allocated for the sector of youth development by the central resource allocation agency i.e. the Planning Commission is inadequate. The following table shows total allocation for the youths and percentage of the total budget during the different plan periods.

Table 4.1: Plan-Wise Allocation for Youth Development Since 1973

[Taka in Crore]

Plan period	Plan size	Allocation for Youth	
		Total	Percent
First Five Year Plan (1973-78)	4445.00	---	---
Two-Year Hardcore Plan (1978-80)	3861.00	9.50	0.24
Second Five Year Plan (1980-85)	17,200.00	26.00	0.15
Third Five Year Plan (1985-90)	38,200.00	17.00	0.04
Fourth Five Year Plan (1990-95)	62,000.00	80.00	0.13
Interim Plan (1995-97)	22,411.47	136.71	0.61
Fifth Five Year Plan (1997-2002)	1,96,000.00	628.00	0.32

Source: Various Planning Documents of the Planning Commission

Table 4.1 reveals that since 1978-80 (when two-year hardcore interim plan was implemented), total plan-wise allocation for youth development declined sharply from 0.24 percent to an insipid 0.04 percent until it gets a momentum in the Fourth-Five Year Plan period and allocation reaches to 0.13 percent of the planned expenditure. Again during 1995-97 interim plan period, it reached to 0.61 percent and dropped to 0.32 percent during the Fifth-Year Plan period.

Thus it has been observed that during the past 30 years time, as shown by the plan-wise allocation, government maintains an average expenditure flow of 0.25 percent per plan period for youth development in Bangladesh. Too much austerity and frugality in fund allocation for various youth programmes exacerbates the problems of youth force in terms of deprivation and loss of economic opportunities. The same bleak situation of fund allocation can also be seen by yearly ADP sanction in youth development sectors as given in Table 4.2 below:

Table 4.2: Yearly ADP Allocation and Its Proportion to the Youth Development Programmes

[Taka in Crore]

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Total ADP allocation</b>	<b>Allocation in Youth Development</b>	<b>Valid Percent</b>
1990/91	6,521.00	11.50	0.17
1991/92	7,150.00	6.86	0.09
1992/93	8,121.00	22.30	0.27
1993/94	9,600.00	39.48	0.41
1994/95	11,150.00	76.33	0.68
1995/96	10,447.00	43.95	0.42
1996/97	11,700.00	89.76	0.76
1997/98	12,200.00	59.84	0.49
1998/99	14,000.00	67.32	0.48
1999/2000	16,500.00	65.00	0.39
2000/2001	18,200.00	69.75	0.38
2001/2002	16,000.00	62.82	0.39
2002/2003	17,100.00	81.06	0.47
2003/2004	19,000.00	53.38	0.28
2004/2005	20,500.00	47.44	0.23
2005-2006	21,500.00	77.70	0.36
2006-2007	21,600.00	32.45	0.15
2007-2008	22,500.00	6.60	0.02
2008-2009	23,000.00	5.68	0.02
2009-2010	28,500.00	6.71	0.02

Source: Various Revised ADP Documents, Planning Commission

We have never had youth-friendly ADP allocation since independence, which never exceeded 1.0 percentage point mark even since the creation of a separate Ministry of Youth and Sports in Bangladesh. In the past many viable and sound projects had to be abandoned for want of financial resources.

2. Regarding National Youth Policy (NYP), it is evident that the GOB has all the good intention to develop the youth population to face the 21<sup>st</sup> century in all efficient way. The NYP is a document of national significance and set guidelines to respond to the needs and aspirations of Bangladeshi youth population. Despite enormous problems and structural disequilibria as the basic feature of Bangladesh economy, there is a brighter future for the youth force, because if they are given opportunity to explore their potentials, individually and collectively, they will out-perform others in different age groups. The problems and constraints can be gradually phased out through proper policy guidance's and installing motivational factors in our social environment. The responsibility does not, however, lies entirely with the government-private sector, political parties and bureaucracy and individuals must work together with the government to streamline the deviant youth force to become efficient social and human resources of Bangladesh.
3. The Ministry of Youth and Sports through her Department of Youth Development have spread net work in all Upazilas of the country and extending various programmes and activities. But these activities are often not based on sound planning. Upazila Youth Development Officer or many other officers of Department of Youth Development most often lack sound technical knowledge to conduct training on modern corp., livestock, fisheries and forestry production. Agricultural graduates and other technical graduates would have been work effective and befitting in this area of development. New avenues for income other than agriculture are yet to be explored and created. Hence, for guidance and supervision of effective youth programmes and activities involvement technical manpower at the grass roots are very much desired.
4. Less priority is given to the youth literacy and educational programmes. The Bangladesh Government and different NGOs working in the development sector have many programmes on women and child development but there is little effort for the development of the youths in Bangladesh. The few agencies working in the field of youth development have unskilled and inadequate management and they could not play effective role in youth development.

5. Department of Youth Development of the Government undertakes activities in a limited scale. It cannot bring any impact on the large number of youths of our society. There are lack of proper rehabilitation programmes for the youths in our country. Government has no programme in this field.
6. The NGOs which are working in youth affairs have not any coordination system. But to achieve the best at a minimum cost the coordination of activities of Government, NGOs and other Youth organization's is necessary. Youths are yet to be involved in the decision making process of the national development programmes.
7. There is tendency to make political use of the youth organizations in the country thus pushing them into controversy. As a consequence, the organizations cannot take permanent institutional shape and fail to contribute to sustainable development process of the country.
8. Lack of awareness about responsibilities and social and political obligations towards the youth and lack of interest of the donor agencies in developing this sector are also major obstacles for the youth programmes in our country.

## **Conclusion**

Youth and youth related issues have continued to form part of the agenda of our national policy. Gradually it is clearly understand that a disciplined, properly organized and trained youth can take part in and make contribution to the development process of a nation. Harnessing and utilizing the potentialities of this youth force by developing their knowledge and skill with inculcation of appropriate values and attitude can achieve sustained economic progress in a country like Bangladesh. It is also true that the existing programmes could not or did not try to include or attack the problems of youth community who need services and to study the variations in needs due to their socio-economic differences. It is firmly belief that youth welfare policy and services could be made more meaningful by giving due consideration to know how the youth themselves think of their needs as well as on the socio-economical and the institutional conditions bearing upon their interests. With this realization Govt. has taken many programmes for youth development, especially Youth Training and Self-employment Programme (YTSEP) which have been described in details in the previous chapter. However in the next chapter an attention has given to analyze the socio-economic background of the study people, nature of participation in self-employment activities, support services and impact of YTSEP to the study people.



## **Socio-Economic Background of The Self-employed Youth and Their Activities**

### **Introduction**

This chapter reflects the socio-economic background of the study population. The items that have been highlighted in this chapter include the socio-economic background of the self-employed youth who have got facilities from the YTSEP and those who have not get facilities from YTSEP. These two groups of population namely participants and non-participants have been selected as study population as it is mentioned earlier. Here YTSEP facilitated self-employed youth have been mentioned as participants group while non-YTSEP self-employed youth as non-participants group. Detailed information on selected socio-economic variables of participants and non-participants was obtained. Each group comprised with sixty members. But most of the respondents of both groups were males.

In this study, more than one method have been applied that included face to face formal interview and observation of their surroundings in the light of the set objectives. The data on these two groups has also been presented and analyzed in this chapter. The information of each of the selected components of socio-economic variables has been first narrated and then presented in tabular or illustrative form, followed by interpretation. The analysis and interpretation of socio-economic background of participants and non-participants group have been describe in the following two sub-sections.

### **5.1 Socio-economic Profile of the Respondents**

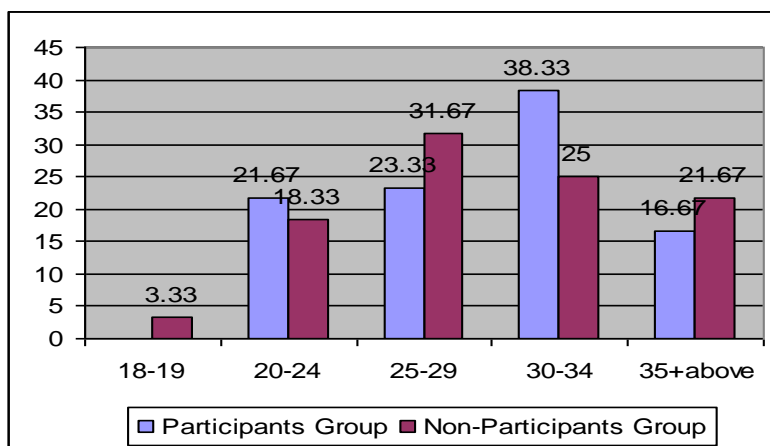
This sub section deals mainly with the socio-economic characteristics of the households of sampled self-employed youth. The relevant information on age, educational level, marital status, gender, family pattern, land ownership, family size, earning members, occupation and household income and expenditure of both participants and non-participants group of self-employed youth have been analyzed in this section.

## Age Composition

Age gives a clue about the stage of the development of the personality. It is assumed that in a certain age, the person should achieve certain things, in form of education, marital status, employment etc.<sup>1</sup>

Fig 5.1: Age of the Self-employed Youth

There is no uniformity regarding the age of youthhood. The present study considers, a person as youth between the age group of 18-35 years. Since most of the persons in Bangladesh are settled by the age of 30, socially and economically and



bear the adulthood, this is the appropriate period for the youth hood. Thirty plus persons are generally regarded as over age for the matters of employment and marriages etc. Fig.5.1 gives a complete idea of the age structure of the respondents.

The figure denotes in the participants group category (DYD trained) 21.67 respondent self-employed youth belong to 20-24 years age group, 23.33 percent in 25-29 years age groups, 38.33 percent in 30-34 years age group and 16.67 percent in 35 years and above age group. The mean age of this category is 25.83 years while mode denotes 30-34 years age group as the most frequency category.

In the non-participants group category, only 3.33 percent of the respondents were found in the age group 18-19 years, 18.33 percent in the age group 20-24 years, 31.67 percent in the age group 25-29 years, 25 percent in 30-34 years age group and 21.67 percent in the age group of 35 years age group and above. The mean age of this category respondents thereby being 29.21 years. While modal age group 25-29 years which is represented by 31.67 percent of the respondents of this category.

It is observed from the study that a good number (55 percent in participants group and 46 percent in non-participants group) of the sample youth entrepreneurs established their self-employment projects after reaching 30 years of their ages. The scenario is also the same for

<sup>1</sup> Pramod Kumar Bajpai, *Youth, Education And Unemployment – A Psycho-Social Inquiry*, (New Delhi: Ashish Publishing house, 1992), p. 33.



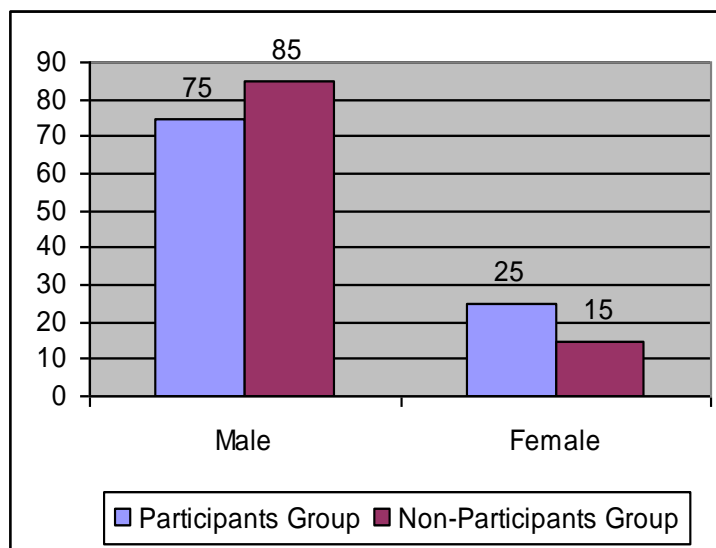
Indian and Korean entrepreneurs.<sup>2</sup> It is also argued that this is the age when men can exert his talent, innovation, risk taking, acquisition of managerial capabilities and in marshalling resources for small ventures in building his career.

### Gender Structure

In present circumstances, gender balance is required for quick socio-economic development because united force is better than single effort. Young women constitute about half of the population of the youth of Bangladesh. Our development mostly needs the role of young women and men. Empowerment of young women is a crying need and this will soon bring about gender balance.<sup>3</sup> In the light of above back ground gender structure of the respondents has been studied in the following (Fig.5.2).

Fig 5.2 : Gender Structure of the Self-employed Youth

With regard to gender structure out of the total respondents (120) more than 79.16 percent were male, while the female were a little (20 percent). There were few differences between responding households in both participants and non-participants group regarding gender characteristics. The



overall gender distribution was virtually equal, although the proportion of male self-employed youth was higher than females in both groups. It is to be noted that participation of female youth in self-employment activities is higher (10%) among participants group in comparison with non-participants groups. The study findings reveals that due to the intervention of YTSEP, young women's involvement in self-employment activities is more occurred in participants group than that of non-participants group.

<sup>2</sup> S.V.S Sharma et.al., *Small Entrepreneurial Development in Some Asian Countries : A Comparative Study*, (New Delhi: Light and Life Publications, 1979), p. 226.

<sup>3</sup> Ashit Kumar Sutradhar, *Youth Affairs in Bangladesh*, (Dhaka: Bapiti Printing & Publications, 2005), p. 137.

## Level of Education and Marital Status

Education is the preparation for life. A persons learns about the ways and means of living through education and tries to apply the knowledge in the course of his/her life to earn their livelihood.<sup>4</sup> Education greatly helps a youth to distinguish himself from those who are out of school, and he may find a better way to lead his life prestigiously.

Table 5.1: Education and Marital Status of the Self-employed Youth

Qualification	Categories of self-employed youth					
	Participants Group			Non-participants Group		
	Married	Unmarried	Total	Married	Unmarried	Total
Illiterate	---	---	---	1 (1.67)	---	1 (1.67)
Upto class V	1 (1.67)	---	1 (1.67)	7 (11.67)	1 (1.67)	8 (13.34)
Below S.S.C	6 (10.00)	2 (3.33)	8 (13.33)	6 (10.00)	8 (13.33)	14 (23.33)
S.S.C	18 (30.00)	9 (15.00)	27 (45.00)	11 (18.33)	4 (6.67)	15 (25.00)
H.S.C	7 (11.67)	5 (8.33)	12 (20.00)	10 (16.67)	3 (5.00)	13 (21.67)
Graduate (Pass)	3 (5.00)	4 (6.67)	7 (11.67)	2 (3.33)	---	2 (3.33)
Graduate (Hons)	1 (1.67)	1 (1.67)	2 (3.34)	1 (1.67)	1 (1.67)	2 (3.34)
Masters	---	3 (5.00)	3 (5.00)	2 (3.33)	1 (1.67)	3 (5.00)
Others	---	---		1 (1.67)	1 (1.67)	2 (3.34)
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b> <b>(60.00)</b>	<b>24</b> <b>(40.00)</b>	<b>60</b> <b>(100)</b>	<b>41</b> <b>(68.33)</b>	<b>19</b> <b>(31.67)</b>	<b>60</b> <b>(100)</b>

(Figures in the parentheses denote percentage)

Similarly, marital status is the definite indicator of man's liabilities in the society. This infact paves the way for happiness, to lead a pleasant life, but the condition is, that person should be economically self dependant. Status of employment and quality of marriage are inter-related.<sup>5</sup> In the light of above background, education and marital status of the respondents has been studied in the following (Table 5.1).

<sup>4</sup> Pramad Kumar Bajpai, *op. cit.*, p. 40.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 39.

Sample related to the present study and in the participants group, the data contains 1.67 percent upto primary education, 13.33 percent under below SSC level, 45 percent S.S.C, 20 percent H.S.C, 11.67 percent Graduate (Pass), 3.34 percent Graduate (Hons) and 5 percent master degree holders (Table 5.1).

Under the non-participants group category, it is noted that 1.67 percent youth are illiterate, 13.34 percent upto primary level education, 23.33 percent under below S.S.C level, 25 percent S.S.C, 21.67 percent H.S.C, 3.33 percent Graduates (Pass), 3.33 percent Graduate (Hons), 5 percent masters and 3.33 percent are other degree holders.

On the basis of above discussions, the study indicates that higher education level of the respondents of DYD supported participants group is higher than the respondents of non-participants group. For this reason, the percentage of the married respondents of non-participants group is higher than the respondents of participants group. Up to S.S.C level the percentage of this group is almost double.

### **Family Pattern**

Family is considered as one of the basic institutions of the society. From the dawn of civilization, different types of families and marriages have been found in practice.<sup>6</sup> In Bangladesh societies of rural areas, the families may be of three distinct categories, namely: joint, extended and nuclear.<sup>7</sup> In joint families, the kin of three or more generations live together and share all landed and other properties. They take their meal from the same hearth, store produce in a common granary. Parents, brothers, sisters, wives and their children live under the same roof in a joint family. The extended family is composed of related individuals from more than one generation who live in the same household but they take food from separate hearths. A nuclear family consists of a husband and wife with or without children. In the family structure of Bangladesh nuclear families are growing fast due to poverty, attitude of self-interest, family quarrels and maladjustment etc. and other kinds of families are gradually breaking up over the past few decades.<sup>8</sup> In the light of above background family pattern of the respondents has been presented in the following (Fig.5.3).

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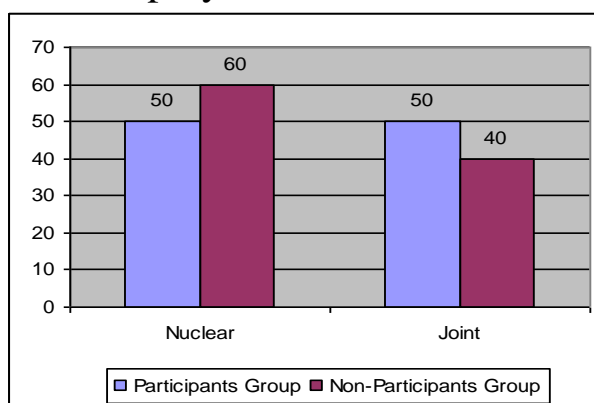
<sup>6</sup> Md. Nurul Islam, "Change in Family and Marriage Affairs in Rural Communities", *The Journal of Social Development*, Vol. 12, Number-1, (Dhaka: December, 1997), p. 112.

<sup>7</sup> Rafiqul Islam, *Educated Unemployment Problem in Bangladesh: A Sociological Study* (Dhaka: Ahmed Publishing House, 1999), p.29.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, p.30.

Fig 5.3 : Family Patterns of the Self-employed Youth

Type of family is usually formed on the basis of the values and norms of the individual as well as the society. Self-employed youth are no exception in this regard. It is observed from the Fig. 5.3 that 55 percent respondents belonged to the nuclear families and about 45 percent belonged to the joint family. The difference found between the two categories of family are of little significance. However, this picture indicates the common nature of family pattern in rural Bangladesh.



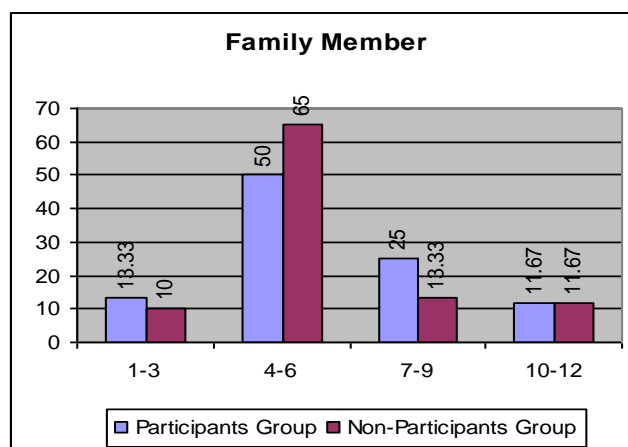
### Family Size

The sampled self-employed youth come from sixty families (one from each family) spreading over the Tangail district areas. The number of family (sixty) is almost same in both the participants and non-participants group of self-employed youth.

In the participants group it is found that 50 percent cases there are 4-6 members in each family. In 25 percent cases, it is found that each family have no less than 7 members. In 13.33 percent cases, the families have 1-3 members each. In other cases, the families (13.67 percent) have 10-12 members each. However, the mean of the family size is 6.05 persons.

Fig 5.4: Family Size of the Self-employed Youth

On the contrary, family, size in the non-participants group was found almost same as like as non-participants group in many cases. In about 65 percent cases there are 4-6 members in each family. In 13.33 percent cases, it is found that each family have no less than 7 members. In other cases, the families 11.67 percent had 10-12 members and 10 percent had 1-3 members.



However, in the non-participants group, the mean family size is 5.8. It has been observed that the average family size of both group of self-employed youth was higher than the national average of 4.9 persons.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>9</sup> Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, *op.cit.*, p. 7.

It seems that the parents of the DYD train self-employed youth (participants group) possess bigger family size and this might be a pressure to their parents as well. In most cases, number of unemployed youth in such families obviously brings burden and pressure. Their youth then decide to do something from their own. This willingness and decision making is very important in organizing youth programme in the country.

### Earning Member of Family

Family serves as a primary economic unit. It takes care of all its member in spite of their economic viability. That is why it is said a basic socialistic institution where the principle “from each according to his capacity and to each according to his needs” prevail. But economic dependence of independence decide the person’s place in the family and attitude of the family about him. Besides, it also indicates the family’s financial vulnerability if only member earns and rest of the members are dependent.<sup>10</sup> The Table 5.2 shows that in the participants group 40 percent household have two, 25 percent have 3, 15 percent have 4 and 1.67 percent have 5 earning members in the family. It is noted that 18.33 percent households have only one earning members in the family. The average earning members is 2.42 (Nos).

Table 5.2: Earning Members of the Self-employed Youth Family

Earning members	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	11	18.33	17	28.33
2	24	40.00	19	31.68
3	15	25.00	17	28.33
4	09	15.00	5	8.33
5	01	1.67	2	3.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>2.42 (Nos.)</b>		<b>2.27 (Nos.)</b>	

$$\chi^2 = 2.887, \text{ d.f} = 4$$

On the contrary, earning members in the non-participants group it was found that 31.68 percent household have 2, 28.33 percent have 1 and 3 and 8.33 percent household have 4 earning members in the family. It is also observed that only 3.33 percent household have 5 earning members in the family. The average earning members is 2.27 (Nos).

The table value of  $\chi^2$  for 4 d.f at 5% level of significance is 9.488. Since the calculated value of  $\chi^2$  is less than the tabulated value of  $\chi^2$ .

<sup>10</sup> Pramad Kumar Bajpai, *op. cit.*, p.47.

Hence, it is concluded that there is no significant association between earning members and categories of self-employed youth.

### Guardian's Occupation

Family occupation suggests economic structure and social status of the family in the society. It deciphers the means of livelihood of the family.<sup>11</sup> Moreover, the parental occupation is an enabling factor since the boundless of skill, experience and training necessary to sense, view, evaluate and exploit given opportunity can be obtained from parental circle free of cost, easily, quickly and without undergoing exploitative apprenticeship system.<sup>12</sup> It has been gathered that 84% of Indian, 79% of Hongkong and 84.5% of Malaysian entrepreneurs originate from non-farm parental occupation background. It is found that relevant parental occupation counts for success in entrepreneurship.<sup>13</sup> In the light of above background occupational status of parents of the respondents have been shown in the following (Table 5.3).

Table 5.3: Guardians Occupation of the Self-employed Youth

Categories of Occupation	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-participants Group	
	Fathers occupation	Mothers occupation	Fathers occupation	Mothers occupation
Agriculture	22 (36.66)	—	29 (48.33)	—
Business	13 (21.67)	—	11 (18.33)	—
Service	22 (36.66)	—	10 (16.67)	3 (5.00)
Fisherman	1 (1.67)	—	1 (1.67)	—
Cottage Industry	—	2 (3.33)	1 (1.67)	—
Housewife	—	58 (96.67)	—	56 (93.33)
Others	2 (3.34)	—	8 (13.33)	1 (1.67)
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b> <b>(100)</b>	<b>60</b> <b>(100)</b>	<b>60</b> <b>(100)</b>	<b>60</b> <b>(100)</b>

(Figures in the parentheses represent percentage)

<sup>11</sup> Ibid., p. 46.

<sup>12</sup> Abdul Mannan Chowdhury, "The Emergence and Growth of Entrepreneurs in some developing countries", *The Dhaka University Studies*, Part-C, Vol.9 (1), (1988), p. 6.

<sup>13</sup> Mohammad Solaiman and Mohammad Tayub Chowdury, "Development of Entrepreneurship With Reference to Poultry Farms of Chittagong", *Journal of Asian Affairs*, Vol. 24, No. 3 (July-September, 2002), p.13.

It was significantly revealed in the Table (Table 5.3) that agriculture is the main source of livelihood for households both in the participants and non-participants group of self-employed youth. The proportion of participation of the fathers of self-employed youth involved in agriculture as their primary occupation was greater (48.33 percent) in the non-participants group than the corresponding figure (36.66 percent) in the participants group. When secondary occupations are considered only 18.33 percent of the households heads in the non-participants group was engaged in Business compared to 21.67 percent in the participants group of the project areas. Fisheries accounted for similar proportion i.e., 1.67 percent in both the groups.

Among the household heads, 36.66 percent engaged in service in the participants group (project area), while it was 16.67 percent in the non-participants group.

Both in the participants and non-participants group of self-employed youth, the figures for housewife (mothers occupation) are almost similar which are about 96.67 and 93.33 percent respectively.

### **Land Ownership Pattern**

Land holding plays a significant role in determining the social status and economic solvency of a family in rural Bangladesh. It is an important source of power and the concentration of land among the rural people has been changing from the few decades.<sup>14</sup> In both participants and non-participants group land was unevenly distributed. In the participants group it is found that 21.66 percent households owned less than half an acre (1-50 decimals), whilst the top 18.33 percent of households in the land ownership scale owned more than 5 acres (501 decimals and above). Around 16.67 percent of the households owned, one and half acre to two acre (151-200 decimals), while about 10 percent possessed 105-150 decimals to 301-350 decimals. The average size of land owned is 2.41 acres.

On the contrary, ownership pattern of land in the non-participants group was found less polarized in comparison to the participants group of youth. Around 26.6 percent of households owned upto 0.50 acres (called functionally landless in Bangladesh) in the non-participants group. On the otherhand, household owing more than 2.5 acres (251 decimals and above) accounted for 36.68 percent of all households in the non-participants group compared to 43.33 percent in the participants group.

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<sup>14</sup> Rafiqul Islam, *op. cit.*, p.109.

Table 5.4: Land holding Ownership Pattern of the Self-employed Youth Families

Land Ownership Pattern (in decimals)	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants		Non-participants	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1-50	13	21.66	16	26.66
51-100	06	10.00	04	6.67
101-150	04	6.67	06	10.00
151-200	10	16.67	08	13.32
201-250	01	1.67	04	6.67
251-300	02	3.33	04	6.67
301-350	06	10.00	04	6.67
351-400	02	3.33	02	3.33
401-450	04	6.67	01	1.67
451-500	01	1.67	01	1.67
501 and above	11	18.33	10	16.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Average size (acres)</b>	<b>2.41</b>		<b>2.18</b>	

$$\chi^2 = 0.736, \text{ d.f.} = 4$$

The average size of land owned was 2.18 acres in the non-participants group, about 0.23 acre lower than in the participants group. The study also reveals that 38.33% of the DYD stakeholders belongs to the landless and small farmers category (1-150 decimals), which indicated that the authority has been able to address the target group of youths selected from disadvantaged families, which is one of the objectives of DYD.

The table value of  $\chi^2$  for 4 d.f at 5% level of significance is 9.488. Since the calculated value of  $\chi^2$  is less than the tabulated value of  $\chi^2$ . Hence, it is concluded that there is no significant association between land ownership pattern and categories of self-employed youth.

### Monthly Household Income

Income is an important indicator of socio-economic conditions. Income may be conceived as a motivating factor, which indicates a man to play a positive role in sharpening his career and skill. Moreover, the income level is one of the significant ingredients of financial incentives and thereby, ultimately of facts development process of entrepreneurship.<sup>15</sup>

In this respect, the monthly income of self-employed youths household has investigated. The total income of these households consisted of self-

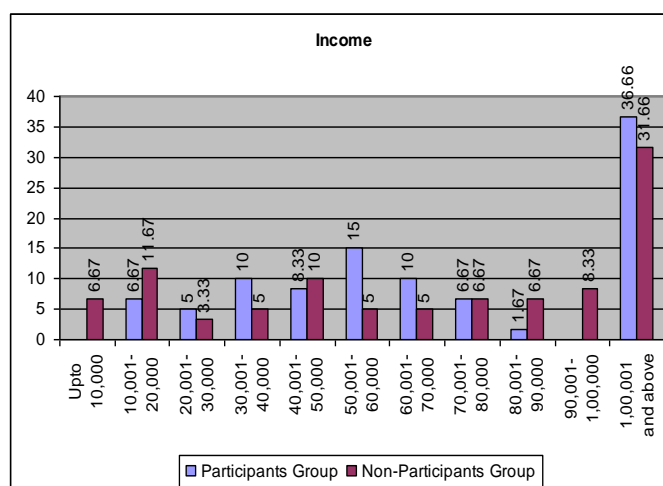
<sup>15</sup> Ibid., p. 11.



employed youths income, other family members income and income from agricultural and non-agricultural sources.

Fig 5.5 : Monthly Household Income

The monthly income (in taka) of the household members of both groups obtained from the respondents has been highlighted in the fig.5.5. In participants group 36.66 percent household members were belonging in the income range Taka 1,00,001 and above. It was the highest figure of this group. On the other hand 31.66 percent



respondents belonging to the income range of Taka 1,00,001+above was the highest figure of non-participants group. 15.00 percent respondents household members within the income range of Taka 50,001-60,000 are the second highest figure of DYD youth group. In the non-participants group 11.67 percent respondents household members within the income range of Taka 10,001-20,000 were the second highest figure. 10.00 percent respondents household members within the income range of Taka 30,001-40,000 and Taka 60,001-70,000 are simultaneously the third highest figures of participants group. Among non-participants group the third highest figures of participants group. Among non-participants group. The third highest number has found within an income range of Taka 40,001-50,000, which comprised of 10.00 percent of household members.

The average household total income per month from all sources was found to be Taka 69,166 in the participants group and Taka 67,000 in the non-participants group. The table indicates that household income of DYD youth (participants group) is more than the others youth (non-participants group) due to interventions made by YTSEP in the study areas. Besides, it is observed that contribution of the respondents income to the total income of the family increased significantly.

### Monthly Household Expenditure

For survival it is necessary to increase some expenditure to meet households needs. With the increase in income of self-employed youth (both participants and non-participants group) households, their monthly expenditure has increased, the household expenditure consisted without including the expenditure of respondents project expenditure.

Table 5.5 presents the monthly expenditure of self-employed youth's family. It is seen in the above table that the average household expenditure of the participants groups per month is taka 12,250. On the contrary, in the non-participants group it is Taka 8,667.

Table 5.5: Distribution of Households Monthly Expenditure of the Self-employed Youth

Expenditure (in Taka)	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Upto 5,000	03	5.00	17	28.33
5,001-10,000	20	33.33	27	45.00
10,001-15,000	21	35.00	07	11.67
15,001-20,000	09	15.00	03	5.00
20,001 and above	07	11.67	06	10.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Mean Expenditure</b>	<b>Taka 12,250</b>		<b>Taka 8,667</b>	

Household expenditure in the participants group, 35 percent family spent Taka 10,001-15,000, 33 percent spent between Taka 15,001-20,000, 11.67 percent between Taka 10,001-15,000, 10 percent above Taka 20,000 and just 5 percent spent between Taka 15,001-20,000. It is therefore, illustrate that the youths who are receiving training from the YTSEP of DYD come from relatively better of household.

## 5.2 Participation of Income Generating Activities

When youths are given skills training there is a need to ensure a follow up provision combining both public and private sector employment mechanisms. Also the informal sector of employment is to be covered by the training of youth manpower and employment policy. Lack of capital has been found to be a major obstacle for the youth organizations (and for the individuals) to the implementation of their group economic projects or to the translation of their individual entrepreneurial tendencies into concrete commercial activities. Long and short-term credit systems with the help of commercial banks can go a long way in promoting youth's permanent self-employment. In this regard as per objective of the self-employment project of DYD the youth, who have received training are supposed to engage themselves in self-employment activities. For this reason the respondents were asked to state how much their participation

on self-employment activities had increased. The respondents have given the following information:

### Number of Self-employment Project

Table 5.6 illustrates the proportion of youth involved in self-employment activities. Maximum respondents of both participants and non-participants group have been able to undertake one self-employment project.

Table 5.6: Distribution of Respondents by Number of Projects Undertaken

Number of Projects undertaken	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-participants Group	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
One	28 (46.67)	14 (23.33)	36 (60.00)	09 (15)
Two	12 (20.00)	—	13 (21.67)	—
Three	05 (8.33)	01 (1.67)	02 (3.33)	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b> <b>(75.00)</b>	<b>15=60</b> <b>(25)=100</b>	<b>51</b> <b>(85)</b>	<b>09=60</b> <b>(15) =100</b>

*Note: Figures in the parentheses represent percentages.*

One fifth of the respondents has also undertaken more than one project. A proportion of them, though small, has also undertaken more than two projects. No significant difference however observed between participants and non-participants group of self-employed youth with regard to undertaking self-employment activities. It was found that female self-employed youth from the participants group are better than the non-participants group.

### Types of Self-employment Project

Human life cannot be separated from work. That is why people are found to get involved in works everywhere. Some works are highly creative in nature and some are absolutely manual.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>16</sup> Md. Abu Taher, *Child Labour in Dhaka City- Dimensions and Implications*, (Dhaka : Book View, 2006), p. 64.

Table 5.7: Distribution of Respondents According to the Type of Project Undertaken

Types of Projects	Categories of self-employed youth					
	Participants Group			Non-participants Group		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Poultry	24 (40.00)	04 (6.67)	28 (46.67)	39 (65)	---	39 (65)
Fisheries	11 (18.33)	02 (3.33)	13 (21.67)	09 (15)	---	09 (15)
Livestock	01 (1.67)	01 (1.67)	02 (3.33)	---	01 (1.67)	01 (1.67)
Dairy farm	01 (1.67)	01 (1.67)	02 (3.33)	---	---	---
Dress-making	01 (1.67)	05 (8.33)	06 (10.00)	---	07 (11.67)	07 (11.67)
Nursery	02 (3.33)	---	02 (3.33)	03 (5)	---	03 (5)
Veterinary Treatment	02 (3.33)	---	02 (3.33)	---	---	---
Block & Batik Print	01 (1.67)	02 (3.33)	03 (5.00)	---	01 (1.67)	01 (1.67)
Others	02 (3.33)	---	02 (3.33)	---	---	---
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b> <b>(75)</b>	<b>15</b> <b>(25)</b>	<b>60</b> <b>(100)</b>	<b>51</b> <b>(85)</b>	<b>09</b> <b>(15)</b>	<b>60</b> <b>(100)</b>

*Note : Figures in the parentheses represent percentage*

In the study, all the sampled self-employed youth of both the groups (participants & non-participants) are found to have involvement in a variety of economic activities.

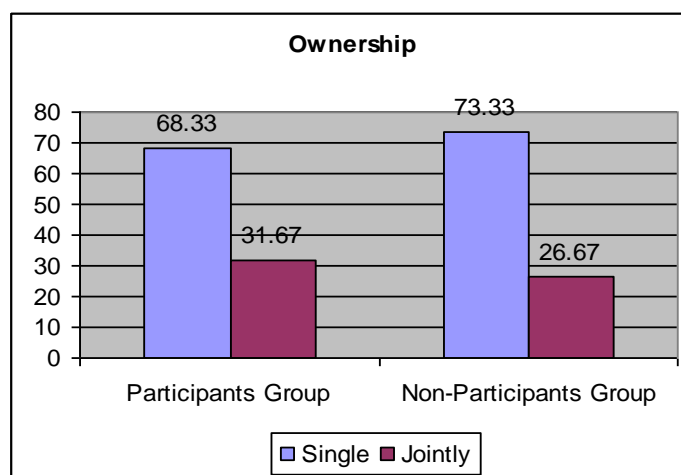
The self-employed youth of participants group are encouraged by YTSEP assistance mainly in the form of training of skills and provision of some inputs, 46.67 percent of them are involved in poultry farming activities and about one fifth (21.67 percent) are involved in fisheries. Similarly dress-making are more popular (8.33 percent) among the female self-employed youth of participants group. Other activities undertaken by the youth of same groups are livestock, dairy firm, nursery, veterinary treatment, block & batik printing etc.

On the contrary a great majority (65 percent) of the self-employed youth of non-participants group stated that they are involved in poultry farming activities, 15 percent are involved in fisheries, 11.67 percent (which are female) are involved in dress making and 5 percent are involved in nursery. Rest of the youth of the same group opined that they are involved in Block & Batik printing and livestock activities.

## Ownership Pattern of Self-employment Project

Fig 5.6 : Ownership Pattern of Self-employment Projects

In respect of ownership pattern of self-employment project, fig.5.6 shows that out of 60 respondents in the experiment group, 41 (68.33 percent) respondent are implementing their project in a single way and 19 respondents (31.67 percent) are implementing their project jointly. On the other hand, out of 60 respondents in the non-participants group, 44 (73.33 percent) are implementing their project in a single way and 16 respondents (26.67 percent) are implementing their project jointly.



## Duration of Self-employment Project

In respect to the experience of their self-employment project the study shows (Table 5.8) that out of 60 respondents of the participants group, 33 (55 percent) respondents have 1-5 years, 14 (23.33 percent) respondents have 6-10 years and 13 (21.67 percent) respondents have 11-15 years work experience in their self-employment project. The average duration of work experience in their self-employment project is 6.33 years.

Table 5.8: Distribution of Respondents by Duration of Involving in their Present Project

Period (years)	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1-5	33	55	33	55
6-10	14	23.33	18	30
11-15	13	21.67	09	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Mean</b>	<b>= 6.33 years</b>		<b>= 6 years</b>	
<b>C.V</b>	<b>63.98</b>		<b>61.16</b>	

On the contrary, out of 60 respondents of the non-participants group of self-employed youth, 33 (55 percent) respondents have 1-5 years, 18 (30 percent) respondents have 6-10 years and, 9 (15 percent) respondents have 11-15 years work experience in their self-employment project. The average duration of work experience in their self-employment project is 6

years. So it indicates that DYD supported self-employed youth have more experience than non-participants group of self-employed youth.

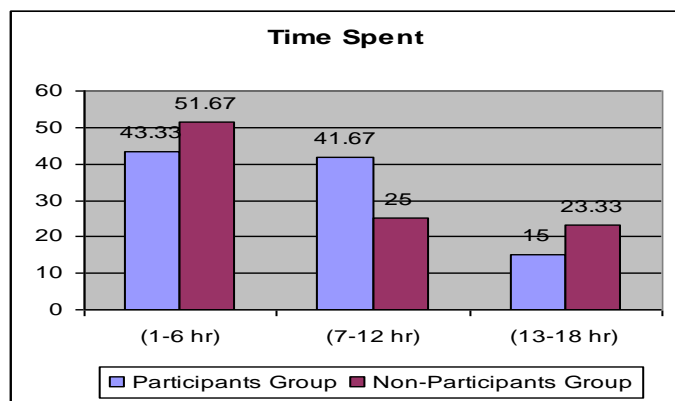
It is found that C.V of involving in self-employment activities of participants group is 63.98 and C.V of non-participants group is 61.16. Hence, it is concluded that the non-participants group is more consistent than the participants group interns of project duration.

### Time Spent in Self-employment Project

Data contained in fig.5.7 reveal that out of 60 respondents of participants group more than two-fifths (43.33 percent) respondent are spending 1-6 hours, while 41.67 percent respondent are spending 7-12 hours and only 15 percent are spending 13-18 hours use in their self-employment project.

Fig 5.7 : Daily Time Spent in Self-employment Project

On the contrary, out of 60 respondents of non-participants group, more than half (51.61 percent) respondents are spending 1-6 hours, while one fourths (25 percent) respondents are spending 7-12 hours and only 23.33 percent respondents are spending 13-18 hours in their self-employment project. Average time use of both the groups is 7.8 hours.

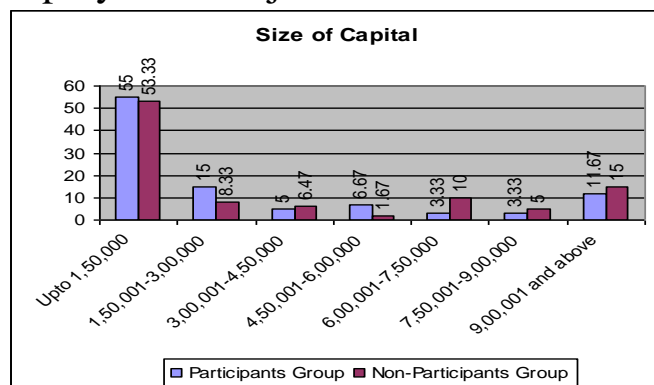


### Capital Size of Self-employment Project

Youth started their self-employment project with small amounts of capital. Their investments gradually increased.

Fig 5.8 : Capital Size of Self-employment Project

The investment mainly depended on the profit and the demand of their products. The amount of capital (in Taka) of the self-employed youth of both groups have been high lighted in the fig.5.8. In participants group 55 percent invest capital up to 1,50,000 taka 15 percent between taka 1,50,001-3,00,000, 11.67 percent invest above taka



9,00,000, 6 percent invest between taka 4,50,001-6,00,000, 5 percent invest between taka 3,00,001-4,50,000. Only 3.33 percent invest between taka 6,00,001-7,50,000 and taka 7,50,001-9,00,000. Their average capital investment are taka 2,92,500.50

On the other hand, capital investment in the non-participants group category 53.33 percent capital up to taka 1,50,000, 15 percent invest above taka 9,00,000, 10 percent invest between taka 6,00,001-7,50,000, 8.33 percent invest between taka 3,00,001-4,50,000, 6.67 percent between taka 3,00,001-5,00,000, 5 percent between taka 7,50,001-9,00,000 and only 1.67 percent invest between taka 4,50,001-6,00,000. Their average capital investment are taka 3,47,500.50. From the above table it is clear that the average capital investment of non-participants group is higher than the participants group as most of the non-participant group respondents has come from well to do family and business is their traditional job.

### Sources of Capital

The sources of capital for self-employed youth are many in number. The sources were personal, family/relatives, Banks, DYD, other GOs, NGOs and other formal and informal sources.

Table 5.9 present the sources of capital of the self-employed youth projects. In participants group, it was evident that 95.19 percent self-employed youth collected capital from their personal sources. Similarly, 61.79 percent self-employed youth collected capital from DYD, 36.74 percent collected from Banks, 18.37 percent collected from family/relatives, 10.02 percent collected from NGOs, 6.68 percent collected from other government organization and 20 percent collected from other sources.

Table 5.9: Distribution of Respondents According to the Source of Capital

Sources of Capital	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-participants Group	
	Number	Percent (N=60)	Number	Percent (N=60)
Personal	57	95.19	58	96.86
Family/Relatives	11	18.37	19	31.73
Banks	22	36.74	09	15.03
DYD	37	61.79	Nil	Nil
Other GOs	04	6.68	Nil	Nil
NGOs	06	10.02	14	23.38
Others	12	20.04	16	26.72

*(More than one response)*

On the other hand, it was evident that 96.86 percent self-employed youth collected capital from their personal sources. Similarly 31.73 percent collected capital from family/relatives, 23.38 percent collected from NGOs, 15.03 percent collected from Banks and 26.72 percent collected from other sources.

### Marketing Process of the Products

The success of any production based development activities depends on the marketing of the produced goods. Similarly, the advantage of the activities of the self-employed youth engaged in self-employment activities depends on marketing system of the produced goods. The task of marketing system is to supply the products in the rights form, at the right place, at the right time, and also at the right quality from producer to ultimate consumer. In this context, the emphasis has been given in this study on the marketing system of the produced goods of the self-employment activities of the youth. Hence, information has been collected of the market place and marketing system of the produced goods.

Table 5.10: Place of Sale of Products by the Self-employment Youth

Marketing Place	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Farmyard	35	58.33	42	70.00
Local market	22	36.67	14	23.33
Large Market	03	05.00	04	06.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The information about the selling places indicates that 58.33 percent produced goods of the self-employed youth of the participants groups are sold in the farmyard. 36.67 percent of the remaining goods are sold in the local market, and 5 percent are sold in the large market.

On the otherhand, 70 percent of the produced goods of the self-employed youth of the non-participants group are sold in the farmyard. 23.33 percent of the remaining goods are sold in the local market and 6.67 percent are sold in the large market. Whenever the question was asked about the reason of the sale in the farmyard, the respondent opined that lack of transportation, the risk of products supply to the market, excessive expenditure of the transportation and the interference of the middlemen like 'Faria' and 'Bepari' are the major causes behind the marketing.

Now it is observed that the participant group marketing 11.67% more product in comparison to the non-participants. The time interval of marketing these products is one of the important aspects of youth self-employment projects. The collected data shows that one fourth of the products produced by the youth among the participants group is sold on monthly basis.



Table 5.11: Sale of Product at Time Interval by the Self-employed Youth

Nature of Time Interval	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Daily Sale	14	23.33	08	13.33
Weekly Sale	14	23.33	19	31.66
Monthly Sale	15	25.00	12	20.00
Quarterly Sale	03	05.00	11	18.34
Half Yearly Sale	12	20.00	08	13.33
Yearly Sale	02	03.34	02	03.34
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>

23.33 percent of production is sold daily and weekly basis. One fifth of the product is sold half yearly. The percentages of selling products quarterly and yearly are 5.00 percent and 3.34 percent respectively.

On the other hand, the youth of non-participants group sell near about one third of their products (31.66 percent) on weekly basis. One fifth of the products is sold on monthly basis. Products sold quarterly and half yearly are 18.34 percent and 13.33 percent respectively. 13.33 percent of production is sold on daily basis. The rest is sold on the basis of yearly sale.

The study shows that the participants group is more advanced than non-participants group in daily, monthly and half yearly sales of their products. On the contrary, the non-participants group is comparatively advanced in weekly and quarterly sale. It is clear that the participants group is more efficient in producing and marketing products produced in short time and long time. It has been possible for youth training programmes and credit facilities of YTSEP under DYD.

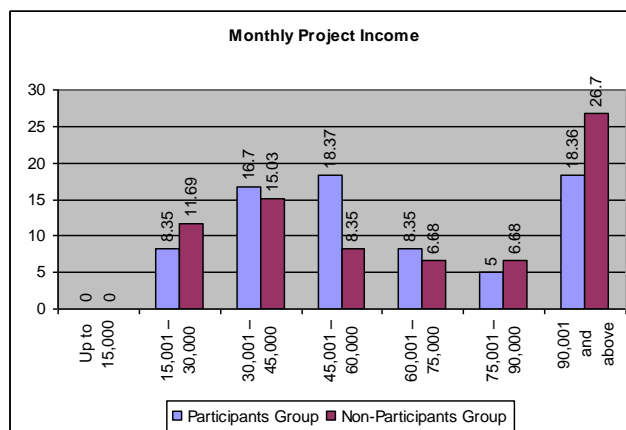
### Monthly Project Income

Income of the self-employed youth can be used as an indicator for measuring the economic condition of them. The task estimation of income status of the community in rural Bangladesh is a very difficult one. Despite this limitation, an attempt had been made here to measure income of the sample self-employed youth in the fig.5.9.

It shows that in the participants group 25.05 percent self-employed youth have monthly income up to Taka 15,000, followed by 18.36 percent with income distribution between Taka 45,001-60,000 and Taka 90,001 and above. It further portrays that the sample self-employed youth 16.70 percent, 8.35 percent, 5.00 percent fall with in the income groups of Taka 30,001-45,000, Taka 15,001-30,000, Taka 60,001-75,000 and Taka 75,001-90,000 respectively.

Fig 5.9 : Monthly Project Income of Self-employed Youth

On the other hand, in the non-participants group 26.70 percent self-employed youth monthly income is Taka 90,000 and above, 25.05 percent in Taka upto 15,000, 15.03 percent belong to Taka 30,001-45,000. 11.69 percent in Taka 15,001-30,000, 8.35 percent in Taka 45,001-60,000 and 6.68 percent in Taka 60,001-75,000 and 75,001-90,000. It appears from the Fig.11 that the average monthly income (Taka 47,250) of participants group is lower than the average monthly income (Taka 50,500) of non-participants group.

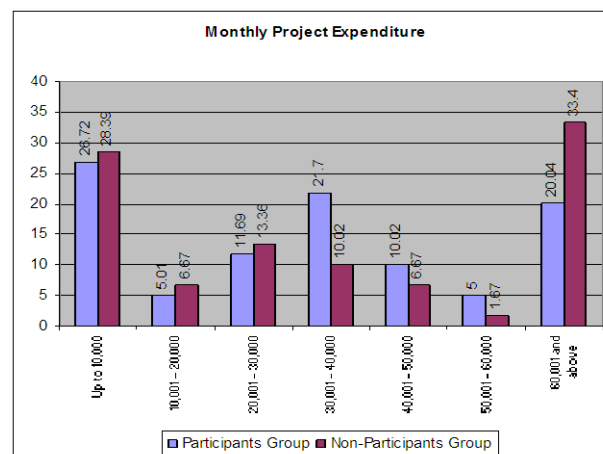


### Monthly Project Expenditure

Fig. 5.10 presents the monthly expenditure of self-employed youths project. It is seen in the Fig. 5.10 that the average project expenditure of the participants groups per month is Taka 32,834. On the contrary, in the non-participants group it is Taka 34,834. Self-employment project expenditure in the participants group, 26.72 percent self-employed youth spent Taka upto 10,000, 21.70 percent spent between Taka 30,001-40,000, 20.04 percent spent between Taka 60,000 and above, 11.69 percent spent between Taka 20,001-30,000, 10.02 percent spent between Taka 40,001-50,000 and only 5.00 percent spent between Taka 10,001-20,000 and Taka 50,001-60,000.

Fig 5.10 : Monthly Project Expenditure of Self-employed Youth

On the other hand, self-employment project expenditure in the non-participants group category, 33.4 percent spent Taka 60,000 and above, 28.39 percent spent upto Taka 10,000, 13.36 percent spent between Taka 20,001-30,000, 10.02 percent spent between Taka 30,001-40,000, 6.67 percent spent between Taka 10,001-20,000 and 40,001-50,000 and only 1.67 percent spent between Taka 50,001-60,000.



**Conclusion**

From the above discussion on the selected socio-economic background of self-employed youth of programme participants and non-participants it can be said that the living standard of the respondents of participants group was significantly better than that of non-participants group. With few exceptions the Youth Training and Self-employment Programme played a vital role in uplifting living standard of the respondents of participants group. Especially in respect of education, marital status, land ownership, involvement in income generating activities, family income, receiving credit, participation of female youth in self-employment activities, maximum time has been spent in self-employment activities, etc. So YTSEP of DYD has played very significant role in developing the overall performance and social status of the youth of the study area as well as in Bangladesh.



## **Nature of YTSEP Support Services and Its Impact on the Youth**

### **Introduction**

Skill development training and credit support have received considerable attention from policy makers and development practitioners during the last two decades. This chapter makes an attempt to highlight the different aspects of training and credit supports of the YTSEP and their impact on the respondents. It includes overview of training activities of DYD and study area, selection procedures of trainees, number of training received, trades of training, duration, quality of training, usages of training, description of DYD credit programme, TOR of credit, status of received credit, amounts of loan, repayment of credit, socio-economic impacts of youth self-employment activities, problem faced and the views of local people for the improvement of the programme in future.

### **6.1 An Overview of DYD Skill Development Training**

Skill development training and credit support are the major components of youth training and self-employment programme. The idea of self-employment for reducing poverty of the youths drew attention of development planners. It was felt that motivation, skill development and micro-credit support would contribute to the self-employment of the youths. Scarcity of capital was a burning problem for self-employment. So, motivation and skill development training as youth activities were introduced since the 1980s for self-employment programme for the youths. Micro-credit support has been an important input for employment generation of the unemployed youths from poor families.<sup>1</sup>

The youths in Bangladesh enjoy a unique position in the socio-economic, political and cultural arena. They are our richest potential. Young people are also disadvantaged by severe poverty, lack of adequate skills and thus most of them remain outside the mainstream of the development.

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<sup>1</sup> Ashit Kumar Sutradhar, *Youth Affairs in Bangladesh* (Dhaka: Bapti Printing & Publication, 2004), p.51.

Table 6.1: Salient Features of Youth Population in Bangladesh

Characteristics	% of Population
Educated Youth	55
Uneducated Youth	45
Rural Youth	73
Urban Youth	27
Unemployed Youth	50

Source: K.M. Nabiul Islam, 'Evaluation of DYD Programmes in Socio-Economic Development and Poverty Reduction in Bangladesh.' (Savar: National Youth Centre, 2004). p.2.

In this circumstances, upliftment of our country needs skilled manpower. To cater to such needs, a Department of Youth Development (DYD) undertook some training programmes for the youth to develop their skill to face the problem of unemployment and to make the youth self-employed. DYD under the Ministry of Youth and Sports is trying to contribute to the development of human resource and poverty alleviation of our country. It is implementing number of projects, with training programme as its major component.<sup>2</sup> Skill development training programme was launched from 1979 for imparting skill development training to unemployed youth with a view to having them under self-employment and income generation.<sup>3</sup>

Table 6.2: Various Training Programmes and Facilities of DYD

Name of the Trade	Type	Educational Qualification	Duration	No. of Centre
Youth training in Livestock, Poultry & Pisciculture	Residential	Class VIII	03 months	53
Pisciculture	Non-residential	Class VIII	01 month	64
Technical Training in Computer, Electronics, Electrical and House Wiring, Refrigerator & Air Conditioning	Non-residential	Computer-HSC Electronics, Refrigeration & Air Condition-SSC, Electrical & House wiring-Class VIII	4-6 months	69
Secretarial Science	Non-residential	H.S.C	12 months	05
Steno-typing	Non-residential	H.S.C	06 months	32

<sup>2</sup> Mohd. Al-Amin Chowdhury, "Review of the Major On-Going Training Programmes of the Department of Youth Development," *Souvenir of National Youth Day*, Department of Youth Development, 1997, p.29.

<sup>3</sup> A.K.M. A.B. Siddique, "Youth Development And Poverty Alleviation in Bangladesh: Government Strategies And Programme", *Souvenir of National Youth Day*, Department of Youth Development, 1993. p.6

Name of the Trade	Type	Educational Qualification	Duration	No. of Centre
Block & Batik Printing	Non-residential	Class VIII	03 months	09
Dress Making	Non-residential	Class VIII	04 months	68
Central human resource development	Residential	—	7 days-1 month	01
Zonal human resource development	Residential	—	7 days-1 month	04
National youth training	—	—	7 days-1 month	01
Mobile training (Clients Choice & DYD Local office arranged)	Non-residential	—	7 days-1 month	Local felt needs

Source: *Training Manual of DYD (Dhaka: DYD, 2004), pp. 1-39.*

The skill development training under Youth Training Centre (YTC) include the following two aspects.

### 1. Skill Development (Theory & Practical)

It includes poultry and dairy farming, primary health care, animal nutrition, beef fattening, fisheries, horticulture and nursery.

### 2. Motivation, Values, Attitude and Discipline (Theory & Practical)

It includes youth activities, dignity of labour, discipline, moral values, self-employment, entrepreneurship development, health care, nation-building, drug abuse and STD's & HIV.<sup>4</sup>

Table 6.3: Training Achievement of the Department of Youth Development Since the Inception Until June, 2009

Type of Programme in Skill Training	Number of Trained Youth (1979-2009)
Youth training in Livestock, Poultry & Pisciculture	54,358 persons
Technical training in Computer, Electronics, Electrical and House wiring, Refrigerator & Air Conditioning	96,910 Persons
Central human resource development	88,534 Persons
Zonal human resource development	5,139 Persons
National youth training	10,156 Persons
Skill training under youth training and self-employment programme	18,78,153 Persons
Others training under different project	10,69,906 Persons
Total	32,03,156 Persons

Source: *Department of Youth Development, Activities of the DYD at a Glance (Pamphlet). (Dhaka: Juba Bhaban Publication, 2009). pp.8-27.*

<sup>4</sup> Mohd. Al-Amin Chowdhury, "YTC – The light of hope for today's Youth," *Souvenir of National Youth Day*, Department of Youth Development, 1999. p.47.

Since its inception, the DYD is implementing different training programmes with a hope to impart various techniques to the youth, to face their unemployment problem. Most of the training programmes were designed to impart specific or a set of skills to trained youths, so that they can generate income for them and their family. Approximately 60 percent of trained youths has been successful to achieve this goal. Besides this, a good number of youth got their job both inside and outside the country by using the skill from DYD training centres.<sup>5</sup> Different type of training Programme and their achievement are highlighted in the table 6.3 and 6.4

## 6.2 Selection Procedure of Youths for Skill Training

The selection procedure of youth training programme can be shown in the following chart:

Publicity of training in the mass media for unemployed, active and enthusiastic youth (18-35 years)



Submit of application for training to the Upazila Youth Development Officer/Concerned Officer



Selected application are forwarded to the District Youth Development office and from there school, college dropout, energetic and firmly motivated youth for self-employment is selected.



Send trainees to youth training centre and their admission, registration and orientation completion



Skill training and motivation conducted by the YTC team, series of terminal evaluation and final evaluation during the course



Passing out, return to respective areas and planning for income generating project

## 6.3 Skill Development Training under Youth Training and Self-Employment Programme (YTSEP)

The youth training and self-employment programme provides two types of training for the unemployed youths. The first one is institutional training and second one is mobile training.

The courses under institutional training are pisciculture, block and batic printing, dress making and embroidery, wool knitting, steno typing, secretarial science etc. The mobile training course includes more than 35 (thirty five) trades. It is determined as per requirement of rural and urban

<sup>5</sup> Mohd. Al-Amin Chowdhury, "Review of the Major On-Going Training Programmes of the Department of Youth Development" *op.cit.*, p.23.



young people. Usually it included goat farming, dairy farming, poultry farming, duck farming, pisciculture, cattle fattening, cultivation of vegetable, nursery, afforestation, sericulture, api-culture, bamboo work, wood work, tailoring, weaving, pottery, confectionary, jam/jelly pickle processing, block and batic printing, leather work, soap making, jute work, cloth/leather bag making, rickshaw/cycle/van mending, welding, food milling, fruit business, agro-mechanics, mat making, electrical and house wiring, beauty parlour, handicrafts, sanitary latrine making and cane work etc.<sup>6</sup> The duration of institutional courses ranges from one month to one year. One the other hand, mobile training course period varies from 7 days to 30 days depending on type of trade. Institutional courses is held at district level and mobile training is arranged at Upazila, union and village level.

The trainees are selected through a selection process. At first applications are invited from the unemployed youths interested in getting training from the DYD through advertisement. There is a specific admission committee at district and upazila levels. The committees make an arrangement for admission test and select the deserving candidates and then start training.

The unemployed youths of class VIII to H.S.C passed and above are admitted into training courses. There are 178 institutional training centres and 476 mobile training centres under the YTSEP programme.

Table 6.4: Target and achievement of Skill Training Under YTSEP in the Country from 1990-2009

Period	Duration	Target	Achievement	Percent of Achievement
Project Period	July, 1990- June 2003	11,48,368 Prs.	11,27,539 Prs.	98.18%
Programme Period	2003-2004	1,60,255 Prs.	1,35,469 Prs.	84.53%
	2004-2005	1,60,255 Prs.	1,24,383 Prs.	77..61%
	2005-2006	1,60,255 Prs.	1,28,927 Prs.	80.45%
	2006-2007	1,60,255 Prs.	1,05,697 Prs.	65.95%
	2007-2008	1,60,255 Prs.	1,21,303 Prs.	75.69%
	2008-2009	1,58,980 Prs.	1,34,835 Prs.	84.81%

Source: Department of Youth Development, Activities of the DYD at a Glance (Pamphlet) (Dhaka: Juba Bhaban Publication, 2003-2009).

<sup>6</sup> Ashit Kumar Sutradhar, *op.cit.*, pp. 36-39.

Table 6.5: Training Achievement in Tangail District since the Inception Until, 2010

Category of training	Trades	Total Number of training received
Institutional	Livestock, Poultry & Pisciculture	2,583 Persons
	Steno-typing	2,071 Persons
	Dress-making	2,158 Persons
	Pisciculture	2,392 Persons
	Computer	942 Persons
	Electrical & house wiring	273 Persons
	Electronics	209 Persons
	Refrigerator & air conditioning	151 Persons
	Modern office management and computer applications	233 Persons
	Sub-total	11,002 Persons
Mobile	About 35 trades	41,695 Persons
Total		52,697 Persons

Source: Deputy Director, Monthly Progress Report (Tangail: District Youth Development Office, Dated on 30/06/2010), p.1.

The target and achievement of YTSEP training in the country as well as in the study area have been highlighted in the table (Table 6.4, 6.5 and 6.6). It was observed that training achievement of the study area is not satisfactory during the programme period than the project period, low amount of training budget, lack of commitment of DYD staff and the present static situation of DYD activities are responsible for this low achievement of skill training.

Table 6.6: Target and Achievement of Skill Training under YTSEP in the Study Area from 1990-2009

Period	Duration	Target	Achievement	Percent of Achievement
Project Period	July, 1990- June 2003	28,230 Persons	25,623 persons	90.76%
Programme Period	2003-2004	3,985 Persons	1,796 Persons	45.05%
	2004-2005	3,985 Persons	2,287 Persons	57.39%
	2005-2006	3,985 Persons	1,765 Persons	44.29%
	2006-2007	4,025 Persons	1,819 Persons	45.19%
	2007-2008	3,805 Persons	420 Persons	11.03%
	2008-2009	4,485 Persons	613 Persons	13.66%

Source: Various Progress Report of the District Youth Development office of Tangail.

#### 6.4: Assessment on the Skill Training Received by the Self-employed Youth

Training is an oriented process of developing the knowledge, skills and attitude of individuals and groups to enable them to perform effectively or to improve performance in a job, occupation or role.<sup>7</sup> Training teaches new skills and practical knowledge as how to do a job in a better way and it is one of the most important components of cognitive development activities related to the farmers, women and youth in rural area. In this aspect training experience of rural youth was measured.

This sub-section present the training related information collected from the sample respondents. It includes the number of training received, trades of training, duration, quality of training and usage of training.

Table 6.7: Distribution of the Respondents According to the Number of Training Received

Training received	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Received no training	---	---	44	73.34
Received one training	28	46.67	11	18.33
Received two training	14	23.33	05	8.33
Received three & above training	18	30.00	---	---
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The prime aim of the youth training & self-employment programme is to make skilled and semi-skilled man power providing training to unemployed youths as pre-requirement.<sup>8</sup> It is observed from the (table 6.7) that hundred percent of the respondents from participants group received training, but in the non-participants group of self-employed youth, only 26.66 percent of the respondents received training. In the non-participants group nobody received more than two trainings. However, most of respondents of the participants group of self-employed youth received one training only.

<sup>7</sup> George Webster, "The training and development profession", ed. by in John Prior, *Handbook of Training and Development*, (Mumbai : Jaico Publishing House, 1997), p. 104.

<sup>8</sup> Government of Bangladesh, Project Proforma, 'Youth Training and Self-Employment Project (1990-2003) Phase-III revised, Department of Youth Development, Ministry of Youth and Sports, August, 2000, p.1.

Table 6.8: Distribution of Respondents by Duration of Training

Duration	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Number	Percent N=60	Number	Percent N=16
Less than 1 month	19	31.67	09	56.25
1-3 months	38	63.33	05	31.25
More than 3 months	03	05.00	02	12.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Duration of the training received both participants and non-participants group of respondents is presented in table 6.8. This table shows that the duration of the most of the respondents of participants group of this study have received training were within 1-3 months time. On the other hand most of the respondents of non-participants group of this study have received training were below one month. A few number of respondents from both the group have received training more than three months time.

Table 6.9 : Distribution of Respondents by Trades of Training

Types of Training	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent N=16
Livestock and Poultry with Primary Health Care	46	76.67	06	37.50
Fisheries	07	11.66	02	12.50
Weaving, Sewing & Embroidery	04	6.66	05	31.25
Block & Batik Printing	01	1.67	---	---
Computer Application	01	1.67	---	---
Potter	01	1.67	---	---
Nursery	---	---	01	6.25
Veterinary	---	---	02	12.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Trades on which the respondents received training includes are livestock & poultry with primary health care, fisheries, sewing, block & batik printing, computer application, potter, nursery, veterinary etc. Of the above trades livestock & poultry rearing ranked first in order of importance followed by fisheries and sewing. There is however differences between participants and non-participants group of self-employed youth. For the participants group of respondents, livestock & poultry rearing ranked first followed by fisheries and sewing. For the non-participants group of respondents livestock and poultry rearing ranked first followed by sewing and fisheries. As it is observed, poultry rearing has been emerged as the most important trades on which the respondents receives training (Table 6.9).

Table 6.10: Distribution of Respondents by Length of Being Trained

Length of being trained	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent N=16
Less than 1 year	02	3.33	03	18.75
1-3 years	12	20.00	08	50.00
More than 3 years	46	76.67	05	31.25
Total	60	100	16	100.00

Table 6.10 presents the proportion of trainees by the length of being trained for both participants and non-participants group of self-employed youth. As it is observed, nearly three fourth of the respondents in the participants group has reported that they have received training much more than three years ago. Another one-fifth of the respondents has also reported to receive training more than 1-3 years ago. On the other hand, half of the respondents of non-participants group of self-employed youth have received training more than 1-3 years ago. Another one third of the same group has also reported to receive training much more than three years ago.

However, there is significant difference between participants and non-participants group of self-employed youth. As shown in the table 6.10, respondents of the participants group are relatively more experienced than the respondents of non-participants group of self-employed youth. This means that self-employed youth of the participants group have been ahead as compared with their non-participants group of counter parts in order to receive the benefits of the self-employment project of DYD.

The above indicates that the respondents who have receive training from DYD are reasonably older to have impacted upon themselves in order to being involved in self-employment activities. Therefore, any assessment on creation of self-employment opportunities and generation of income based on the data collected from the sample respondents of participants group would give better estimate of the contribution of DYD self-employment project.

Table 6.11: Distribution of Respondents by Quality of Skill Development Training

Quality of Training	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Number	Percent N=60	Number	Percent N=16
Very good	27	45.00	05	31.25
Good	31	51.67	11	68.75
Satisfactory	02	3.33	---	---
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Respondents were asked to assess the quality of the skill development training in terms of three scale grading – very good, good and satisfactory. Table 6.11 shows that half of the respondents of participants group (51.67%) have reported that the quality of training was good. 45 percent of the participants group reported that the quality of training was very good. Only a negligible proportion (3.33 percent) of the same respondents have assessed the quality of training as satisfactory.

On the other hand, near about two-third of the (68.75 percent) respondents of the non-participants group felt that the training provided to them was good quality followed by very good (31.25 percent). It is noted that the respondents of participants group have received training from different training centers of DYD. But the respondent of non-participants group have received training from others training centre.

Table 6.12: Distribution of the Respondents According to their Utilization Level of Training

Level of Utilization	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent N=16
Utilized poorly	12	20.00	06	37.50
Utilized moderately	23	38.33	05	31.25
Utilized adequately	25	41.67	05	31.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100.00</b>

$$\chi^2 = 2.15, \text{d.f.}=2$$

Without proper utilization of training knowledge, nobody can get the benefits of training. In this respect respondents were also asked to assess the utilization of the training in terms of three scale grading-utilized poorly, utilized moderately and utilized adequately. Table 6.12 shows that two-fifth of the respondents (41.67 percent) of the participants group utilized the training knowledge adequately. Another 38.33 percent of the same respondents utilized moderately. On the other hand 31.25 percent of the respondent of the non-participants group utilized the training knowledge either moderately or adequately. But 37.50 percent of the same group of respondents utilized training poorly.

The table value of  $\chi^2$  for 2 d.f at 5% level of significance is 5.99. Since the calculated value of  $\chi^2$  is less than the tabulated value of  $\chi^2$ . Hence, it is concluded that there is no significant association between utilization level of training and categories of self-employed youth.

## 6.5 Overview of Micro-Credit Programme under the Department of Youth Development

In respect of poverty alleviation and employment/self-employment, role of micro-credit is at the top but before 1970<sup>th</sup> decade the term ‘micro-credit’ was not popular in Bangladesh. That time, micro credit was handled by landlords and village mahajans. They gave loan to poor people on high interest and used it as investment year after year. These wicked people used to wait for robbing immovable and movable proportion of the poor. In most cases, the very poor people could not repay the loan in time and thereafter the mahajans calculating does took away the simple assets of the poor. Not only this the borrowers were also physically and mentally tortured in a hellish form. While this situation was going on we had to be ready for liberation war. A new class of people came forward like a stormy wind. They were absolutely youths of the country. With physical and moral courage they fought a good fight with our enemies in the liberation war and gave birth to Bangladesh in 1971.<sup>9</sup>

In the post war periods, opportunity of wage employment was about beyond the reach. As a consequence the term self-employment for reducing poverty and unemployment of the youths drew attention of all concerned. It was felt that motivation, skill development training and micro credit support might be the crying need for self-employment activities of the youths. Scarcity of capital was burning problem for Bangladesh. So motivation and skill development training as youth activities were introduced in the first of 1980<sup>th</sup> decade and in the middle, self-employment programme for the trained youths came in view. All these were running except micro credit but micro credit was most urgent for self-employment of the unemployed youths. For supplying of micro-credit to trained youths towards self-employment, micro credit was operated under nationalised banks but at a limited scale. This system could not fulfill the need of our youths. The youths had to follow a large number of formalities for having this loan. Afterwards this system came to an end and gave rise to a new micro credit system under youth development programme directly.

In 1987, with the assistance of Asian Development Bank credit scheme for poverty alleviation was undertaken under the Department of Youth Development (DYD). But individual loan system was going on some how as before till the year of 1993 and that time supply of micro credit was not an easy matter for involvement of trained youths in income generating activities. To gear up self-employment activities, individual micro-credit for

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<sup>9</sup> Ashit Kumar Sutradhar, *op.cit.*, p.48.

the trained youths under DYD was introduced in 1994. Since then there are two types of micro-credit in DYD; viz-individual credit and group credit.<sup>10</sup>

## **6.6 Description of Micro-credit Programmes and their Terms and Conditions**

With regard to providing loan, there exist in the Department of Youth Development two types of loan programme:

- i.. Family based or group approach loan programme
- ii.. Self-employment loan or individual loan programme

### **i. Family based or group approach loan programme**

This programme was designed for reducing poverty of the rural landless and the poor people, especially the poor youth. The main objective of this programme is to identify the family as a unit of development activities. This programmes attaches more importance to group dynamics. The members of each group are to be blood-related or closed neighbourly-people. Five members form a group and the members of the group are given loan for undertaking income generating activities.

Within this programme, any citizen of Bangladesh (both male and female) having literacy knowledge possessing a balanced mentality ranging 18 to 45 years of age can apply for loan after receiving training.

The terms and conditions in operating this loan are the following:

- i. Becoming a member of the family which has been surveyed.
- ii. Age ranging 18-45 years (the age of the chief of the family is relaxed).
- iii. The value of the property of the family is less than 2 lakh, the annual income is less than Taka 25,000/-.
- iv. The cultivable land area is less than 1 acre.
- v. Priority on women and low income holders.
- vi. Knowledge on literacy.
- vii. Avoid duplicacy of receiving credit.
- viii. Domicile certificate.
- ix. Preference to the youth trained by the Department of Youth Development.

This loan programme was started in the year of 1994-1995 and now it is running in 82 upazillas under DYD. As per present policy the lowest ceiling

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<sup>10</sup> Ibid., p.51.



of group loan in Taka 8,000/- and highest ceiling is Taka 16,000/-. This type of loan is repayable with 10% simple service charge in weekly installments within one year. Within this loan programme a group member may get loan highest 5 items in the following rates:

Table 6.13: Group Loan Sealing Amounts

Year	Amount of loan sealing
1 <sup>st</sup> Year	Taka 8,000/- per person
2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	Taka 10,000/- per person
3 <sup>rd</sup> Year	Taka 12,000/- per person
4 <sup>th</sup> Year	Taka 14,000/- per person
5 <sup>th</sup> Year	Taka 16,000/- per person

Table 6.14 : Information on Different Aspects of Group Loan

Type of Information	Amounts
Total amount of Credit Fund	Taka 4,957.93 Lakh
Disbursement of loan upto August, 2009	Taka 46,099.13 Lakh
Credit realization until August, 2009	Taka 42,582.60 Lakh
Rate of Recovery	96%
Total Number of beneficiaries until June, 2009	4,79,696 persons

*Source : Department of Youth Development, Activities of the Department of Youth Development at a Glance (Dhaka: Juba Bhaban Publication, 2009), p.34.*

## ii). Self-employment loan or Individual loan Programme

To gear up self-employment activities, individual micro-credit for the trained youths under DYD was introduced in 1994. Within this programme, any citizen of Bangladesh having minimum education upto class eight and possessing a balanced mentality aging 18 to 35 years can receive loan whether male or female after receiving training from the Department of Youth Development. Under new manual, the lowest ceiling of individual micro-credit is Taka 5,000.00 and highest ceiling is Taka 50,000.00 at 10% simple service charge. This loan are repayable in monthly installments. The period of repayment is from one year to two years. After loan is given, a youth is allowed 1-3 months grace period for its repayment (Table 6.15 and Table 6.16).

Table 6.15: Information on Different Aspects of Institutional Trade

No.	Name of Trade	Grace Period	Loan Repayment Period
1	Poultry and Livestock	3 months	2 years
2	Pisciculture	3 months	2 years
3	Dress-making	3 months	2 years
4	Block and Batik	3 months	2 years
5	Wool Knitting	3 months	2 years
6	Basic Agriculture/Higher Agriculture	3 months	2 years
7	Steno-Typing	3 months	2 years
8	Computer Technical	3 months	2 years
9	Refrigeration & Air Conditioning	3 months	2 years
10	Repair of Radio, TV, VCR & VCP	3 months	2 years
11	Electrical Training	3 months	2 years
12	Technical/Vocational	3 months	2 years

Except mortgage, having third persons guarantee and necessary papers the trained youths are sanctioned loan. The individual micro-credit is being operated in all upazillas under DYD.<sup>11</sup> The terms and conditions in operating this loan are the following:

- i) Trained youth by the Department of Youth Development.
- ii) Put an application by the trainees interested to receive loan within 3 days after the completion of training.
- iii) The proposed project adopted by the trained youth should be viable.
- iv) Application for loan shall not be considered until the loanee pays all his dues if it is borrowed from any micro-credit institution.
- v) 20% of the work of project shall be accomplished by the self-finance.
- vi) Application shall be put up in a blank white paper and thereafter a final application must be submitted in a given form the Department of Youth Development at the cost of Taka 10/- for receiving loan.

Table 6.16: Information on Different Aspects of Non-Institutional Trade

Name of Trade	Grace Period	Loan Repayment Period
Handicrafts, Cottage Industry, Pottery, Rickshaw/Cycle/Van mending, Auto-mechanics, Block and Batik Printing, Soap making, Confectionary, Dress embroidery, Cloth and Leather bag making, Animals food processing, Electrical Wiring, Mat making, Nakshikatha, Woods furniture making, Preservation of	1 month	1 year

<sup>11</sup> Ibid., p. 52

Name of Trade	Grace Period	Loan Repayment Period
medicine, Leather business, Beauty Parlour, Cooking Spices, Beautifician making		
Cultivation of vegetable, Jam/jelly/pickle processing, Agro-mechanics, Sanitary Latrine making, Photography and Audio-Video Programme	2 months	1 year
Cattle fattening, Nursery, Afforestation, Leather work, Api-culture, Sericulture, Bamboo/Wood work, Welding, Vegetables/Fruit business, Mushroom culture, Biodiversity on Integrated agriculture and diary-pisciculture farming	3 months	1 year
Poultry and Dairy farming, Goat farming, Pisci-culture	3 months	2 years
Dress-making	2 months	2 years

Source : National Youth Centre, *Youth Development-Related Idea (In Bangla)* (Savar: NYC Publication, 2005) pp. 113-114.

The following papers and documents shall be enclosed with the given application from the Department of Youth Development after filling it up –

- a. 3 copies of passport size photographs
- b. Domicile Certificate
- c. Training Certificate (Main/temporary)
- d. Certificate of bank account
- e. Land document if possessed/the main copy of the leasing deed
- f. Scheme Paper
- g. Deed letter shall be accomplished in the non-judicial stamp worth of Taka 150/-

Table 6.17: Achievement of Individual Loan Programme Under YTSEP in the Country From 1990-2009

Year	Amount of loan disbursement	Number of beneficiaries	(Taka in Lakh) Amount of service charge received
1990-2003	21,202.44	1,98,827	2,535.41
2003-2004	1,922.99	18,118	3,035.96
2004-2005	3,716.70	25,876	3,492.15
2005-2006	4,670.97	16,624	3,958.21
2006-2007	3,399.14	15,186	4,702.08
2007-2008	3,534.63	5,022	5,317.50
2008-2009	3,595.25	6,681	5,950.84

Source : *Various Activities at a Glance (2003-2009) Documents, Department of Youth Development*

Table 6.18: Information on Different Aspects of Individual Loan Programme in Tangail District

Type of Information	Amounts
Total amount of Credit Fund	Taka 3,48,83,972.00
Disbursement of loan upto June, 2010	Taka 13,20,85,501.00
Credit Realization until June, 2010	Taka 10,95,89,346.00
Rate of Recovery	89.53%
Total Number of beneficiaries until June, 2010	11,660 Persons

Source: Deputy Director, Monthly Progress Report (Tangail: District Youth Development Office, Dated on 30/06/2010), p.1.

From the above discussion it can be said that all the skill trained youth do not undertake self-employment project. Similarly all the self-employed youth do not receive DYD loan. For this reason the number of DYD beneficiaries are not significant. It was observed that due to the terms and conditions of DYD loan and delay procedures of loan approval self-employed youth do not interest to receive the loan.

### 6.7: Assessment of the Self-employment or Individual Loan Programme Received by the Self-employed Youth

With regard to loan receiving, a great majority of participants group of self-employed youth, i.e., 70 percent received credit, while the percentage of non-participants group in this groups was found to be 48.33 percent.

Table 6.19: Distribution of Respondents by the Status of Credit Received

Status of received credit	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	42	70.00	29	48.33
No	18	30.00	31	51.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>

On the similar lines, Table 6.19 shows that in the participants group, almost one third of the respondents (30 percent) opined that they didn't received credit. In the non-participants group 51.67 percent respondent opined that they didn't received credit.

Table 6.20: Amounts of Loan Disbursed to the Respondents

Amount (Tk)	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Number	Percent N=42	Number	Percent N=29
Upto 20,000	07	16.67	07	24.13
20,001-40,000	11	26.20	05	17.24
40,001-60,000	10	23.80	04	13.80
60,001-80,000	05	11.90	02	6.90
80,001 and above	09	21.43	11	37.93
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Average size of loan</b>	<b>Tk. 49,045.12</b>			<b>Tk. 45,862.56</b>

Table 6.20 indicates that in the participants group 16.67 percent received credit upto Taka 20,000, while the percentage of non-participants group, was found to be 24.13. Data also reveal that one fourth (26.20 percent) of the respondents of participants group received amounts of credit ranging for the respondents of non-participants group in this category was found to be 17.24 percent. Similarly in participants group 23.80 percent received credit between taka 40,001-60,000, 11.90 percent received credit between taka 60,001-80,000 and 21.43 percent received credit taka 80,000 and above. On the other hand, in non-participants group category, 13.80 percent received credit between taka 60,001-80,000 and 37.93 percent received credit between taka 80,000 and above. It appears from the Table 6.20 that the average credit received (Taka 49,045.12) of participants group is higher than the average credit size (Taka 45,862.568) of non-participants group.

Table 6.21: Trends of Loan Repayment of the Respondents

Repayment trends	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Number	Percent N=42	Number	Percent N=29
Regularly	32	76.19	17	58.62
Irregularly	10	23.81	12	41.38
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>100.00</b>

$$\chi^2 = 2.47, \text{ d.f} = 1$$

The rate of repayment of credit is usually considered a good indicator of positive economic change as a consequence of credit support to economic programme.<sup>12</sup> Table 6.21 presents data on the trend of credit repayment of the respondents. It reveals that, while about 76.19 self-employed youth of participants group repaid their loans regularly, the percentage in non-participants group was found, to be around 58.62 percent in this regard.<sup>13</sup> Similarly, while about 23.81 percent self-employed youth of participants group were found irregular in credit repayment, the percentage for non-participants group in this regard was 41.38 percent. As revealed in the above analysis, the rate of credit repayment was higher in participants group compared with non-participants group. This might be because of giving three months of gross period opportunity and monthly installments facilities. Those who failed to repay regularly are opined that due to immaturity of loan installments, in sufficient income from the project and improper utilization of loan money. On the while, the rate of repayment of credit in the DYD programme regarded as satisfactory.

<sup>12</sup> Ahmadullah Mia, "Rural Social Services in Bangladesh: An Impact Study." (Dhaka: Institute of Social Welfare and Research, University of Dhaka, 1985). p.36.

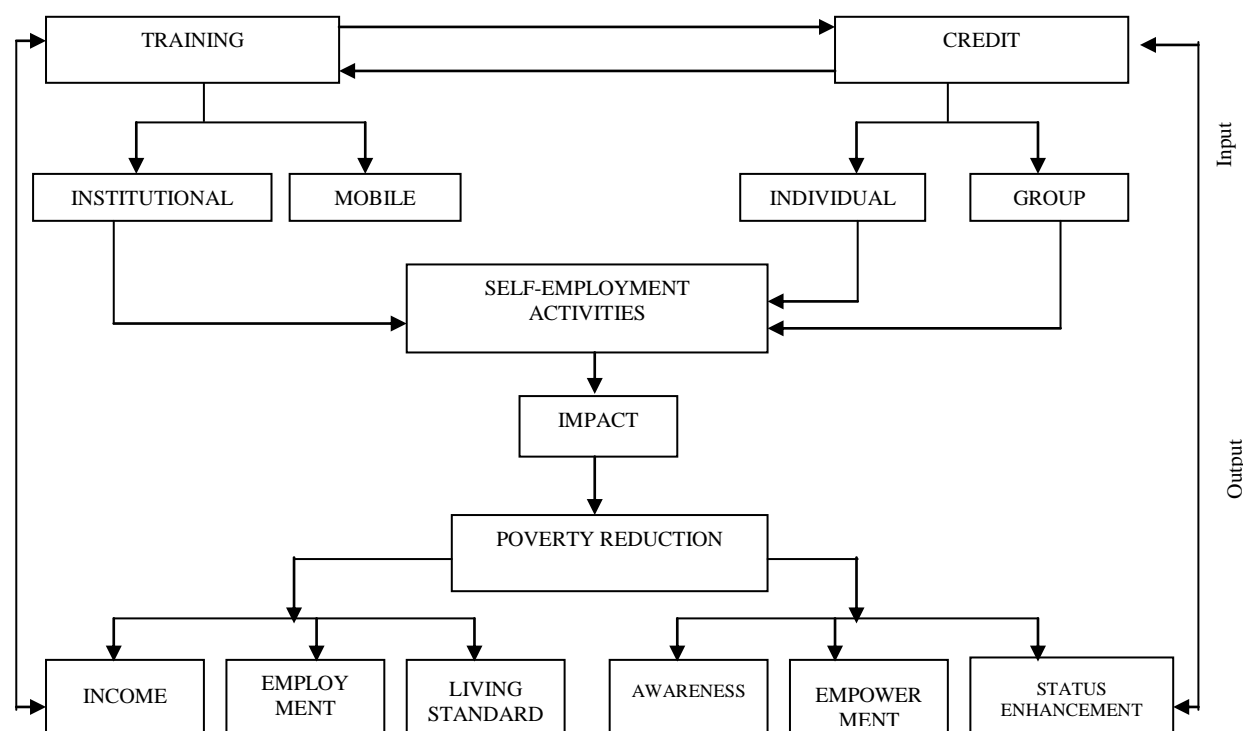
<sup>13</sup> The beneficiaries who repaid on an average 80 percent of their existing loan-installments were considered as regular in paying back loan.

The table value of  $\chi^2$  for 1 d.f at 5% level of significance is 3.84. Since the calculated value of  $\chi^2$  is less than the tabulated value of  $\chi^2$ . Hence, it is concluded that there is no significant association between loan repayment trends and categories of self-employed youth.

### 6.8 Socio-Economic Impact of Youth Self-employment Activities

The concept of impact in itself is very vague and all-encompassing; it can mean anything and everything. Impact may be economic, social, political, environmental, technological or institutional and a host of other things. What is relevant depends on intervention and context. A simple definition of impact is that it is the change brought about by a certain action. In the context of assessment of development interventions, it is usual to define impact as the long-term and sustainable changes brought about by a given intervention in the lives of those affected by the project<sup>14</sup>. 'Impact', the way used under this study, in contrast, is more all-encompassing, immediate as well as long-term, and comprises changes linked to project objectives as well as any other important - positive or negative - changes brought about by the intervention, whether intended or unintended. This study examines the impact of existing Youth Training and Self-employment Programme (YTSEP) of the self-employed youth of programme participants and non-participants from a comparative point of view.

Figure 6.1: DYD Programme Input and Outcome Process<sup>15</sup>



<sup>14</sup> Md. Shahid Uz Zaman, "A Study on Monga: The Hunger Grip in Northwestern Bangladesh", A Ph.D. Seminar Paper presented in the Institute of Social Welfare and Research, (University of Dhaka: December 13, 2009), p. 19.

<sup>15</sup> K.M. Nabiul Islam, "Evaluation of DYD Programme in Socio-Economic Development and Poverty Reduction in Bangladesh", (Dhaka: Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, 2004), p. 5.

## Economic Impact

### Profit Out of Self-employment Project

A cost and return analysis was carried out to determine the profitability of YTSEP activities performed by each type of beneficiary in the study areas. It was observed that all types of self-employed youth earned profit from their self-employment project.

Table 6.22: Distribution of Respondents by Amount of Profit Per Month

Month Profit (In Taka)	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Up to 5000	16	26.67	16	26.67
5001-10,000	14	23.33	15	25.00
10,001-15,000	06	10.00	08	13.33
15,001-20,000	07	11.67	03	05.00
20,001-25,000	03	05.00	04	16.67
25,001-30,000	05	08.33	02	03.33
30,001 and above	09	15.00	12	20.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>Tk. 14,001</b>		<b>Tk. 14,001</b>	
<b>C.V</b>	<b>77.23</b>		<b>80.17</b>	

The monthly profit (in taka) of the self-employed youths of both groups has been highlighted in the table 6.22. In participants group, 26.67 percent self-employed youth have monthly profit upto Taka 5,000, followed by 23.33 percent with profit distribution between Taka 5,001-10,000 and 15.00 percent belong to Taka 30,001 and above. It further portrays that the sample self-employed youth 11.67 percent, 10.00 percent, 8.33 percent, 5.00 percent fall with in the profit groups of Taka 15,001-20,000 Taka 10,001-15,000 Taka 25,001-30,000 and Taka 20,001-25,000 respectively.

On the other hand, in the non-participants group 26.67 percent self-employed youth monthly profit is Taka upto 5,000 25.00 percent belong to Taka 5,001-10,000 20.00 percent in Taka 30,001 and above, 13.33 percent in Taka 10,001-15,000 6.67 percent in Taka 20,001-25,000, 5.00 percent in Taka 15,001-20,000 and 3.33 in Taka 20,001-30,000. In appears from the Table 6.22 that the average monthly profit of the self-employed youth in both the group is almost same.

It is found that C.V of monthly profit earning from self-employment activities of participants group is 77.23 and C.V of non-participants group is 80.17. Hence, it is concluded that the participants group is more consistent than the non-participants group interns of profit earning.

Table 6.23: Distribution of Respondents According to Profit by Type of Youth Self-employment Project

Nature of Project	Categories of self-employed youth					
	Participants Group			Non-Participants Group		
	Number of Project	Total Profit (in Taka )	Average Profit (in Taka )	Number of Project	Total Profit (in Taka )	Average Profit (in Taka )
Poultry	28	7,28,551	26,020	39	11,26,710	28,890
Fisheries	13	1,61,336	12,410	09	1,05,259	11,695
Livestock	06	26,020	4,337	01	24,384	24,384
Nursery	03	60,183	20,061	03	73,988	24,663
Dress-making, block & batik print	08	85,650	10,706	08	33,110	4,138
Others	02	4,87,858	2,43,929	---	---	---
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>15,49,598</b>	<b>3,17,463</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>1,36,451</b>	<b>93,770</b>

Data on profit by project are presented in the Table 6.23. It is shown in the table that total profit and average profit of self-employed youth of participants group is higher than the non-participants group. The study shows that the average profit of the project of fisheries, dress making, block & batik print etc. of participants group is higher than the non-participants group. On the contrary, the average profit of the project of poultry, livestock, nursery etc. of non-participants group is higher than the participants group.

According to income generating schemes reveals that poultry, fisheries and dress-making are the relatively frequent and at the same time more profitable schemes.

### Increasing Income

Increasing of monthly income of the self-employed youth would be an indicator of change in economic status of the respondents. In this regard the monthly increasing income of the self-employed youth were investigated.

Table 6.24: Distribution of the Respondents by Having Increasing Monthly Income From their Self-employment Project

Increasing Income (in Taka)	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Not Increases	06	10.00	02	03.33
Upto 10,000	25	41.67	34	56.67
10,001-20,000	14	23.33	09	15.00
20,001-30,000	08	13.33	03	05.00
30,001 and above	07	11.67	12	20.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Average Income</b>	<b>Taka 14,444.71</b>		<b>Taka 13,793.31</b>	
<b>C.V</b>	<b>70.66</b>		<b>86.24</b>	



Data in the Table 6.24 indicate that by undertaking self-employment project, income of 90 percent self-employed youth of participants group increased, where 96.67 percent self-employed Youth of non-participants group opined that their income have also increased. In the participants group 41.67 percent self-employed youth income have increased upto Taka 10,000 and it was 56.67 percent in the non-participants group. 23.33 percent of respondents of participants group increased between Taka 10,001-20,000, 13.33 percent monthly income increased between Taka 20,001-30,000 and 11.67 percent respondents monthly income increased above Taka 30,001.

On the other hand 15.00 percent respondents monthly income of non-participants group increased within the range of Taka 10,001-20,000. 05.00 percent respondents monthly income increased within the range Taka 20,001-30,000 and 20.00 percent respondents income increased above Taka 30,001.

The average monthly income of participants group has increased in Taka 14,444.71 and Taka 13,793.31 in the non-participants group. Considering the above findings it may, therefore, be concluded that the self-employed youth of participants group are much well off, compared to the non-participants group. Thus in overall consideration, the self-employed youth of participants group improved their economic status by having support from the youth training and self-employment programme of DYD.

It is found that C.V of increasing monthly income from self-employment activities of participants group is 70.66 and C.V of non-participants group is 86.24. Hence, it is concluded that the participants group is more consistent than the non-participants group interns of increasing monthly income from their self-employment project.

### **Savings**

This is another useful indicator of positive economic change. The youth training and self-employment programme has made it mandatory for its beneficiary to save every month. Each beneficiary paid at least taka 10 per month towards his savings and loan repayment book. Moreover, with the increase in income, the self-employed youth made substantial progress in personal savings. The self-employed youth of non-participants groups were also habituated in monthly savings though it was mandatory for them. In the participants group 58.33 percent self-employed youth were habituated in personal savings and it was 54.21 percent in the non-participants groups. 36.67 percent self-employed youth of participants group saved between Taka 501-1000 and 08.33 percent saved above Taka 1001.

Table 6.25 Monthly Savings of Self-employed Youth

Savings (in Taka)	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
No savings	25	41.67	28	46.67
Upto 500	22	36.67	25	41.67
501-1000	08	13.33	02	03.33
1001 and above	05	08.33	05	08.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Average Savings</b>	<b>Taka 507.32</b>		<b>Taka 437.60</b>	
<b>C.V</b>	<b>72.02</b>		<b>80.26</b>	

One the contrary 41.67 percent of the self-employed of non-participants group monthly saved upto Taka 500, 03.33 percent monthly saved between Taka 501-1000 and 08.33 percent saved above Taka 1001. The average amount of monthly savings of the self-employment youth of participants group is Taka 507.32 which is higher than the average savings of Taka 437.60 of the self-employed youth of non-participants group. Majority of the savers in both the self-employed group have mad in special deposit pension scheme (SDPS) of different bank and NGOs scheme. Other means of savings like account in post office, insurance scheme and reinvestment in the same self-employment project etc.

It is found that C.V of savings habit from self-employment activities of participants group is 72.02 and C.V of non-participants group is 80.26. Hence, it is concluded that the participants group is more consistent than the non-participants group interns of saving habit from their self-employment project.

### Employment Benefit

In the recent times, slow growth of labour absorption in agriculture is a cause of concern for the developing economics. This becomes a more binding constraint with increasing population pressure particularly in the rural areas. Also, the existence of urban unemployment adds to such a concern. As a result instead of rural-urban migration a tendency towards rural-rural migration from farm sector to non-farm sector is found to be in progress. The increase of this tendency has rightly engaged attention of researcher.<sup>16</sup> In the light of above background employment benefit of youth self-employment project is presented in table 6.26. It appears from the study that in average at least 3 persons have been employed at each of the self-employment project.

<sup>16</sup> Piyali Sarkar, "Rural Non-Farm Employment Poverty and in equality: Micro level Evidence from West Bengal, *Journal of Rural Development*, Vol. 34, No.2 (July, 2007), p. 90.

It includes both the family and casual labour. The proportion of engagement of family labour in youth self-employment project was greater (85.00 percent) in the participants group than the corresponding figure (71.66 percent) in the non-participants group.

Table 6.26: Employment Generation in the Project of Self-employed Youth

Number of engaged labour	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Family Labour	Causal Labour	Family Labour	Causal Labour
1-2	47 (78.33)	38 (63.33)	38 (63.33)	39 (65)
3-4	03 (5.00)	16 (26.67)	05 (8.33)	17 (28.33)
5 and above	01 (1.67)	06 (10)	00	04 (6.67)
Not employed	09 (15)	00	17 (28.34)	00
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b> <b>(100)</b>	<b>60</b> <b>(100)</b>	<b>60</b> <b>(100)</b>	<b>60</b> <b>(100)</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>1.92 Persons</b>	<b>2.43 Persons</b>	<b>1.52 Persons</b>	<b>2.33 Persons</b>

*(Figures in the parenthesis indicate the percentages)*

In the case of involving casual labour the participants group category 63.33 percent project engaged 1-2 persons, 26.67 percent project engaged 3-4 persons and 10 percent project engaged above 5 persons. On the contrary, causal labour employment generation in the non-participants group category, 65 percent self-employment project engaged 1-2 persons, 28.33 percent project engaged 3-4 persons and only 6.67 percent self-employment project engaged above 5 persons.

The average number of employed persons in a family and causal labour particularly in youth training and self-employment programme is somewhat higher than the average in the non-participants group of youth self-employment project. This is a clear evidence that the youth training and self-employment programme of the department of youth development has made a significant contribution in raising the level of employment generation.

### **Change in Acquisition of Family Assets**

The assets of a family includes here are livestock, electronics equipment, furniture and jewellery. In this study the researcher has considered that the possession of new things by recent purchase which would be an indicator of change in economic status of the households.

Table 6.27 Change in Family Assets of the Self-employed Youth (in percent of self-employed youth reporting)

Types of Family assets	Categories of self-employed youth					
	Participants group			Non-Participants Group		
	Same as before	Some what improved	Much Improved	Same as before	Some what improved	Much Improved
Live Stock	41.67	20.00	38.33	35.00	30.00	35.00
Electronics	6.67	40.00	53.33	21.67	36.67	41.66
Household Furniture	21.67	30.00	48.33	30.00	33.33	36.67
Jewellery	46.67	31.67	21.66	68.33	21.67	10.00

Table 6.28 Improvement in Family Assets of the Self-employed Youth of Participants and Non-Participants Group (In percent self-employed youth reporting)

Types of Assets	Categories of self-employed youth		
	Participants Group (i)	Non-Participants Group (ii)	Difference (1-2)
Livestock	38.33	35.00	3.33
Electronics	53.33	41.66	11.67
Household Furniture	48.33	36.67	11.66
Jewellery	21.66	10.00	11.66

Data from the above table (table 6.27 and 6.28) indicated that the self-employed youth in participants group who have improved their economic possession tend to be more possession of assets, compared to their counterpart in non-participants group. This findings tend to suggest that generally the self-employed youth having had some benefit from the YTSEP of DYD have improved their economic situation which is reflected (in a way) in their new possession at the recent time. It may, therefore, be concluded that economic gain as a result of the YTSEP is evident among those self-employed youth families who have received support from the programme. This conclusion is further supported by the finding that the beneficiary families (participants group) are much well off compared to the non-beneficiary families (non-participants group).

### Ownership of Land

Land in Bangladesh is not only a source of wealth, but it also determines the individual power and social prestige. Obviously land transfer results various changes in the rural society. The change in the ownership of land automatically brings changes in every spheres of life.

Table 6.29: Changes Occurred in the Ownership of Land (in percentage)

Types of Changes	Categories of self-employed youth	
	Participants Group	Non-Participants Group
Bad	5.00	5.00
Same	61.67	61.67
Some what good	25.00	26.67
Much better	08.33	6.666
Total	100.00	100.00

However, Table 6.29 shows that 33.33 percent self-employed youth of both groups (participants and non-participants group) reported that their ownership of land has increased. On the contrary, 61.67 percent self-employed youth of both group did not find any improvement in this regard. In respect of much better on the ownership of land had slightly increased in participants group than that of non-participants group.

### Social Impact

Development implies social change. Economic and social factors move together to make increases in national income possible. Development is, therefore, associated equally with social factors.<sup>17</sup> A country cannot grow economically, if it locks social development indicators and vice versa.<sup>18</sup> Social harmony and cohesiveness, strong religio-cultural values, commitment to education and sound health system contribute to build up strong social fabrics on the basis of which a stable, well-educated, highly spirited and healthy society can be established. In order to make a development strategy operate successfully, the elements of social development need to be fulfilled.<sup>19</sup>

In this respect, opinions about changes in different aspects of social life were also collected from different categories of respondents.

### Impact on Basic Human Needs

One of the important objectives of the study was to analyze the impact of existing programme activities of youth training and self-employment programme on the respondents. In this respect, impact of youth self-employment programme on some key development indicators, such as

<sup>17</sup> R. M. Chopra, *Impact of Social Services on Economic Initiative*, (New Delhi: Anmol Publication, 1992), p.6.

<sup>18</sup> Muhammad Ruhul Amin, "Towards A Viable Development Strategy: A Holistic Model", *The Journal of Philosophy and Progress*, Vol. XXXVII-XXXVIII, December, 2005, p. 99.

<sup>19</sup> Ahmadullah Mia, *Education and Skills Development for Poverty Alleviation – Selected HRD Experience from the ESCAP Region*, (China: ESCAP Publication, 1998), p.4.

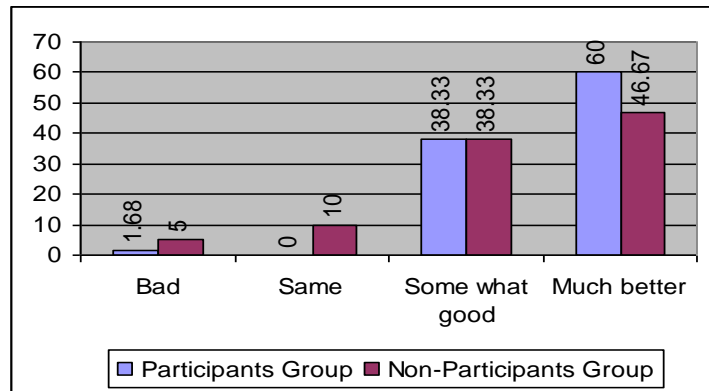
food consumption, clothing, housing, enrolment of children in school, medicare, sanitation and recreational behaviour have been examined.

### Food Consumption

It was expected that return from self-employment project made the standard of living better from the previous.

Figure 6.2 : Changes Occurred in Food Consumption

However, Fig. 6.2 shows that almost all the self-employed youth of both the group reported that their food consumption has increased 38.33 percent and 60.00 percent of the self-employed youth of participants group respectively have changed in respect of some what good and much better. One the contrary, 10 percent self-employed youth of non-participants group no change occurred in their food consumption 38.33 percent and 46.67 percent self-employed youth non-participants group respectively have changed in respect of some what good and much better. In respect of much better, it revealed that food consumption had slightly enhance in participants group than that of non-participants group.

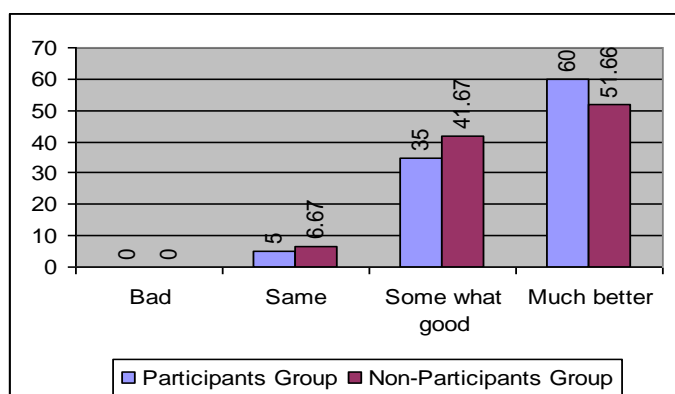


### Clothing's

The necessity of clothing is observed only in the regard of human beings among the whole living beings of the world. Except physical and social necessity clothing has also religious and moral values. Fig. 6.3 reveals that a great majority of the self-employed youth, i.e., 95 and 93.33 percent in participants and non-participants group respectively reported that their clothing condition has improved.

Figure 6.3 : Changes Occurred in Clothing's

On the contrary, 5 and 6.67 percent self-employed youth of participants and non-participants group respectively did not find any improvement in this regard. However, data further revealed that in respect of improvement of much better condition in clothing, the living standard of



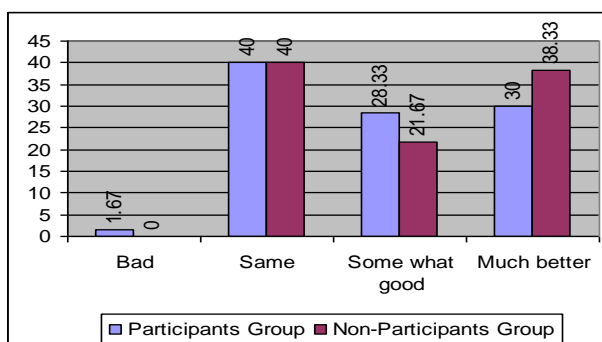
the self-employed youth of participants group was comparatively better than that of non-participants group.

### Housing Condition

Regarding housing condition, Fig. 6.4 shows that, while 60 percent self-employed youth of non-participants group reported that their housing condition has improved, the percentage for participants groups in respect of improvement in housing condition was 58.33.

Figure 6.4 : Changes Occurred in Housing Condition

On the contrary, while 40 percent self-employed youth of both the group did not find any change of somewhat good, the situation was found slightly, better in participants group than the non-participants. Similarly, in respect of changes of much better in housing condition, the situation was found slightly better in non-participants group than the participants group.

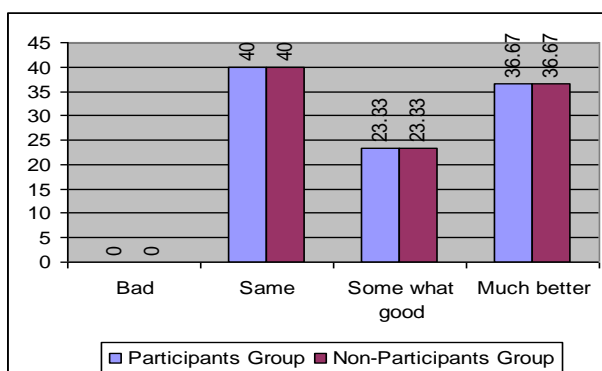


### Child Enrolment in School

Fig. 6.5 reveals that majority of the self-employed youth of participants and non-participants group reported that child enrolment in school has increased. On the contrary, 40 percent of self-employed youth of both groups did not find any improvement in this regard.

Figure 6.5 : Changes Occurred in Child Enrolment in School

Thus it was evident that in respect of child enrolment in school there were no difference between the participants and non-participants group. This situation indicated the increased consciousness about education of the rural youth as a result of participation in self-employment programmes of both GO and NGOs.

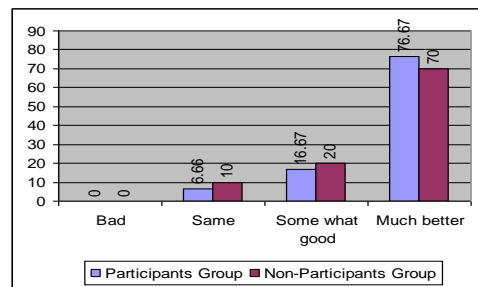


### Medical Treatment

Fig. 6.6 exhibits that a great majority of the self-employed youths, i.e., more than 93 and 90 percent of participants and non-participants group respectively reported that their scope for medical treatment has increased.

Figure 6.6 : Changes Occurred in Medical Treatment

On the contrary, 06.66 and 10 percent self-employed youth of participants group and non-participants group did not find any improvement in this regard. It can be said that in respect of much better in medical treatment had slightly enhanced in participants group than that of non-participants group.

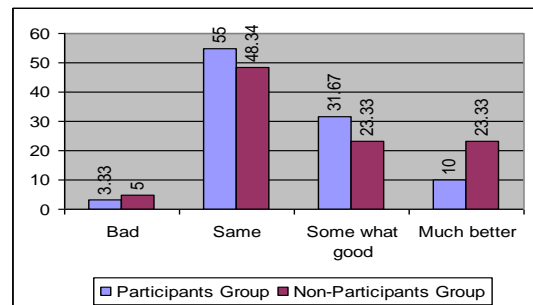


**Recreational Facilities**

There is a proverb saying, “Man cannot live by bred alone.” This is true irrespective of caste, creed and colour and rich, poor, young, aged and children. Regarding changing condition in recreational facilities,

Figure 6.7 : Changes Occurred in Recreational Facilities

Fig. 6.7 shows that 41.67 and 46.66 percent self-employed youth of participants and non-participants groups respectively reported that their scope for recreational facilities has increased. On the other hand, 55 and 48.34 percent self-employed youth of participants and non-participants group respectively did not find any improvement in this regard. Data further revealed that in respect of increases in recreational facilities, the situation was slightly better in non-participants group than that of participants group.

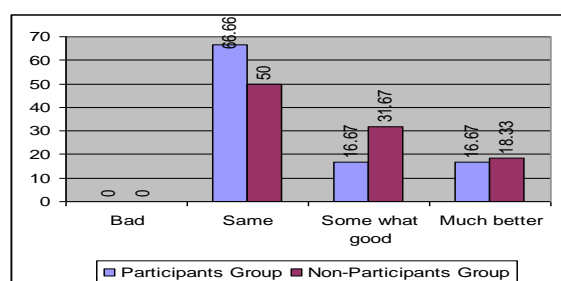


**Safe Drinking Water Supply**

With a view to preventing water borne disease, safe water played a vital role. Rural Bangladesh households continue to rely overwhelmingly on tube-wells as their primary source of drinking water.

Figure 6.8 : Changes Occurred in Safe Drinking Water Supply

Regarding the changes in safe drinking water supply, Fig. 6.8 shows that while 50 percent self-employed youth of non-participants group reported that their safe drinking water supply situation has improved, the parentage for participants group in





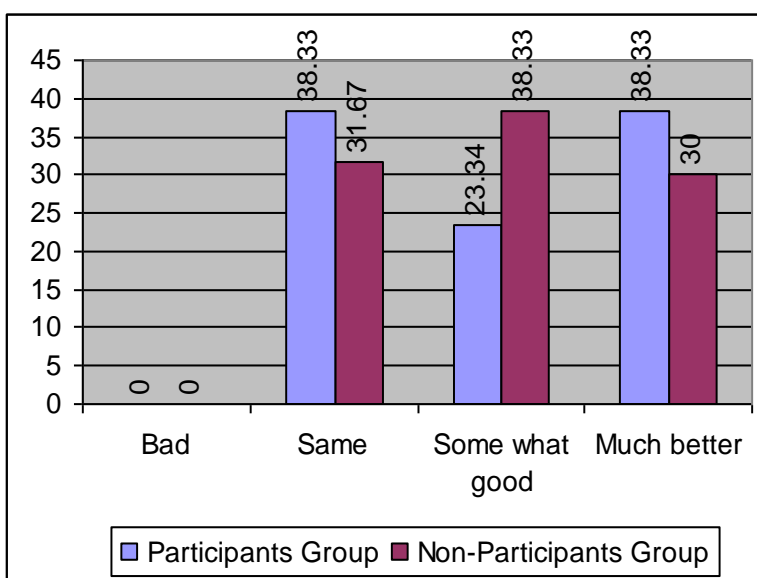
respect of improvement in safe drinking water supply was 33.34. On the contrary, while 66.66 percent self-employed youth of participants group did not find any change in safe drinking water supply situation, the percentage for non-participants groups was 50 for the same. It is significant to note that none of the self-employed youth considered their safe drinking water supply situation as deteriorated compared to what was before.

### Sanitation Practice

Personal hygiene and health is hugely dependent upon proper sanitation practice, and regular cleaning and maintenance of the latrines can help reduce certain diseases. In recent years there have been efforts to introduce rudimentary measures for better sanitary conditions either directly or through training and adult education.

Figure 6.9 : Changes Occurred in Sanitation Practice

Fig. 6.9 reveals that a significant proportion of the self-employed youth, i.e., 61.67 and 68.33 percent in participants and non-participants groups respectively reported that their sanitation condition has improved. On the contrary, 38.33 and 31.67 percent self-employed youth of participants and non-participants group respectively did not find any improvement in this regard. It is significant to note that due to the intervention of DYD training, in respect of much better improvement in sanitation practice, the rate of improvement in participants group was slightly higher than that of non-participants group.



It is significant to note that due to the intervention of DYD training, in respect of much better improvement in sanitation practice, the rate of improvement in participants group was slightly higher than that of non-participants group.

### Women Empowerment

That the women in Bangladesh has a low status in the family is well-known. Status of women in the society is dependent upon the role she plays within the system as a daughter, wife and mother. Prior to her marriage a girl has to learn cooking, cleaning and taking care of siblings and domestic animals. Most of the girls are married between the ages of 13-16 and about 80 percent of them are married before 18 years of age. Women are married at a much lower age than men; mean age at marriage of women is 20.00 years while that

of men is 27.60 years.<sup>20</sup> At present women are entering into trades and industries. They are contributing to increase their family income and playing important role in the family. In a modern society, women's roles are not limited in the family alone. Now they are being essentially considered as a potential part of the work force and their roles in the economic development of the country cannot be ignored from the frame work of socio-economic development. Their roles in this regard have enhanced their economic independence, ensured their empowerment in any field of development and established their social status.<sup>21</sup> In this study, attempt was made to analyze pattern of empowerment of women in household decision-making process.

Seven different aspects of women empowerment such as adopting family planning method, determining the number of child, education for children, spending freedom of own earned money, decision-making process in treatment for self, purchasing own cloth and moving freely were placed before the self-employed young women as questions and based on their responses the empowerment was assessed.

The self-reporting of both participants and non-participants groups self-employed youth on different aspects of changing women status have been presented in Table 6.30. The change was reported on a three point scale: 'Poorly empowered', 'Moderately empowered', and 'adequately empowered'. In respect of education for children, decision-making process in treatment for self and purchasing own cloth the DYD supported self-employed young women are adequately empowered than the young women of non-participants group.

Table 6.30: Percentage of Participants Group and Non-Participants Group's Young Women Showing Improved Status

Indicators of Women's Status	Participants Group (N=15)			Non-Participants Group (N=9)		
	Poorly empowered	Moderately empowered	Adequately empowered	Poorly empowered	Moderately empowered	Adequately empowered
Adopting Family Planning Method	6.67	33.33	60.00	Nil	33.33	66.67
Determining the number of child	13.33	26.67	60.00	11.11	11.11	77.78
Education for children	Nil	13.33	86.67	11.11	22.22	66.67
Spending freedom of own earned money	6.67	26.67	66.66	11.11	11.11	77.78
Decision-making process in treatment for self	Nil	33.33	66.67	22.22	22.22	55.56
Purchasing own cloth	Nil	6.67	93.33	11.11	33.33	55.56
Moving freely	Nil	26.67	73.33	11.11	11.11	77.78

<sup>20</sup> Farjana Khaleque, "Women Involvement in Farm and Non-farm Activities In Some Selected Areas of Tangail District". (Mymensing: Bangladesh Agricultural University, 1999). p.5.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid.

Similarly, in respect of determining the number of child, spending freedom of own earned money and moving freely the self-employed young women of participants group are moderately empowered than the young women of non-participants group. The difference in empowerment with regard to adopting family planning method appears to be less prominent.

### **Upliftment of Social Status**

As self-employed youth, they are earning money which are directly contributing to raise the standard of living of their families. It indicates that the experienced manpower has engaged themselves in providing services to the community as well as earning income for themselves. Generally, in rural area, social status is measured by some indicators, such as honour and respect shown by people, increased social prestige, increasing economic solvency, increased in leadership role, offering advice to people and increased social interactions.<sup>22</sup>

The self-reporting of both participants and non-participants group beneficiaries on different indicator of social status have been presented in Tables 6.31 and 6.32. In this self-assessment procedure, the self-employed youth were asked to report the changes that they experienced in regard to the different aspects of forming social status after starting self-employment project. The change was reported on a three point scale: 'same as before' 'increased' 'highly increased'.

**Table 6.31: Reported Changes in Different Aspects of Social Status of Participants Group and Non-Participants Group Beneficiaries (In percent Self-employed Youth reporting)**

Indicators of Social Capital	Participants Group			Non-Participants Group		
	Same as before	Increased	Highly Increased	Same as before	Increased	Highly Increased
Honour shown by people	05.00	43.33	51.67	Nil	60.00	40.00
Increasing Social Prestige	03.33	43.33	53.34	Nil	53.33	46.67
Increasing Economic Status	Nil	40.00	60.00	1.67	36.66	61.67
Increased Participation in Leadership	11.67	41.67	46.66	15.00	50.00	35.00
People taken advice	1.67	41.67	56.66	08.33	60.00	31.67
Increasing Social Interaction	10.00	53.33	36.67	20.00	53.33	26.67

<sup>22</sup> Md. Easin Ali, et al., *Impact of Skill Development Training On Pro-Active Rural Youths for their Self-employment in CVDP Villages*, (Comilla: BARD, 1999), p.32.

Table 6.32: Improvement in Different Indicators of Social Status of Participants group and Non-Participants group (In percent self-employed youth reporting)

Indicators of Social Status	Categories of self-employed youth		
	Participants Group (1)	Non-participants Group (2)	Difference (1-2)
Honour Shown by People	51.67	40.00	11.67
Increasing Social Prestige	53.34	46.67	6.67
Increasing Economic Solvency	60.00	61.67	-1.67
Increased Participation in Leadership	46.66	35.00	11.66
People Taken Advice	56.66	31.67	24.99
Increasing Social Interaction	36.67	26.67	10.00

In all the indicators of social status formation under consideration the increasing proportion of participants group reporting improvement are consistently and significantly higher than those of the non-participants group. Similarly, the changing proportion of participants group reporting on previous condition (same as before) are lower than those of the self-employed youth of non-participants group.

### Change in Aspiration

This refers to the standard set by a self-employed youth regarding his/her liking for future profession for himself/herself at the time of interview. It was expected that participation of participants group members in self-employment schemes would increase their level of earning and consequently would encourage their aspiration for some valuable possessions.

Table 6.33: Distribution of Self-employed Youth by Plan for Changing Future Project

Item desired	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
No desire	13	21.67	23	38.33
Expansion of Present Project	02	03.33	06	10.00
By undertaking agricultural project	35	58.33	27	45.00
By undertaking non- agricultural project	10	16.67	04	06.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>

The data on changing aspiration of self-employed youth (Table 6.33) show some changing. The study reveals that the self-employed youth of participants group in fact tend to be somewhat different from their counterpart self-employed youth in the non-participants group with respect to such aspiration. More dependency on no desire, as an indication of conservative attitude is found prominent among the self-employed youth of non-participants group. The self-employed youth of participants group also

tend to be more frequent (58.33 percent) than self-employed youth of non-participants group (45.00 percent) in planning for agriculture-related improvement.

It appears from these findings that the self-employed youth of participants group are more interested to improve their self-employment project by implementing new project. Having had a new orientation of entrepreneurship through YTSEP involvements, the self-employed youth of participants group develop 'moderately' in their attitude and in this regard they tend to differ from there who have not had such an orientation.

### **Involvement in Socio-Cultural Activities**

In this respect data on the involvement in socio-cultural activities have been collected. It is observed that as entrepreneurs self-employed youth gained socio-economic status. Due to similar reason their involvement in socio-cultural activities also increased.

Table 6.34: Distribution of the Self-employed Youth According to their Participation Level in Socio-cultural Activities

Level of Involvement	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Nil	02	3.33	04	6.66
Least	04	6.66	07	11.67
Moderate	28	46.67	26	43.34
High	26	43.34	23	38.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>

The involvement of self-employed youth in socio-cultural activities have been presented in Table 6.34. The level of involvement were categorized into four levels i.e, nil, least, moderate and high. It was found that the highest percentage of respondents of both participants and non-participants group of self-employed youth involved moderately in socio-cultural activities. The percentage of the respondents involved highly in the participants group was slightly higher compared to the non-participants group. The overall picture of the data presented in Table 6.34 depicts that the self-employed youth of the participants group involved proportionately better in socio-cultural activities compared to the self-employed youth of non-participants group. Although the respondents did not receive any training from YTCs or other training centres in this respect, they have been motivated to involved themselves in socio-cultural activities in their localities. Whatsoever, through this programme the youth achieved phenomenal change in their socio-cultural status.

## Motivating Others Youth to Initiate Self-employment Project in the Localities

Observing the success of trained self-employed youth, others youth in the same locality have been motivated and they have also started various types of income generating activities. In this respect data have been presented in the Table 6.35 on how much the others youth engaged themselves (trained youth and non trained youth) in self-employment project by observing the activities of trained self-employed youth.

Table 6.35: Distribution of Self-employed Youth According to their Motivating Level to Others Youth to Undertake Self-employment Project in the Same Locality

Number of Project	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group (N = 60)		Non-Participants Group (N = 60)	
	Trained youth	Non trained youth	Trained youth	Non trained youth
None	36.67	30.00	58.34	16.67
Upto 2	38.33	40.00	33.33	30.00
3-4	20.00	23.33	05.00	33.33
Above 5	05.00	06.67	03.33	20.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It indicates that motivating from the self-employment project of participants group 63.33 percent trained youth and 70.00 percent non trained youth have been undertaken self-employment project in their locality.

On the other hand, motivating from the self-employment project of non-participants group, 41.66 percent trained youth and 83.33 percent non trained youth have undertaken self-employment project in their locality. It also indicates that self-employed youth of participants group can motivate 21.67 percent much higher the trained youth and 13.33 percent lower the non trained youth to undertake self-employment project than the self-employed youth of non-participants group.

### Association with Voluntary Social Welfare Agency

Voluntary social welfare agencies in Bangladesh are organized by youth and pay good attention to certain needs and interests of youths. Besides this, one of the main objectives of YTSEP was to enrich the youths with qualities of patriotism, national solidarity, love and sympathy towards human being etc.<sup>23</sup>

<sup>23</sup> Government of Bangladesh, "Project Proforma of Youth Training and Self Employment Project (1990-2003), Phase-III revised" (Dhaka: Department of Youth Development, August, 2000), p.1.

Table 6.36: Distribution of the Respondents According to their Extent of Association in the Voluntary Social Welfare Agency

Extent of Association	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Non-association	15	25.00	18	30.00
Poor extent	08	13.33	08	13.33
Moderate extent	20	33.33	23	38.33
High extent	17	28.34	11	18.34
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>

In the light of above background data on the extent of time spent in the voluntary social welfare agency of the respondents have been collected and it is presented in the Table 6.36. Data contained in the Table 6.36 reveal that 75 percent of the self-employed youth of participants group told that they were associated with voluntary social welfare organization. On the contrary 70.00 percent of the self-employed youth of non-participants group were associated with voluntary social welfare organization. Participation in any social welfare organization brings an individual in contact with others where they can exchange ideas, experience and information among the other members of the organization. But there is a tremendous dearth of organization for the youth in the rural areas. For this reason one fourth of the respondents of participants group and near about one third of the respondents of non-participants group had no participation in voluntary social welfare organization. Among the others respondents, 13.33 percent of the self-employed youth of both groups had associated with poor extent in voluntary social welfare organization. In the category of association with moderate extent, the respondents of non-participants group is somewhat higher (5.00 percent) higher than the respondent of participants group. On the contrary, association with high extent category, the respondents of participants group is comparatively more higher (10.00 percent) than the respondents of non-participants group. The findings shows that as a result of YTSEP of DYD, the highly extent of association with the voluntary welfare agency was found dominating in the participants group.

### **Mentoring and Animators Role**

Youth with mentoring and animators ability might find say to reduce problems to some extent in their endeavours. In this respect data have been collected.

Table 6.37: Distribution of the Respondents According to their Level of Mentoring and Animators Role

Level of Mentoring and Leadership	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Nil	14	23.34	25	41.67
Poor	13	21.66	12	20.00
Moderate	15	25.00	12	20.00
High	18	30.00	11	18.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>

In respect of mentoring and animator's role it was found that nearly one-fourth and two-fifth of the respondents of participants and non-participants group respectively did not play any mentoring and animators role. One fifth of respondents of both the participants and the non-participants group played poor mentoring and animator's role. Almost one-fourth of the respondents of the participants group played moderate type of mentoring and animators role whereas, one-fifth of the respondents of non-participants group used to play the moderate type of role.

The percentage of the respondents playing high role in regard to mentoring and animator in the participants group was much higher compared to the non-participants group. The overall picture of the data presented in Table 6.37 depicts that due to intervention of DYD the self-employed youth of participants group played better mentoring and animators role compared to the self-employed youth of non-participants group.

### 6.9 Major Problems of the Youth Self-employment Projects

One of the important objectives of the present study was to identify the problems confronted by the self-employed rural youth in implementing self-employment projects. In this respect, the respondents were asked about the problems they are facing while operating self-employment projects.



Table 6.38: Distribution of the Respondents by the Major Problems they Face (multiple responses)

Problems	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants group		Non-Participants group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Shortage of land to undertake self-employment project	21	35	20	33.33
Damages of products by natural disaster	42	70	49	81.67
High price of inputs	57	95	58	96.67
Lack of timely and proper medical treatment	43	71.67	53	88.33
Lack of adequate capital fund	57	95	55	91.67
Problem associated with providing land ownership documents for getting loan	30	50	13	21.67
Low product price	40	66.67	40	66.67
Lack of professional knowledge and skill	35	58.33	46	76.67
Irregular electricity supply	54	90.00	53	88.33
Lack of show room/ display centers	18	30.00	19	31.67
Lack of cooperation by law enforcing agency	07	11.67	11	18.33
DYD does not monitor the projects	24	40.00	25	41.67
Husband/guardians insists to close the project	16	26.67	12	20.00
Difficulties in transportation to marketing the products	33	55.00	32	53.33

It was found from the study that a good number of respondents of participants group (95 percent) pointed out the lack of adequate capital fund and high price of inputs as their main problem. Besides, 90 percent respondents of participants group mentioned irregular electricity supply as their second problem. Among other problems narrated by the respondents of participants group are lack of timely and proper medical treatment (71.67 percent), damages of products by natural disaster (70 percent), low product price (66.67 percent), lack of professional knowledge and skill (58.33 percent), difficulties in transportation for marketing the products (55 percent), problem associated with providing land ownership documents for getting loan (50 percent), DYD does not monitor the projects (40 percent), shortage of land to undertake self-employment project (35 percent), lack of show room/display centers (30 percent), husband/guardians insists to close the project (26.67 percent) and lack of cooperation by law enforcing agency (11.67 percent) etc.

On the other hand, most of the respondents of non-participants group pointed out the high price of inputs as their main problem. Besides 91.67 percent respondents of non-participants group mentioned lack of adequate capital fund as their second problem. 88.33 percent of them reported that lack

of timely and proper medical treatment and irregular electricity supply are another important problems existing in the youth self-employment projects. 81.67 percent of them said that damages of products by natural disaster is another problem in the sector. Some other problems are also existing which are lack of professional knowledge and skill (76.67 percent), low product price (66.67 percent), difficulties in transportation for marketing the products (53.33 percent), concerned agency does not monitor the projects (41.67 percent), shortage of land to undertake self-employment project (33.33 percent), lack of show room/display centers (31.67 percent), problem associated with providing land ownership documents for getting loan (21.67 percent), husband/guardians insists to close the project (20 percent) and lack of cooperation by law enforcing agency (18.33 percent) etc.

From the above discussion it was revealed that the respondents of participants group faced less problems than that of non-participants group. It might be observed that YTSEP had direct impact on the participants group in providing training, credit and other inputs which created opportunities for self earnings.

### **6.10 Opinion on the Effectiveness of Support Services of the Youth Training and Self-employment Programme**

The link between self-employment and economic development is important for any country. The determinants of self employment development are based on the socio-economic conditions of a country. Moreover, self-employment development involves the development of the entrepreneur himself, the human factor, and also creation of an environment where entrepreneurial activities can flourish. However, foreign scholars who have studied the socio-economic and cultural setting of Bangladesh appear to think that Bangladesh has youth with potentiality to be developed as entrepreneurs.<sup>24</sup> In fact, self-employment depends on multiple factors, which may be offered in an integrated package programme.

How do the sample self-employed youth look at such a programme? How far such a package programme is adequate? These pertinent questions require attention. Recognizing the need for knowing the attitude of the self-employment generation, relevant information has been collected from sample self-employed youth of participants group. The study reveals the opinions expressed by the sample respondents regarding the factors of adequacy and efficacy in the area concerned have been processed through 5 points likert technique scale system. The scale consisted of 20 statements and each statement was provided with five response categories. The 5 points in the

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<sup>24</sup> M. Habibullah, "Entrepreneurship Training & Development", *Entrepreneurship and Management in Bangladesh*. ed. by .Abdul Mannan, (Chittagong: Bureau of Business Research, 1985). p.49.

continuum, were ‘strongly agree’ ‘agree’, ‘no opinion’, ‘disagree’ and ‘strongly disagree’ with scores (weigh) 4, 3, 2, 1 and 0 respectively.

For clear understanding of the opinion of respondents in respect of any statement or activity opinion index (OI) was computed by using the following formula: i) Opinion index (OI) =  $P_{sda} \times 0 + P_{da} \times 1 + P_{no} \times 2 + P_a \times 3 + P_{sa} \times 4$

Where,  $P_{sda}$ ,  $P_{da}$ ,  $P_{no}$ ,  $P_a$ ,  $P_{sa}$  respectively indicate the percentage of respondents who strongly disagree, disagree, no opinion, agree and strongly agree.

The opinion indices ranged from 47 to 391. In seventeen statements opinion indices exceeded 300 and in two items indices were above 200. Data regarding opinion of the self-employed youth of DYD trained participants group revealed that they had favorable opinion for strengthening youth training and self-employment programme. They felt that involving youth self-employment programme is essential and it would be beneficial to rural families. However, about three-fourth (80 percent) of the self-employed youth did not agree that after training all the trained youths usually initiating self-employment activities.

A remarkable proportion (93 percent) of self-employed youth felt that without creating marketing facilities for produced goods self-employment project can not be profitable. Majority of the self-employed youth (90 percent) opined that self-employment project should be brought under the compulsory insurance scheme so as to cover the major risk factors. So policy makers of youth self-employment programmes would need to consider this factor.

Table 6.39: Percentage Distribution of Self-employed Youth According to their Opinion on Twenty Issues Relating to Programme Support of YTSEP of DYD

Issues relating to programme support of YTSEP of DYD	N	Strongly Agree	Agree	No opinion	disagree	Strongly disagree	Opinion Index	Rank order
It is difficult to undertake self-employment project without quality skill training	60	57 (95)	2 (3)	0 (0)	1 (2)	0 (0)	391	1
Without follow up youth training can not be successfully implemented	60	54 (90)	6 (10)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	390	2
During training period providing demonstration facilities will be more useful	60	56 (93)	3 (5)	0 (0)	1 (2)	0 (0)	389	3
Training on area need based trade generate more self-employment rather than traditional trade based training	60	53 (88)	5 (9)	2 (3)	0 (0)	0 (0)	385	4.5

Issues relating to programme support of YTSEP of DYD	N	Strongly Agree	Agree	No opinion	disagree	Strongly disagree	Opinion Index	Rank order
Without creating marketing facilities for produced goods self-employment project can not be profitable	60	56 (93)	2 (3)	1 (2)	0 (0)	1 (2)	385	4.5
Besides skill training & credit support providing necessary input can strengthen self-employment project	60	51 (85)	7 (11)	1 (2)	1 (2)	0 (0)	379	6
Self-employment project is helpful to reduce unemployment	60	48 (80)	10 (17)	2 (3)	0 (0)	0 (0)	377	7
Self-employment projects should be brought under the compulsory insurance scheme so as to cover the major risk factors	60	54 (90)	1 (2)	3 (5)	0 (0)	2 (3)	376	8
Self-employment activities can be implemented easily in the family surroundings	60	50 (83)	6 (10)	3 (5)	1 (2)	0 (0)	374	9
Self-employment activities can reduce social crime	60	52 (86)	4 (7)	2 (3)	1 (2)	1 (2)	373	10
Self-employment activities can increase family status	60	45 (75)	11 (18)	3 (5)	0 (0)	1 (2)	364	11.5
Without adequacy in loan availability self-employment project can not be sustainable	60	49 (82)	5 (9)	2 (3)	2 (3)	2 (3)	364	11.5
Skill development training programmes for the unemployed youth should be compulsory	60	39 (65)	19 (31)	1 (2)	0 (0)	1 (2)	357	13.5
Self-employment creates new entrepreneurship opportunity for the youth	60	42 (70)	14 (23)	2 (3)	1 (2)	1 (2)	357	13.5
By undertaking self-employment project income may be increased	60	40 (66)	13 (22)	6 (10)	1 (2)	0 (0)	352	15
Self-employment programmes can bring sustainable conditions for poverty alleviation of the youth force	60	41 (68)	12 (20)	4 (7)	2 (3)	1 (2)	349	16
Without skill training self-employment project face risk situation	60	42 (70)	7 (12)	8 (13)	1 (2)	2 (3)	344	17
Duration of all skill training should be in three month	60	22 (36)	9 (15)	10 (17)	9 (15)	10 (17)	238	18.5
Youth loan should be given after skill training	60	25 (41)	6 (10)	7 (12)	12 (20)	10 (17)	238	18.5
All the trained youths usually initiate self-employment activities then after training	60	3 (5)	1 (2)	5 (8)	3 (5)	48 (80)	47	20

(Figures in the parentheses indicate percentage of respondents)

## 6.11 Views on Local People

Information and findings about self-employed youth alone would not be adequate for developing effective youth self-employment programme. Hence, an investigation on the opinions of local people of self-employed youth on selected aspects of youth self-employment programme was felt pertinent by the researcher.

Youth self-employment programme will need interested adults and rural leaders to work as organizational leaders. Their help and support in various other forms will also be necessary for management of youth self-employment programme. So obtaining advice from experienced adults in leadership position in matters of youth self-employment activities is very important for this study. For obtaining opinion of the local peoples, data were collected from the local people 60 for each group (participants and non-participants) of self-employed youth. Here local peoples are defined those who were observed the income generating activities of the self-employed youth. Teachers, Doctors, NGO's worker, Shopkeeper, Social worker, Farmers, Service holder and others entrepreneur are included as a local people.

So, considering relevance and importance, opinion of local people were investigated on the following aspects relating to youth self-employment programme;

- i) Quality of product produced by self-employed youth
- ii) Necessity of youth self-employment activities
- iii) Impact of youth self-employment activities on the locality
- iv) Interest on involving youth self-employment activities

### i) Quality of Product

The benefits of a self-employment activities can reach the producers only through efficient marketing system. However, ultimate goal of a consumer is to get right quality of products from the producer.

Table 6.40: Distribution of Respondents by Quality of Product Produced by the Self-employed Youth

Type of quality	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Satisfactory	32	53.33	32	53.33
Good	15	25.00	20	33.34
Very Good	13	21.67	08	13.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>

In such a context, the collected data in this regard have been revealed in Table 6.40. Local people were asked to assess the quality of the products produced by self-employed youth in terms of three grading satisfactory, good and very good. More than half (53.33 percent) of the local people have reported that the quality of products produced by sample youth of both the groups was satisfactory. One fourth (25.00 percent) product of the participants group was good. One fifth (21.67 percent) product of the same groups have assessed very good.

One the other hand, near about one third (33.34 percent) of the local peoples opined that the quality product produced by the self-employed youth of non-participants group was good followed by very good (13.33 percent). As shown in the Table 6.40 self-employed youth of participants group produced product relatively better quality in respect of production of very good quality (8.34% higher) products than the self-employed youth of non-participants group.

## ii. Necessity of Youth Self-employment Activities

A large number of self-employment programmes have been implemented in Bangladesh during the last few decades. Youth can take up self-employment project for their economic empowerment. In this respect data have been collected from the local people as observer on how they felt the importance of youth self-employment activities.

Table 6.41: Distribution of the Local People According to their Opinions on the Importance of Youth Self-employment Activities in the Locality

Opinion	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	58	96.67	60	100
No	02	03.33	Nil	Nil
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 6.41 indicates that almost all the local people of both the groups have answered yes about the self-employment activities that exist in their localities. By undertaking self-employment project scope of rural employment has increased substantially and they get product easily.

## iii. Impact of Self-employment Activities on the Locality

Impact is the change brought about by a certain action. The self-employed youth are working in a variety of economic activities. By implementing this activities they have brought about improvement in the socio-economic status.

Table 6.42: Distribution of Local People According to their Opinion on the Impact of Youth Self-employment Activities

Indicators of Impact	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Youth employment generation	57	95.00	60	100
Development of youth entrepreneurship	35	58.33	36	60.00
Development of youth leadership	18	30.00	16	26.67
Economic solvency	56	96.33	54	90.00
Helpful for poverty alleviation	45	75.00	42	70.00
Reduction of crime	06	10.00	03	5.00
To get product easily	46	76.67	50	83.33
Honestly income	05	8.33	02	03.33

(More than one responses)

In this respect data have been collected from the local people on how they observed the changes. Out of eight aspects under consideration, the self-employed youth of participants group have improved comparatively higher in respect of youth leadership development, economic solvency, poverty alleviation, reduces of crime and honestly earning than the self-employed youth of non-participants group. They also opined that regarding employment generation entrepreneurship development and availability of product in the locality the situation of improvement was comparatively better in the non-participants group than that of participants group.

#### iv) Interest on Involving Self-employment Activities

Self-employment activities has gained widespread popularity among the rural people. Youth have desire to do new activities and new projects. These new type of activities have attracted by the local people.

Table 6.43: Distribution of Local People According to their level of Interest on Involving Youth Self-employment Activities

Level of interest	Categories of self-employed youth			
	Participants Group		Non-Participants Group	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	44	73.33	48	80.00
No	16	26.67	12	20.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100.00</b>

$$\chi^2=0.76, d.f=1$$

In this respect the researcher asked the local people about the interest of involving of self-employment projects in their localities. From them 73.33 percent local people of participants group answered in the affirmative and 26.67 percent replied in the negative. On the contrary 80.00 percent local people of non-participants group answered in the affirmative and 20.00 percent replied in the negative. The findings indicate that the present youth self-employment activities can attract adequate interest of the local people.

The table value of  $\chi^2$  for 1 d.f at 5% level of significance is 0.84. Since the calculated value of  $\chi^2$  is less than the tabulated value of  $\chi^2$ . Hence, it is concluded that there is no significant association between interest of local people on involving self-employment activities and categories of self-employed youth.

### **Conclusion**

The review of skill development training and micro-credit programme and impact of youth self-employment activities have proved that it is a useful programme for the socio-economic development of unemployed youth. The main features of the YTSEP are to provide skill development training, motivation towards self-employment and youth loan as financial support for the unemployed youths. Though the programme activities and impact was being blessed for self-employed youths, some limitations being appeared at the time of collecting information of research. It was observed that in most cases, the selection procedure of the unemployed youth for skill training was strictly followed by DYD. But there is no continuous follow up of the trained youths by the YTC or by the concerned programme officials. In some cases, DYD officials selected some of the youths who were either the candidates of local influential persons or pushed by their guardians. After training these youths were not interested to confine themselves in new profession. Rather they were concerned about their social prestige. However, the selected youths were mostly unemployed or underemployed persons of the families and belonged to the needy families. Similarly, in respect of micro-credit operation, selection procedure of loan receivers, responsibility of credit approval committee, procedures of credit disbursement and repayment and role of credit supervisor etc., made YTSEP as a comprehensive development programme for youth. In reality YTSEP loan distribution principles were not followed thoroughly. In some cases, credit supply was found inadequate.

Regarding the impact of youth self-employment activities, the study shows that poultry, fisheries and dress-making are the relatively frequent and more profitable schemes. In respect of increasing monthly income, profit earning, rate of loan repayment, employment generation for others, creating savings habits, new possession of family assets, achievement of economic



solvency and ownership of land the improvement was comparatively higher in the participants group than that of non-participants group. Besides, except some indicators, positive changes in the quality of life, upliftment of social status, women empowerment and participation in community affairs etc., the increasing proportion of participants group are consistently and significantly higher than those of non-participants group. They study also reveals that in implementing self-employment activities, the respondents of participants group faced less problems than that of non-participants group. It appears that due to intervention of YTSEP of DYD (training, credit and other inputs), successfulness with the youth self-employment projects the achievement trend was more advanced in participants group compared to that of non-participants group.



## Case Studies of the Self-Employed Youth

### Introduction

The case study method has virtually been thought upon to portray the exact socio-economic condition confronted by the participants and non-participants self-employed youth who have involve themselves in income generating activities through self-employment, either participating in training programme by YTSEP of DYD or not. As “the case study allows an investigation to retain the holistic and meaningful characteristics of real-life event”<sup>1</sup> therefore, for in depth understanding of the study problem nine (6 participants +3 non-participants) case studies have been conducted.

### 7.1 Case Studies of Participants Group

The participants group is mainly who are the most regular in attending in their youth activities, loan repayment, and has been operating their income generating projects according to the training obtained. The cases are described as follows:

#### Case-1

**Nazma Akter Nazu** (32) is a daughter of a farmer. Her family comprises of 9 members including, 3 brothers and 4 sisters. She had a dream of higher studies but it came to an end after appeared in SSC examination when she did not pass the examination. As an elder child she was always thinking to do something but she had nothing to do at her father’s family. Her father is a small farmer with very tiny land from which he cannot run his family fairly round the year.

Nazu was married off to Mofazzel Hossain Hitlu of west Akkurtakur para under Tangail Sadar Upazila at the age of 15. Hitlu is a small businessman. She gave birth one son. Now son Nazmul read in class IX. The income of her husband is hardly adequate for their living and she was found to do something for income generating activities.

Finally, she started a self-employment project in 1997 with her own investment of only Taka 450. She has been working in block and batik print

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<sup>1</sup> Robert K. Yin, *Case Study Research: Design and Method*, (London: Sage Publication, 1984), p. 14.

project for several years. Due to hard labor and devotion her project gradually raised. She received one month's training on block and batik print in the year 2002 at YTC, Tangail. This training has assisted her to be self-dependent. For expansion of her project gradually she also received others training from different GO and NGOs. She purchased a sewing machine at a cost of taka four thousand from her own savings. She also started dress-making project with the help of Department of Youth Development (DYD). She received youth loan of Taka 10,000 from DYD, Tangail Sadar, Tangail to utilize her gained knowledge and skill. After successful utilization of DYD loan she also took gradually Taka 25,000 and Taka 40,000 from DYD.

At present, she has achieved success in several projects like 'Nakshi Kantha', Handicraft and Cottage industry, Show-piece making etc. together with her block-batik printing and dress-making projects. At present her project capital stands at Taka 22,25,000 and she earn a net profit of Taka 7,80,000 per year. She engaged 220 fulltime and part time young women workers including 14 young men in her project. All the workers got skill training in various trades from her. These workers earn Taka 3,000-5,000 per months as their wages. After all expenditure she earns now Taka 70,000 in a month.

Nazu has motivated other local young women for receiving training and even assisted them to set up a project with her own labour. She has set up a youth organization namely 'Sulav Bandhan Mahila Samity' where the members are involved in motivation, training and helping one another to become self-employed.

Her income contributes for food, clothes, construction, medicine, education and sanitation and soon. After meeting the family expenses she bought 16 decimals of land in the last year. Thus youth training has not only assisted to change her knowledge, skill attitude and behaviour but also it has brought a radical change of her social status.

By this occupation her family has become economically solvent. At present local people show her honour and request her to solve social problems. She believes that such skill oriented training may assist to create self-employment for others and it can also help to solve unemployment problem in the rural areas of our country. The success she has achieved, is really appreciable.

From youth self-employment activities Nazu has achieved the above mentioned success. However, due to shortage of loan facilities, infrastructural weakness, i.e., shortage of electricity, limited transport facility and inadequate marketing opportunity she failed to achieve the targets.

## Case-2

**Saiful Islam**, aged 35, was born at the village of Garinda adjacent to Railway station under the Sadar Upazila of Tangail District. His father Kismat Ali was a poor farmer having cultivable land of only 145 decimals. Mr. Saiful has two brothers, one sisters. He is eldest among two brothers and one sister. Being eldest son of the family, Saiful is supposed as 'the hope' of the family. He received education up to S.S.C level. He could not proceed on his studies after passing the S.S.C examination owing to the financial hardship. He used to work as agricultural worker in his family farm. But he was trying to do something independently. In this respect with the confidence of doing work and work her renders relentless effort to solve unemployment engulfing him and as a part of it he received institutional training from the Department of Youth Development on rearing of livestock, poultry with their primary treatment and pisciculture in the year 1999. After the training he took youth loan of Taka 24,000/- from the Department of Youth Development, Sadar Upazila, Tangail to utilize his gained knowledge and skill, started a small poultry project in the year 2000 with his own initiative. At first step he achieved a great deal of success.

Thereafter he formed 'Udayan Multipurpose Co-operative Society' in his locality in the year 2003. As a general secretary he attend the weekly meetings of the society and according to by-laws of the society, he deposits at least Taka 10.00 per week and also occasionally purchase shares. In this way, he has accumulated an amount of taka 3000/- as share and savings. Through this society he took lease ponds and started fish cultivation.

Subsequently he paid all the installments of the DYD. For undertaking another project he again took loan of taka 50,000/- from Agrani Bank Limited. At present he has achieved success in some innovative projects like tree plantation, nursery and poultry feed and medicine business etc. together with his poultry and fisheries project. He has achieved tremendous success from all his project. Now the capital raise to taka 15,00,000/- and he earned a net profit of taka 3,00,000/- per year. He engaged 2 fulltime and 3 part-time young workers. The workers getting total taka 8,000/- per month as their wages. Saiful also deposited Taka 300/- to his saving account every month in the private bank after paying DYD and others credit installment.

Saiful got married at the age of 26. He has one daughter. He hopes to educate his children up to the Medical graduate. There has been a significant change in Saiful's socio-economic status. YTSEP of DYD brought about improvement in the living standard of his family. His income contributes for food, clothes, making houses, medicine, education and furniture purposes. After meeting the family expenses he bought one shop in Tangail town and

two decimals of land in Garinda bazar within cost of Taka 4,00,000. His prestige has now gone up in his society. He has overcome the fear and illegal domination by the rich. Poor villagers come to him for consultation on various matters including casting of vote at the time of election. He is now invited at the *salish* in the village for setting down the conflicts among the villagers. He is now being frequently invited to different social festivities.

Saiful has become more conscious than he was before. He is also concerned with the social problems of our society, e.g., unemployment, dowry, dishonesty, drug addiction, HIV/AIDS, terrorist activities etc. He is a master trainer on HIV/AIDS issues in the locality. Moreover he is working as an executive member of local school, mosque, bazar and other cultural organization. He is also hopeful about becoming elected representative of his Union Parishad in the post of chairman.

From youth self-employment activities Saiful has achieved the above mentioned success. However, due to shortage of loan facilities, shortage of technical assistance and inadequate marketing opportunity he failed to achieve the targets.

### Case-3

**Mamtaz Sultana Maya**, aged 35, was born at the village of Natiapara under the Mirzapur Upazila of Tangail district. Her father late Arsan Ali was a service holder. Maya's father family consists of 12 members i.e. her father, mother, four brother and six sisters. She was eighth among her siblings. Her father was the only earning member. As a result, they faced very serious economic hardship. When, Maya passed H.S.C examination in second division from a local intermediate college, her parents were very happy. Though the family was not able to afford the expenses for further education, her parents encouraged her to continue her education. So they cut short all other expenses and saved for their child's educational expenses. Meanwhile she passed out M.Sc (Zoology) from Govt. Sadat College under National University.

After completing her study she tried to appear in competitive examination but does not get job in time. Meanwhile, Maya got married to Mr. Mohiduzzaman Siddique of Basail at the age of 27. Mohiduzzaman is a college lecturer. He did not demand any dowry for his marriage. His monthly salary is taka 8,000/-. His father separated him just after his marriage. Maya gave birth two daughters. Apart from the teaching Mohiduzzaman cultivates 100 decimals of his own land from which he earns a considerable portion of food grain for his family. Thus, after marriage, although they did not face starvation, they had to face economic hardship. At this time she came to touch with the Department of Youth Development (DYD).

Then she received 15 days non institutional training on block & batik printing from the Basail Upazila DYD office in the year 2003. Utilizing her skill and knowledge she started block-batik and dress making project in the year 2003. At the initial stage her project capital was Taka 5,000. Within short time her project become famous. Later in 2006 she also get a training on dress making from the Directorate of Women Affairs. She purchased one sewing machine. Local women came to her for their dress making. She is supplying her products to the renowned shops of Tangail district town. Thus her name and fame in block-batik and dress making is known to the locality. With a plan to sale ready made garments beside dress making, she received a loan of Taka 10,000/- from Youth Development Office Basail. She also started a first ladies tailoring shop of Basail Upazila. Now there are two sewing machines in her shops. After her employment, she engaged 3 young women in her shops. Other than this, 40 young women are engaged as working force in her project. These young women earn Taka 300-1500 in per month. Now in her project capital stands at Taka 2,00,000/- (Two lac). After all expenditures she earns now Taka 3,000/- to 5,000/- per month.

In 2003, she formed an organization namely 'Basail Khondoker Para Mohila Kallyan Samity' with the 55 trained and helpless young women. As a chairperson she attends the monthly meetings of the samity and according to by-laws of the samity, she deposits Taka 10/- per month. In this way, she has accumulated an amount of Taka 840/- as savings. By this organization she is implementing various skill training and social awareness programme. The success achieved by her is a matter of pride to her and on inspirations for other women.

As a higher educated young women she also has joined in a high school in 2007. She earn about taka 6,000/- from this service. Thus on the basis of hard working and self confident. Mamtaz Sultana Maya has enriched her husbands family. Her teacher husband is so happy with her success that he himself has guide the tiny job and has been fully co-operating her. Her two daughters are reading in class four at local primary school. She hopes to educate her two daughter upto university level.

At present Mamtaz Sultana Maya finds herself that her social status has been raised from what was before. Local people show her honour and request her to solve social problem. Poor women come to her for consultation on various matters including casting of vote at the time of election. Due to her position as self-employed in the localities, she is now involved in the socio-cultural activities in her localities concerned. She hopes to make her village free from the curse of dowry system and early marriage. She is now being frequently invited to different social festivities arranged by GO/NGOs of the locality.

From youth self-employment activities Maya has achieved the above mentioned success. However, due to shortage of loan facilities, infrastructural weakness, i.e., shortage of electricity, limited transport facility and inadequate marketing opportunity she failed to achieve the targets.

#### Case – 4

**Md. Alamgir Hossain**, aged 33, was born at the village Gobindashi under the Bhuapur Upazila of Tangail district. His father late Izzat Ali was a farmer having cultivable land of 240 decimals. Alamgir has two brothers and two sisters. He is the youngest among them. During the age of one year, Alamgir lost his father. His mother very hardly maintained his education expenses upto H.S.C. He was also admitted as a honours first year student in the Ibrahim Khan College. But he was always intended to do something innovative. At times he observed poultry farm activities at the village Mogra under the Sadar Upazila of Tangail district. He received Taka 20,000 from his mother (Misses Hena) and started poultry firm in their house. It was no loss, no profit. So he was encouraged. After three months, to know modern technique of poultry farming, fisheries and livestock he received three months training course from YTC Savar in 1998. Therefore to extend the project he received a loan of Taka 25,000/- from DYD office of Bhuapur Upazila under Tangail district. After successful utilization of first DYD loan he again received loan of Taka 50,000/- from DYD.

For expansion of his project and undertaking another project he again took loan with a big amount from BRAC Bank and ASA two national NGO of Bangladesh. At present he has some successful projects like poultry, fisheries, livestock and poultry feed and medicine business etc. His capital now stands at Taka 50 Lakh and earns monthly Taka 5,70,000/- from his poultry farm. He got a net profit of Taka 1,00,000/- per month. He engaged 6 full time young workers. The workers getting total taka 21,000/- per month as their wages.

In the year 2000 he formed ‘Star Youth Co-operative Society’ in his locality. As a general secretary he attended the weekly meetings of the association. By this society he is implementing savings, motivation and social awareness programme among the members of the association. Beside his self-employment project he continues his studies. He completed his B.A. in 2002 and also got admission in M.A. But due to the heavy work load of his business in self-employment activities he had to stop education.

Alamgir got married at the age of 32. His wife Labony Akter is a B.A. examinee. There has been a significant change in Alamgir’s socio-economic status. Youth self-employment activities brought about improvement in the living standard of his family. His income contributes for food, clothes,



making houses, medicine, education and furniture purposes. After meeting the family expenses he bought 8 bighas land in the locality within the cost of Taka 50 Lakh.

Alamgir has become more conscious about various socio-cultural aspect of life than he was before. His prestige has now gone up in his society. He is now invited at the *salish* in the village for setting down the conflicts among the villagers. He is also concerned with the social problems of our society, e.g., unemployment, dowry, early marriage, illiteracy and gender discrimination etc. Moreover, he involved in a local school management committee. In future, he wants to establish an oldage home in the locality.

Alamgir has get on example of self-employment. Work loving Alamgir has changed his fortune through hard labour. He may be a model to other youths.

From youth self-employment activities Alamgir has achieved the above mentioned success. However, due to shortage of loan facilities, infrastructural weakness, i.e., shortage of electricity, limited transport facility and inadequate marketing opportunity he failed to achieve the targets.

### Case – 5

**Quddusun Noor** (33) was born in a lower middle class family. Her family consists of father-mother, two brothers and two sisters. She was the eldest amongst her siblings. Her father was a poorly paid government employee. Quddusun Noor observed from her childhood that her father struggled very hard to manage family expenses and their educational expenses. She was always thinking how to bring solvency in this poverty stricken family. She was very determined to establish her alongwith her studies. So, she was very much interested in sewing works from her early life. It was not possible for her to continue her studies after S.S.C.

Quddusun Noor was married off to Md. Kamruzzaman of Vharai under Bhuapur Upazila at the age of 20. Her husband was a small businessman. Her husband indulged into politics and was involved in some unsocial activities. Such devastation was found in their family. In this backdrop, she started a layer poultry farm in 1998. Side by side she was continuing her dream of sewing works. From these two project she was gradually increasing earning. This success opened the venue of her future fortune. But due to the social barrier she stopped poultry farm in 2001. She started a new venture self-employment project namely 'Karukaj Ladies Tailors and Block Printers' in 2002 with her own investment of taka 1,00,000/-. Karukaj slowly was prospering in ladies wear tailoring. There was no expected result due to lack of training. At that time she was informed by her husband that the Department of Youth Development imparts training on different vocational

trades. And after training there was provision of loan for self-employment activities. She received one month's training on block and batic print in year 2004 at Youth Training Centre, Tangail. After being trained up, she borrowed Taka 10,000/- from the Department of Youth Development as youth loan and was extending her project. After successful utilization of DYD loan she also took Taka 10,000/- from the Department of Youth Development for the second time. Gradually her income raised up.

At present the capital of her project stands at Taka 1,50,000/-. She earns Taka 12,000/- in a month. Even it increases Taka 25,000/- to Taka 30,000/- during the Eid festival. 3 young women are engaged in her project. These young women earn Taka 5,000/- in a month from her project. They produced embroidery work, block and batik, lady and baby garments and other usable thing. She also supplies big orders.

Quddusun Noor has enriched her husband's family. Now two sons study in local primary school. She meets up their educational expenses from her earning and also shares the family needs. She hopes to educate her two son up to university and medical graduate level respectively. After meeting the family expenses she bought a refrigerator, a colour television and a cot at a total cost of Taka 1,00,000/-. Her husband, mother in law and other relatives now like her.

By this occupation her name and fame in tailoring is known to her villagers. For this reason, she is respected by the community people. Quddusun Noor is not only successful self-employed young women, her contribution in social development work is also notable. She used to inspire local people about sanitary toilet and its use, movement against women torture and dowry etc. Moreover, she encourages the local youths for savings and to adopt family planning. She is actively involved in various youth programme.

Quddusun Noor, who was a unemployed young woman once, is today established as a successful self-employed lady with her self confidence, hard labour, dedication and commitment. In her locality some small projects have been established by young women by her encouragement. In future she wants to establish a readymade batik showroom in Bhuapur Upazila. To involve more young women, she also wants to form a 'Women Co-operative Society' in her locality.

From youth self-employment activities Quddusun Noor has achieved the above mentioned success. However, due to shortage of loan facilities, infrastructural weakness, i.e., shortage of electricity, limited transport facility and inadequate marketing opportunity she failed to achieve the targets.

**Case – 6**

**S.M. Shafiuddin**, son of Md. Abul Hossain of village Berbari, Upazila Shakhipur, district Tangail was born in a lower middle class family. His age is about 33 years. He obtained B,Com (Honours) in Accounting in 2002. His father is the head of household. His father has 160 decimals land which he inherited from his grandfather late Md. Abdul Hamid. S.M. Shafiuddin has one brother and one sister. His father is a small businessman from which he cannot run his family fairly round the year. As elder son of the family Shafiudin started to assist his father in running the family. He thought to stand on her own feet. But could not success to get a job.

In 2002, after completion of B.Com (Honours) he contacted to Youth Development Office of Tangail district and in the same year with the advice of his father he obtained three months training in computer from DYD. This training gave him opportunity to be self-employed.

After training initially he started a computer training project at Karotia Bazar, Sadar, Tangail with the capital of Taka 40,000/- from his father in 2002. He purchased a computer at a cost of Taka Thirty thousand. Beside his project he continues his studies. He appeared in M.Com examination. But due to the business in self-employment activities he cannot passed the examination. However, he served as a computer teacher from 2003 to 2008 in a local school. He worked hard for expanding his project gradually.

In 2009, he received a loan of Taka 50,000/- from Agrani Bank Ltd. He purchased another five computers, one server and one printer. Within short time his centre became familiar to the local people. Shafiuddin was very sincere to his self-employment project. After repayment of this loan, he again received loan of Taka 50,000/- from Agrani Bank Ltd. in January 2010. He purchased another four computer and established “Institute of Computer Knowledge” in Karotia. Now 20 student for 3 months training course and 37 students for 6 months training course have been admitted in his institute. He went on with project plan and invested his capital which he earned after each course. He earns now Taka 30,000/- in a month. His capital now stands at Taka 4 Lakh and got a net profit of Taka 20,000/- per month. He has employed 2 part time youths in his project. They getting total Taka 3,000/- per month as their wages.

Shafiuddin got married at the age of 30. His wife Jesmin Akhter is a H.S.C examinee. He has one daughter. He hopes to educate his children up to the Medical Graduate.

There has been a significant change in Shafiuddin’s socio-economic status. His income contributes for food, clothes, making houses, medicine, education and furniture purposes. He bought a refrigerator, a colour

television and a cot at a total cost of Taka 1,10,000/-. He also bought 30 decimals land in the locality within the cost of Taka 3 Lakh. Moreover, for good and healthy housing facility he build up a semi-pucca (brick-tin-roofed) house within the cost of Taka 2 Lakh. He also purchased a motor cycle within the cost of Taka 60,000/-. Shafiuddin also deposited Taka 1,000/- to his saving account every month in the Agrani Bank Ltd. and Taka 1200/- in the local NGOs.

There has been a significant change in social status of Shafiuddin. By these income generating activities his family has become economically solvent. He believes that such skill oriented training may assist to create self-employment for others and also to solve unemployment problem in the rural areas of our country. He is expecting that in near future he will be able to establish this training institute as a 'Business Management College' under Bangladesh Technical Education Board. He wishes for further co-operation and blessing from everybody. Now he is respected by the community people.

From youth self-employment activities Shafiuddin has achieved the above mentioned success. However, due to shortage of loan facilities, infrastructural weakness, i.e., shortage of electricity, limited room facility and inadequate skill manpower opportunity he failed to achieve the targets.

## **7.2 Case Studies of Non-Participants Group**

The Youth of the non-participants group are mainly involved themselves income generating activities either of the own interest and initiative or from their family tradition but these people did not take active participation of training or credit programme of DYD.

### **Case-7**

**Samim Al Mamun**, aged 30 was born at the village of Korotia under the Sadar Upazila of Tangail district. His father Gias Uddin was a primary school teacher. His father is the head of household. His father has 210 decimals land which he inherited from his grandfather late Abbasuddin. His family consists of father-mother, two brothers and four sisters. He is the youngest among them. Samim observed from his childhood that his father struggled very hard to manage their educational expenses. His father very hardly maintained his expenses upto H.S.C He was also admitted as a honours first year student in the Govt. Saadat College. But he was always thinking to do something independently. At times he observed photocopy and computer compose activities at the Korotia Bazar under the Sadar Upazila of Tangail district.

In this backdrop, he started a photocopy project at Korotia Bazar with the capital of Taka 1,00,000/- from his father in 2004. He worked hard for

expanding his project gradually. He started a new venture self-employment project namely 'Samim Computer Compose and Photocopy Centre' in 2007 with this own investment of taka 50,000/-. In this way he gradually succession business but due to the burden of the business he had to stop his study.

Samim did not get any training for computer compose. He does not create any opportunity to receive for training. So learning by doing he has been implementing the project. For expansion, his project he received a loan of Taka 10,000 from local NGOs, for several times.

At present the capital of his project stands at Taka 2,00,000/-. He earns Taka 20,000/- in a month. Moreover, he is involved a local market co-operative society and he deposits at least Taka 10/- per day.

Samim got married at the age of 30. His wife Rahima Akter is a primary schools teacher. He has one daughter. He hopes to educate his children up to Masters degree. Samim has enriched his fathers family through financial and technical support. His parents is happy with his success. Moreover he is working as a member of local sporting club.

From youth self-employment activities Samim has achieved the above mentioned success. However, due to lack of training and infrastructural weakness, i.e., shortage of electricity, inadequate capital he failed to achieve the targets.

### **Case-8**

**Md. Jahangir Hossain**, aged 33, was born at the village Borchona under the Shakhipur Upazila of Tangail district. He obtained Masters degree in Social Work in 2006. His father Abul Hossain was a farmer having cultivable land of 280 decimals. Mr. Jahangir has four brothers and two sisters. He is the eldest among them, being eldest son of the family, Jahangir is supported as 'the hope of the family'. In this backdrop he has been trying with his rentless effort to get a job, but he failed. At times he started to observed poultry farm activates of the locality.

With the help of his family, he started a poultry farm project in his house in 2006. It was no loss, no profit. So he was encouraged. His initial invesment was Taka 1,00,000/- which is now stands at taka 3,00,000/-. He earns monthly Taka 5,000 /- from his poultry fram. He got a net profit of Taka 20,000/- per month. He engaged one full time young worker who getting Taka 3,000/- per month as his wage.

Jahangir got married at the age of 30. His wife Sapna Akter is a honourse first year student in Shakhipur Residential Women's College. Therefore to extend the project his wife received one month training course one poultry

from Shakhipur Upazila Youth Development office in 2009. Consequently, her wife received a loan of taka 20,000/- from DYD in 2010. Jahangir and her wife were very sincere to their project.

There has been remarkably change in Jahangir's family status. His income contributes for food, clothes, medicine, education and religious purposes. Now he desire to build a house. This self-employment project has assisted him to be self-dependent. He wisher for further co-operation and blessing from concerned organizations.

From youth self-employment activities Jahangir has achieved the above mentioned success. However, due to shortage of loan facilities & training, infrastructural weakness, i.e., shortage of electricity, limited transport facility and inadequate marketing opportunity he failed to achieve the targets.

### **Case-9**

**Halima Akter**, aged 32, was born at the village Porabari under the Sadar Upazila of Tangail district. Her father Rahmal Ali was a farmer having cultivable land of only 165 decimals. Haliam's family consists of 6 members i.e. her mother, two younger brother, one younger sister and her child daughter. She read up to class X. His father was not alive but mother is alive. Halima was married of to Abdul Matin of Isapur under Kalihati Upazila at the age of 20. Matin was a Garments worker. She gave birth one daughter. The income of her husband is hardly adequate for their living. Misfortune seems to have come to Halima's family on permanently basis. In the meantime after five years of her marriage her husban Abdul Matin again married of to another garments worker. In the prevailing situation she come back in her mother's house with her daughter.

In this backdroup, she started dress making project by purchasing a sewing machine with a cost of Taka 4000/- in the year 2004. Her mother has been helping in this regard. Her project was prospering slowly. But she could not achieved expected result due to lack of training. At present the capital of her project stands at Taka 20,000/-. She earns taka 6000/- in a month. Even it increases Taka 10,000/- to Taka 15,000/- during the period of Eid festival. She is producing lady and baby dresses.

At present Halima finds herself that her socio-economic condition has been raised from what was before. Her mother is happy with her efforts and has been fully co-operating her. Her daughter are reading in class three at a local primary school. She hopes to educate her daughter up to Graduate level.

From youth self-employment activities the respondents has achieved the above mentioned success. However, due to lack of training, shortage of capital and inadequate support from family she failed to achieve the targets.

## **Conclusion**

From the above nine case studies some basic difference have been observed between the participants and non-participants cases. In fact the non-participants self-employed youth are from well to do family and who are traditionally involved in income generating activities and various types of business. Consequently, their income and knowledge is better than the poor unskilled newly involved participants self-employed youth. However, the participants youth are sincere, systematic and more devoted in their business. So it is concluded that if the participants self-employed youth get adequate loan and other technical and non-technical support from the concern organizations their performance may much more better than the non-participants self-employed youth in the long run.





## **Summary of the Findings, Conclusion and Policy Implications**

### **Introduction**

The salient feature of the overall study has been put in few words in this chapter. This study has been conducted with a view to make an assessment of the impact of Youth Training and Self-employment Programme of DYD on the rural youth in the district of Tangail, as well as in Bangladesh. The findings obtained from a field survey and available secondary sources are used to find out the actual socio-economic situation of self-employed youth, nature of their income generating activities, programme facilities for them, socio-economic changes in their life and to find out the possible solutions for their problems. The findings of the study is significant for some areas of youth development. It is observed that skill training and credit are helpful for creating youth employment opportunity and it has brought a significant change for their income generating. So, this study is an important study on the youth employment in their respective categories. In this chapter presents the summary of findings, conclusions and policy implications of the study have been presented.

### **8.1 Summary**

A densely-populated poverty stricken country like Bangladesh, employment can play a vital role in development planning. Employment is the key issue for development and it is a necessity for economic survival and ought to be recognized as fundamental human right. In the Articles No. 14,15,17 and 20 of the constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh have demonstrated the guarantee of employment and social security of her citizens. The Ministry of Youth and Sports coordinates the works of youth serving ministries. The National Youth Policy (2003) worked as a guiding principle for planning and implementation of activities related to the development of the youth. Under the Ministry of Youth & Sports, the Department of Youth Development (DYD) was created in December 1981. DYD has been implementing different training and credit programmes since its inception. The DYD programmes are aimed at transforming the youth to productive workforce through motivation, training, micro credit and necessary inputs. The ultimate objective of these programmes is to

alleviate poverty and to improve living standard of the targeted youth through facilitating self-employment opportunities to them.

Youth Training and Self-Employment Programme (YTSEP) is an important programme of the Department of Youth Development (DYD). YTSEP has completed its experimental phase in June, 2003. This programme is now being in operation in 64 district and 476 upazila offices as 'National Youth Development Model.' DYD has been implementing this programme for the last twenty years in the country. In the changing socio-economic scenario, it is, therefore, deemed necessary to assess effectiveness, efficacies, relevance as well as limitations of this programmes of the DYD through investigating the strengths and weaknesses of the ongoing programme. The main focus of this research is to find out the impact of youth training and to assess the activities of self-employment programme. There has been little or no comprehensive study done on this issues in Bangladesh so far. Hopefully the present study has tried to complete in the existing vacuum with regard to literature in this particular area of knowledge.

### **Objectives of the Study**

The main objective of the study is to critically review the activities of the Youth Training and Self-employment Programme (YTSEP) during the period from 2003-2004 to 2007-2008 in the district of Tangail and to assess the impact on life of the self-employed youth's who participated in it in comparison to non-participants self-employed youth. The specific objectives of this study are: (i) to find out the selected socio-economic and demographic characteristics of the participants and non-participants self-employed youth. (ii) to identify the participation of self-employed rural youth in selected agricultural and non-agricultural activities for their self-employment. (iii) to analyze the impact of existing programme activities of youth training and self-employment programme, and (iv) to identify the problems of youth training and self-employment programme.

### **Methods**

The study is an evaluative one by nature. This study used a sample survey as well as case study methods to obtain information about the programme activities and impact of YTSEP on the socio-economic conditions of its beneficiaries. This study was conducted in twelve upazilas of Tangail district where DYD and other organizations have been implementing their youth self-employment activities at least for one year. 120 respondents (60 from YTSEP participants and 60 from non-participants) have been selected for the study. The impact of the YTSEP has been assumed by comparing a sample of YTSEP members (participants group) with another sample of self-employed youth from the same locality, who

were not exposed to any special development programme of DYD. The latter group being treated here as non-participants group. This study generated field data through a purposive sampling procedure, 5 participants and 5 non-participants (self-employed youth) from each of the upazila of Tangail district were originally selected for the study. Moreover, for each self-employed youths of participants group and non-participants group, one local people has also been selected as respondents. They have been selected for obtaining advice, help and support in matters of youth self-employment activities. Thus a total of 240 respondents (120 self-employed youth and 120 local people) have been interviewed for this indepth study. Considering the objectives of the study, a detailed standard interview schedule was prepared, pre-tested and used for field work of the study. In addition, nine in-depth case studies have been conducted for the purpose of present research work.

Immediately after the completion of field level investigation, efforts had been made to edit the collected data to ensure accuracy of information. The edited data were processed and analyzed by using simple statistical techniques such as arithmetic mean, percentages, ratios, two way frequency distribution etc. supported by tables. Moreover, efforts has also been made to correlate the findings of the study emerged from statistical and logical analysis with the corroborating information available in other studies or sources of information.

## **Findings of the Study**

### **Socio-demographic Profile**

Age is an important factor for self-employment generation. The age estimation indicates that in the participants group, the modal age group was 30-34 years and in the non-participants group, it was 25-29 years. The mean ages of the both groups were 25.83 and 29.21 years respectively. It appears that respondents of participants group are comparatively young population. In respect of educational qualification upto S.S.C level of participants and non-participants groups was 60 percent and 63.33 percent respectively. Upto H.S.C and above it was 40 percent and 36.67 percent respectively. If we compare only S.S.C pass level it was 43.34 percent and 25 percent respectively. It was also observed that upto S.S.C and above level female participants are more educated (16.67 percent) then the female non-participants. In the field of marital status, it has been found that 60 percent participants and 68.33 percent non-participants groups were married.

The study indicates that higher education level of respondents of DYD supported participants group is higher than the respondents of non-participants group. The percentage of non-participant respondents group

were high than the respondents of participants group regarding their marital status. Upto S.S.C level it is allmost doubled.

### **Household Profile**

With regard to household size, the modal number of the respondents of both participants group and non-participants group had 5-7 members in each family and their percentage was 38.33 and 50 percent. In an average, the family size of participants group was 6.05 persons and in non-participants group the family size was 5.8 persons. The average family size of both group of self-employed youth was higher than the national average of 4.9 persons. In regard to land ownership pattern, it has been found that in both participants and non-participants group land has been unevenly distributed. The average size of land owned in the participants group was 2.62 acre and in the non-participants group it was 2.42 acres. The study also reveals that 56.67 percent of the DYD stakeholders belongs to the landless, marginal and small farmers categories (0-2.50 acres), which indicated that the authority has been able to address the target group of youths selected from disadvantaged families, which is one of the main objectives of DYD.

### **Economic Profile**

It was significantly revealed from the study that agriculture is the main source of livelihood for households both in the participants and non-participants group of self-employed youth. The proportion of participation of the fathers of self-employed youth involved in agriculture as their primary occupation was greater (50.00 percent) in the non-participants group than the corresponding figure (38.33 percent) in the participants group. Others occupation of the household heads of participants and non-participants groups were business (21.67 percent in participants group and 18.33 percent in non-participants group), service holders (36.66 percent in participants group and 16.67 percent in non-participants group), and cottage industry (3.34 percent in participants group and 15.00 percent in non-participants group). It appears that mothers occupation were more less similar (housewife) which were about 96.67 percent in participants group and 93.33 percent in non-participants group respectively. In respect of average earning members of household were 2.42 persons in participants group and 2.27 persons in non-participants group. It is observed from the study that in most cases more than one members were involved in income earning activities from each and every household.

It is seen that on an average monthly income of per household of participants and non-participants group was found to be Taka 69,166 and

Taka 67,000 respectively, while average monthly expenditure was Taka 12,250 and Taka 8,667 respectively. From the average monthly income and expenditure, it is noteworthy that due to interventions made by YTSEP in the study areas the living standard of participants group was better than that of non-participants group.

### **Training and Credit Profile**

Training is a vital tool of income generating activities. It is observed from the study that hundred percent of the respondents from participants group received training, but in the non-participants group of self-employed youth, only 26.66 percent of the respondents received training. Similarly, credit plays a vital role in accelerating the income generating process. It is evident from the study that 70 percent self-employed youth of participants group received credit, while the percentage of non-participants group was found to be 48.33 percent. It appears from the study that the average credit received (Taka 49,045) of participants group is higher than the average credit size (Taka 45,862) of non-participants group.

### **Capital Formation, Earning and Expenditure of Youth Self-employment Project**

The Youth firstly started their self-employment project with small amounts of capital. Their investments gradually increased. It was evident from the study that in most cases, self-employed youth collected capital from their personal sources (95.19 percent in participants group and 96.86 percent in non-participants group). It has been further revealed that expanding of self-employment project they have also collected capital from other sources at a time. The sources were family/relatives (18.37 percent in participants group and 31.73 percent in non-participants group), banks (36.74 percent in participants group and 15.03 percent in non-participants group) and others (20.04 percent in participants groups and 26.72 percent in non-participants group). It is noted that self-employed youth of participants group only collected loan from DYD (61.79 percent) and other government organizations (6.68 percent). On the contrary, self-employed youth of non-participants group did not get any loan from government organizations. Thus collected from the different sources they formed capital and invest in the self-employment projects. In most cases, they invest capital up to Taka 1,50,000 (55 percent in participants group and 53.33 percent in non-participants group). It was also found that the average capital investment of non-participants group is somewhat higher (Taka 42,500) than the participants group.

By investing capital self-employed youth are implementing their self-employment projects. When inquired about the earnings of self-employed youth in the study area, one third of the respondents have earned upto Taka 30,000 (33.34 percent in participants group and 36.67 percent in non-participants group). Similarly, in the higher income range (Taka 1,20,000 and above) self-employed youth of non-participants group have earned somewhat higher (8.33 percent) than the participants group. Only in the medium income range (Taka 30,001-60,000) self-employed youth of participants group have earned some what higher (11.66 percent) than the non-participants group. It appears that self-employed youth of non-participants group earn more than participants group (i.e. the mean monthly income of participants group is Taka 53,500 and non-participants group is Taka 60,000).

In this regard the monthly expenditure of youth self-employment project, it has been observed that the average monthly expenditure of the participants group (Taka 36,667) which is somewhat lower than the average monthly expenditure (Taka 43,000) of non-participants group.

### **Nature of Involvement in Youth Self-Employment Activities**

As per objective of the self-employment project of DYD the youth, who have received training are supposed to engage themselves in self-employment activities. In this regard it is observed that all the sampled self-employed youth of both the groups (participants & non-participants) have been found to involve in a variety of economic activities. Maximum self-employed youth of both participants and non-participants group have been able to undertake one self-employment project. One fifth of the respondents has also undertaken more than one project. Out of the total, more than 75 percent self-employed youth of both groups have been found to involve in the farm activities. Among the farm project holders, maximum self-employed youth of both groups have been found to involve in poultry (46.67 percent in participants group and 65 percent in non-participants group). It is evident from the study that the participation of female self-employed youth from the participants group are higher (25 percent) than the participation of non-participants group (15 percent). Female self-employed youth are mainly involved in dress making (8.33 percent in participants group and 11.67 percent in non-participants group) and block & batik printing (3.3 percent in participants group and 1.67 percent in non-participants group). Due to intervention of youth training it also appears that the involvement of female in the trades of poultry, fisheries, livestock and dairy firm activities was higher (12 percent) in the participants group than that of non-participants group (1.67 percent). In

respect of ownership pattern of self-employment project it is observed from the study that a great majority of the self-employed youth (68.33 percent in participants group and 73.33 percent in non-participants group) are implementing their project in a single way. The average duration of work experience in their self-employment project are 6.33 years in the participants group and 6 years in the non-participants group. So it indicates that DYD supported self-employed youth have more experience than the self-employed youth of non-participants group. It appears that in most cases they are spending upto 12 hours (85 percent in participants group and 76.61 percent in non-participants group) in their self-employment project. Average time use in self-employment project of both groups is 7.8 hours.

### **Socio-Economic Impact of Youth Self-Employment Activities**

#### **Profit Earning, Savings and Repayment of Credit**

The prospects for earning profits constitute an important guide for allocation of resources to any economic activity. It has been observed that all types of self-employed youth of both groups earned profit from their self-employment project. It is evident from the study that though the average monthly profit (Taka 14,001) of the self-employed youth in both group is almost same but the amount of total profit (Taka 15,49,598) and total average profit (Taka 3,17,463) of participants group is higher than the non-participants group (Taka 1,36,451 and Taka 93,770 respectively). The study also shows that poultry, fisheries and dress-making are the relatively frequent and at the same time more profitable schemes.

In respect of savings 58.33 percent self-employed youth of participants group and 53.33 percent self-employed youth of non-participants group had savings. The average amount of monthly savings of the self-employed youth of participants group in Taka 507.32 which is higher than the average savings of Taka 437.60 of the self-employed youth of non-participants group. In creating savings habits among the member of the participants group who (5 percent more than non-participants) made savings, YTSEP played a vital role.

The rate of repayment of credit is usually considered a good indicator of positive economic change as a consequences of credit support to economic programme. Data on the trend of loan repayment reveals that, while about 76.19 percent self-employed youth of participants group repaid their loans regularly the percentage in non-participants group was found to be around 59 in this regard. This might be because of giving three months of gross period opportunity, monthly installments facilities and earning more profits from their self-employment projects.

### **Increasing Income and Employment Generation**

Increasing of monthly income and employment generation for others would be an indicator of change in economic status of the respondents. In this regard, a great majority of both groups self-employed youth (90 percent in participants group and 96.67 percent in non-participants group) opined that their income have also increased. It appears from the study that the average monthly income of participants group has increased in Taka 14,444 and Taka 13,793 in the non-participants group. It indicate that the self-employed youth of participants group are much well off, compared to the non-participants group.

Regarding employment generation for others it appears from the study that in average at least 3 persons have been employed at each of the self-employment project. It includes both the family and casual labour. The proportion of engagement of family labour in youth self-employment project was higher (85 percent) in the participants group than the corresponding figure (71.66 percent) in the non-participants group. The average number of family (1.92 persons) and casual labour (2.43 persons) involving in the participants group is somewhat higher than the average number of family (1.52 persons) and causal labour (2.33 persons) in the non-participants group. This is a clear evidence that YTSEP of DYD has made a significant contribution in raising the level of employment generation.

### **Change in Acquisition of Family Assets**

The assets of a family includes in this study are livestock, electronics equipment, furniture and jewellery. It was found from the study that the self-employed youth in participants group have purchased more assets, such as livestock (38.33 percent in participants group and 35 percent in non-participants group), electronics (53.33 percent in participants group and 41.66 percent in non-participants group), household furniture (48.33 percent in participants group and 36.67 percent in non-participants group) and jewellery (21.66 percent in participants group and 10 percent in non-participants group) compared to the non-participants group. This findings tend to suggest that generally the self-employed youth having had some benefit from the YTSEP of DYD have improved their economic situation which is reflected in their new possession at the recent time.

### **Changes Occurred in Basic Human Needs**

In this study different changes in the quality of life, such as food consumption, clothing, housing, enrolment of children in school, medicare, sanitation and recreational behaviour were examined.



With regard to food consumption, it is revealed from the study that a great majority of the respondents (98.33 percent in participants group and 85 percent in non-participants group) reported that their food consumption has increased. It reveals from the study that food consumption had moderately enhanced among participants group than that of non-participants group. In respect of improvement in clothing's, the condition was slightly advanced in participants group (95 percent) than that of non-participants group (93.33 percent).

Regarding housing condition, while 58.33 percent self-employed youth of participants group reported that their housing condition has improved, the percentage for non-participants group was 60. So it indicates that in respect of improvement in housing condition, the situation was slightly better in non-participants group compared to that of participants group.

Attempts were made to compare the level of education between the children of participants group and non-participants group. It was observed that a significant number (60 percent) of self-employed youth of both groups reported that child enrolment in school has increased, 40 percent self-employed youth of both groups did not find any improvement in this regard. So in this respect there was no difference between the participants and non-participants group. It may be due to the increased consciousness about education of the rural youth as a result of participation in self-employment programmness of both GO and NGO's.

In respect of medical treatment 93.34 and 90 percent self-employed youth of participants and non-participants group respectively reported that their scope for medical treatment has increased. On the similar lines, a significant proportion of the self-employed youth (61.67 percent in participants group and 68.33 percent in non-participants group) reported that their sanitation condition has improved. It was observed that slight variation in medical treatment and sanitation practice between participants and non-participants group was due to the opportunity of easy availability of services.

Regarding changing condition in recreational facilities, it has been found from the study that 41.67 and 47.66 percent self-employed youth of participants and non-participants group respectively reported that their scope for recreational facilities has increased.

It is evident that there have been positive changes in the quality of life of the rural youth. In respect of food consumption, clothing and medical treatment, the improvement was comparatively higher in the participants group than that of non-participants group. The difference in improvement

with regard to child enrolment in school appears to be less prominent. Regarding sanitation, housing and recreational facilities, the situation of improvement was comparatively better in the non-participants group than that of participants group.

### **Changes Occurred in Economic Solvency and Ownership of Land**

It has also been found from the study that being self-employed, a great majority of the respondents, i.e., 95 and 91.67 percent of participants and non-participants group respectively reported that they have achieved economic solvency. In essence, it may be said that including income, consciousness about income generating activities and profit earning increased among the responding self-employed youth of both the groups. But, this trends was slightly advanced in participants group compared to that of non-participants group.

Similarly, the change in the ownership of land depends on economic solvency and it brings changes in every spheres of life. However, it is evident from the study that 33.33 percent self-employed youth of both groups reported that their ownership of land has increased.

### **Upliftment of Social Status**

Social status means a position of an individual in his or her respective group or society. It has been found from the study that in respect of various indicators of social status were honour shown by people (95 percent in participants group and 100 percent in non-participants group), increasing social prestige (96.67 percent in participants group and 100 percent in non-participants group), increasing economic status (100 percent in participants group and 98.33 percent in non-participants group), increased participation in leadership (88.33 percent in participants group and 85 percent in non-participants group), people taken advice (98.33 percent in participants group and 91.67 percent in non-participants group) and increasing social interaction (90 percent in participants group and 80 percent in non-participants group) increased. It appears that except honour shown by people and increasing social prestige, others indicators of social status under consideration the increasing proportion of participants group are consistently and significantly higher than those of the non-participants group.

### **Change in the Status of Women**

In this study, attempt was made to analyze pattern of empowerment of women in household decision-making process. The change was reported on a three point scale; 'poorly empowered', 'moderately empowered' and 'adequately empowered'. The study findings reveals that due to

intervention of YTSEP of DYD self-employed young women are adequately empowered in the areas of education for children (87 percent in participants group and 67 percent in non-participants group), decision-making process in treatment for self (67 percent in participants group and 56 percent in non-participants group) and purchasing own cloth (93 percent in participants group and 56 percent in non-participants group) than that of the young women of non-participants group. Similarly, in respect of determining the number of child, spending freedom of own earned money and moving freely the self-employed young women of participants group are moderately empowered (26.67 percent) than the young women of non-participants group (11.11 percent). The difference in empowerment with regard to adopting family planning method appears to be less prominent.

### **Change in Participation of Community Affairs**

One of the main objectives of YTSEP of DYD was to enrich the youths with qualities of patriotism, national solidarity, love and sympathy towards human beings etc. In this respect, three aspects of community participation were examined.

Involving in socio-cultural activities was considered as one of the indicator of community participation. It was found from the study that highest percentage self-employed youth of both participants (46.67 percent) and non-participants (43.34 percent) group involved moderately in socio-cultural activities. The percentage of the self-employed involved highly in the participants group was slightly higher (43.34 percent) compared to the non-participants group (38.33 percent). It was observed that as entrepreneurs self-employed youth gained socio-economic status. Due to similar reason their involvement in socio-cultural activities also increased.

Association with voluntary social welfare agency is an important indicator for community participation. Voluntary social welfare agencies in Bangladesh are organised by youth and pay good attention to contain needs and interests of youth. It was found from the study that 75 percent self-employed youth of participants group and 70 percent self-employed youth of non-participants group told that they were associated with voluntary social welfare organization. 13.33 percent self-employed youth of both groups had associated with poor extent in voluntary social welfare organization. Association with moderate and high extent category, the self-employed youth of participants group comparatively more higher (5 percent) than the self-employed youth of non-participants group.

In regard to mentoring and animator's role performance, the participation of self-employed youth of participants group was much higher (76.66 percent) than that of self-employed youth of non-participants group (58.33 percent).

The above findings shows that as result of YTSEP of DYD, the highly extent of participation in community affairs was found dominating in the participants group.

### **Level of Successfulness in Youth Self-employment Activities**

The respondents were asked to what extent they were successful with their self-employment projects. It was found from the study that in the participants group 36.37 percent respondents were achieved wholly successful, 25 percent respondents were achieved partially successful and 36.67 percent respondents were achieved moderately successful with their self-employment project. Only 1.66 percent self-employed youth said that they were not at all successful with the projects.

On the contrary, in the non-participants group it appears that 28.33 percent respondents were achieved wholly successful, 31.67 percent respondents were achieved partially successful and 35 percent respondents were achieved moderately successful with their self-employment project. Only 5 percent self-employed youth of non-participants group said that they were not at all successful with the project. It indicates that in respect of successfulness with the youth self-employment projects the achievement trend was slightly (8.33 percent) advanced in participants group compared to that of non-participants group.

### **Major Problems of the Self-employment Projects**

The respondents were asked about the problems they are facing while operating self-employment projects. It was found from the study that a good number of respondents of participants group (95 percent) pointed out the lack of adequate capital fund and high price of inputs as their main problem. Besides, 90 percent respondents of participants group mentioned irregular electricity supply as their second problem. Among other problems narrated by the respondents of participants group are lack of timely and proper medical treatment (71.67 percent), damages of products by natural disaster (70 percent), low product price (66.67 percent), lack of professional knowledge and skill (58.33 percent), difficulties in transportation for marketing the products (55 percent), problem associated with providing land ownership documents for getting loan (50 percent), DYD does not monitor the projects (40 percent), shortage of land to undertake self-employment project (35 percent), lack

of show room/display centers (30 percent), husband/guardians insists to close the project (26.67 percent) and lack of cooperation by law enforcing agency (11.67 percent) etc.

On the other hand, most of the respondents of non-participants group pointed out the high price of inputs as their main problem. Besides 91.67 percent respondents of non-participants group mentioned lack of adequate capital fund as their second problem. 88.33 percent of them reported that lack of timely and proper medical treatment and irregular electricity supply are another important problems existing in the youth self-employment projects. 81.67 percent of them said that damages of products by natural disaster is another problem in the sector. Some other problems are also existing which are lack of professional knowledge and skill (76.67 percent), low product price (66.67 percent), difficulties in transportation for marketing the products (53.33 percent), concerned agency does not monitor the projects (41.67 percent), shortage of land to undertake self-employment project (33.33 percent), lack of show room/display centers (31.67 percent), problem associated with providing land ownership documents for getting loan (21.67 percent), husband/guardians insists to close the project (20 percent) and lack of cooperation by law enforcing agency (18.33 percent) etc.

From the above discussion it was revealed that the respondents of participants group faced less problems than that of non-participants group.

### **Opinion about the Support Services of YTSEP**

The link between self-employment and economic development is important for any country. In fact, self-employment depends on multiple factors, which may be offered in an integrated package programme. How do the sample self-employed youth look at such a programme? How far such a package programme is adequate? These pertinent questions require attention. Recognizing the need for knowing the attitude of the self-employment generation, relevant information has been collected from sample self-employed youth of participants group.

Data regarding opinion of the self-employed youth of DYD trained participants group revealed that they had favorable opinion for strengthening youth training and self-employment programme. They felt that involving youth self-employment programme is essential and it would be beneficial to rural families. However, about three-fourth (80 percent) of the self-employed youth did not agree that after training all the trained youths usually become increasing in self-employment activities. A remarkable proportion (93 percent) of self-employed youth

felt that without creating marketing facilities for produced goods self-employment project can not be profitable. Majority of the self-employed youth (90 percent) opined that self-employment project should be brought under the compulsory insurance scheme so as to cover the major risk factors. So policy makers of youth self-employment programmes would need to consider this factor.

### **Opinion of Local People**

An attempt has been made to study the opinions of the local people regarding the efficacy of YTSEP through observation. Local people were asked to assess the quality of the products produced by self-employed youth. In this respect, more than half (53.33 percent) of the local people have reported that the quality of products produced by self-employed youth of both groups was satisfactory. They also opined that self-employed youth of participants group produced relatively better quality of product (8.34 percent higher) for the production of very good quality of products than the non-participants group. Moreover, all the local people of both groups felt the importance of youth self-employment activities in the locality. They also observed that by undertaking self-employment project, self-employed youth of participants group have improved comparatively better in respect of youth leadership development, economic solvency, poverty alleviation, reduces of crime and honestly earning than that of non-participants group. In this circumstances, about three-fourth of the local people of both groups have interested to involve the youth self-employment activities.

### **Review of Case Study**

From the discussion of six case studies of participants group (three male youth and three female youth) it can be said that they appeared to be successful as youth entrepreneurs. They understood the youth self-employment concepts as profit as loss. Skill training helped them widen opportunity for self-employment activities. They took credit from YTSEP for several times and returned it through regular installments in time. They increased their income level through profit earning from their products. Their earnings were sufficient for the consumption of their needs. YTSEP made them more conscious, skilled and wise in different issues like social status, women empowerment, quality of life, participation in community affairs, etc. It was observed that though family support was not always available, but was extremely helpful for female youth. Nazu, Maya and Quddusun Noor could not have come so far without the assistance and co-operation of their husband and children.

From the case studies of non-participants group, it is clear that they have traditional knowledge in income generating activities and business but due to their economic solvency and other lacking, they are less methodological and concentrate to their business. However, their experience and traditional knowledge as well as rich social capital, their performance and achievement is not bad as it can be.

## 8.2 Conclusions

In the field of poverty alleviation and solving unemployment problem 'YTSEP' of the DYD is one of the noticeable efforts of Bangladesh government. Various activities like skill development training to the educated unemployed youth, providing loan to take self-employment after the training and motivation are being implemented by this project since last twenty years (1990-2010) consecutively extended to the 476 upazilas. After transferring this programme from project to revenue sector, the effectiveness of the self-employment activities by the youth aged between 18-35 years during period from 2003-2004 to 2007-2008 in Tangail district have been evaluated in this research work. In the case of evaluation, in order to assess the effectiveness of the programme the relative data of self-employment activities of the participants and non-participants youth of this programme have been evaluated from the comparative point of view by gathering information through social survey. It is proven that the inadequate allocation in training, the lengthy process in loan distribution, less loan distribution in comparison to the demand, the unwillings nature to provide loan to the newly trained youth, the irregular inspection of the self-employment activities, scanty allocation in ADP etc. limitation have caused to prevail a static condition in YTSEP. Even then, in field level the participants of this programme are more successful and enthusiastic in implementing self-employment activities in comparison to the non-participants of this programme. Specially the more involvement of the youth women in self-employment activities, the opportunity to be employed to the other family members and local people and achieve profit the progress and success of the participants of the programme are very praiseworthy. Though in case of some indicator of the socio-economic change the non-participants of this programme are remaining in advance position but as a whole the skill training and availability of loan have made the participants of this programme to remain in preferably advance position and play a role of instant. It is redundant to say that Government Development Programme does not bring success equally in all sectors. However, the problems identified by the present research endeavour many of which are redressable, and the findings may act as important guideline to policy

makers. In this case a strong hope can be expressed to have this programme attraction fruitful to the unemployed youth if the suggested recommendations are implemented in order to remove existing problems.

### **8.3 Policy Implications**

However, to make youth self-employment programme of DYD and other organization strategies equally effective and beneficial for the meaningful participation of the rural youth in income generating activities some policy measures have been suggested. Considering the study findings some policy implications have also been recommended for solving the problems and developing the socio-economic conditions of self-employed youths as in the following:

- i. The study findings indicates that as there is ample scope of self-employment of youths including the family members and creation of casual jobs for others (including women) in various farm and non-farm activities, attempts may be made by the government agencies to encourage the self-employed youths.
- ii. It has also been observed from the study that the self-employed youth faced a lot of problems while implementing their projects. In this regards to make the programmes more fruitful for the self-employed youths, some support services, such as, social awareness building, supply of high breed and good quality inputs, veterinary services, health, nutrition and recreational activities may be strengthened.
- iii. Most of the youth self-employment project involves various risk factors like natural disaster, accident risk occurrence, theft of assets etc. Risks are higher for self-employed youths whose current assets are inadequate to provide protection to the financial/physical capital. These self-employment projects must be provided with micro insurance facilities. Moreover, a central disaster assistance fund (CDAF) should be formed in DYD programmes to help the target youth.
- iv. Skill generation and specific targeted training can play a crucial role in the development of youth self-employment project. It has been found from the study that among the sample youth under the programme, only 47 percent received only one training from DYD. So necessary opportunities can be given the self-employed youth to get more relevant training to accomplish the project successfully. Moreover, duration of training may also be increased to some extent and the training must be need oriented. The system of apprenticeship can be introduced so that the trainee can gather enough experience to become self-employed person. A refresher training may be organized



- after one or two years for the self-employed youths to review their works and planning for future.
- v. It was evident from the study that DYD has provide only 62 percent loan demand of self-employed youths. Moreover, most of the self-employed youth opined that the loan provided by DYD is quite inadequate, particular for specific trades. In fact, loans were not disbursed in accordance with the requirement of the intended self-employment activities. In this context, quantum of youth loan may be increased and can be disbursed according to the requirement of the intended viable self-employment activities. It is necessary to fix the loan for the youth in the case of non-institutional trade is Taka 50,000/- and for institutional trade is Taka 1,00,000/-.
  - vi. In the present disbursement rules a successful self-employed youth can't received credit more than third time. So a successful project holders be considered for fourth-time and fifth-time credit award at a slightly higher service charge. This has strengthen the basis for sustaining the projects and increasing the commitment of project holders.
  - vii. The study reveals that among the loan recipients of this programme, 76 percent return the loan regularly. In this context, DYD worker of grass root level (Credit Supervisor) is responsible for recovery youth loan. But credit supervisor were found as less enthusiastic and dedicated in discharging their duties. Moreover, they were found more interested in the collection of loan instead of ensuring proper utilization of it. Therefore, effort may be initiated to make them more committed, dedicated and sincere. Towards that end, provision of incentives, training, motivation as well as better service condition may be ensured. At present for each Upazila three credit supervisor are working. For better guidance and strict supervision of credit use and other youth development activities, the numeral strength of credit supervisor should be increased in the programme of DYD. Their designation also may be changed as their demand Assistant Youth Development Officer.
  - viii. Marketing was found as the most neglected ingredient in the youth training and self-employment programme. But marketing is equally important as the amount of loan and other loan related activities. In this respect, creation of marketing channels, provision of storage service and transport service can alleviate some of the constraints to youth self-employment activities. In addition, there should have a show room in each upazila to facilitate marketing of these products. It is important to take initiative for media coverage of successful youth and organize mela from time to time.

- ix. Monitoring and supervision system of this programme are not sufficient and time bound. It has created a gap between the central and grass-roots level officers due to the bureaucratic red-tapism. As a result, an inattentiveness is observed among the workers at the grassroot level. Nonetheless, inter departmental and inter ministerial communication and coordination are not in an expected level. Under the circumstances, it should ensure the monitoring, supervision, communication and coordination in all spheres of the programme.
- x. It was observed that 60 percent self-employed youth received education up to the S.S.C level. 40 percent of them have come from disadvantaged family. In this context, courses on youth entrepreneurship development may be introduced in the curricula of secondary and higher secondary education in Bangladesh so that school/college dropouts are exposed to possibilities of independent economic status.

### **Recommendation for further studies**

It is essential to gain insight into the various aspects of youth self-employment activities and to unfold scope for future action. Research provides crucial inputs to policy making and provide specific guidelines for its implementation. But a single study is not enough as because this study was confined to the youth self-employment activities within Tangail. But there exist geographical, cultural and other differences in different areas of Bangladesh. Therefore, further study needs to be done using longitudinal before-after analysis. Moreover, studies could be done examining the relationships, if any between level, extent, type and intensity of the assistance received and change in the performance of the assisted youth self-employment project. Nonetheless, this study has brought a new dimension to guide and facilitate future efforts after exploring, analyzing and evaluating the impact of youth development programmes in Bangladesh.

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