

Participatory Market Research for Micro Finance of Street Children

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Abstract

This study attempts to dissect the emerging notion 'micro-finance' that has achieved importance to study the livelihood strategies of street children in both developed and developing countries. Destitute and deprived street children are continually fighting to earn livelihood and try to support their family. Devoid of proper management, they cannot properly utilize their earned money and face severe economic hardships during off earning seasons and emergency periods. Their financial crisis forces them to allure by sundry criminal groups to entangle in socially abominable offensive activities that increase the threats and risks to their life. This paper has attempted to analyze how the provision of financial services to the poor brought about enormous success to their lives, enhancing their economic capacities and giving them the opportunity to save their future by themselves, rather than being the passive recipients of aid. In such a perspective, microfinance appears to be an appropriate tool for street children, as long as its limitation is taken into consideration. Indeed, this innovative approach, essential for giving a better future to street children, remains only as an intervention tool. This study follows diverse techniques of PRA such as seasonal income, expenditure, savings and credit, seasonally migration, financial service matrix, life cycle, time series of assets acquisition and ownership and Focus Group Discussion (FGD) to gather information. For this purpose, individual cases were also selected purposively from different areas of Dhaka city. Finally, this paper attempts to unearth the apparent nature of economic behavior, demands and needs of children those who live on the street.

Introduction

Microfinance is a process of generating and providing financial services and facilities to the most underprivileged class in a society. In

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Bangladesh urban society, this can be considered as an effective tool in addressing the economic hardships of the growing number of street children where the financial services and facilities are warily designed and delivered. Microfinance refers to the provision of small scale financial services, primarily credit and savings, to poor and disadvantaged people (Robinson, 2001). It is being regarded as a powerful poverty reduction device and is bringing a lot of expectation to the underprivileged people all around the world. The microfinance movement or 'the microcredit movement' initiates with the vision that the poor are bankable and that the conventional wisdom claiming that the poor people could not use credit and that the costs of providing it was too high was proved wrong (Harris, 2002). The new dream saw the emergence of pecuniary institutions all around the globe, integrated under the banner of microfinance and sharing a commitment to serving clients that have been excluded from the formal banking sector (Morduch, 1999). In this economic process, the customers were initially offered microcredit in order to start micro-enterprises and to get away from the circle of paucity and dearth. However, as the movement spread all over the world, there has been recognition that poor people needed a variety of financial services, not just credit (UNDP, 1996). Now, the movement has expanded and, at the end of 2002, it was claiming to be over 65 million customers (Aghion and Morduch, 2005). The spirit of microfinance is to depict ideas from existing 'informal sector' credit mechanisms – like intra-family loans, and local moneylenders while creating a viable conduit for capital infusions from formal sector banks, donors, and governments (Aghion and Morduch, 2005). In order to address the prevalence of extreme poverty and vulnerable conditions of street children, Assistance of Slum Dwellers (ASD) is implementing the street children development project from January 2002 with the support of the Plan Bangladesh. ASD designed the work plans through participatory approach and implementing various program with active participation of children. ASD feels to give importance to the financial demand and economic needs of street children and thinks to explore savings opportunity for them. Now ASD's 24 children group have the savings opportunity and get economic support. Plan Bangladesh organized microfinance training to develop the expertise area for project personnel's and staff on participatory market research from 2nd January to 6th January 2005 to organize and structures this savings method. In this training, following tool-kit was used as training manual: (1) Micro save African Market Research for micro finance and (2) Participatory rapid appraisal for micro finance. Trained staff conducts a market research to know the economic behavior, need, demand and concept of street children after receiving training. Microfinance has now become as a new concept for

street children. It is hardly found of any previous research on this topic. In view of that, this study has to depend on primary sources of information. However, some information is also collected from secondary sources. This paper has attempted to analyze how the provision of financial services to the poor brought about enormous success to their lives, enhancing their economic capacities and giving them the opportunity to save their future by themselves, rather than being the passive recipients of aid. This paper also attempts to unearth the apparent nature of economic behavior, demands and needs of children those who live on the street.

Methodology

The study has been conducted in Dhaka, the capital city of Bangladesh, from 15th December 2005 to 31st January 2006 and focused on a specific microfinance and needs and demands of street children program launched by ASD—a humanitarian organization having development activities throughout the country. The research has been performed in two phases: planning a research design, and qualitative data collection. The study follows six most useful tools of PRA taken from ‘Market Research for Micro Finance and Participatory Appraisal for Micro Finance which was termed as ‘A Tool-Kit’ manual. Major tools used in the research were seasonal income, expenditure, savings and credit, seasonally migration, financial service matrix, life cycle, time series of assets acquisition and ownership and Focus Group Discussion (FGD). The study has followed purposive sampling and collected sample according to the need of the study. Under this sampling frame, 10-12 street children from various centre of the ASD project were selected and the researchers conducted sessions with them by using 6 PRA tools. In each session, there were one assistant facilitator, one reporter/data collector and one observer. In total 20 sessions were conducted with 233 street children (125 boys and 108 girls) in different areas. Besides this, another six sessions were conducted with guardians and employers where 133 (82 men and 51 women) persons were attended. In this way, nine sessions were conducted on ‘seasonality of income’ and ‘expenditure savings and credit’; two sessions on ‘seasonality of migration’; two sessions on ‘time series of asset acquisition and ownership’; two sessions on ‘life cycle’; five sessions on ‘financial service matrix’ were conducted with street children. In addition, six ‘Focus Group Discussion’ were conducted with guardians and employers. The research prioritizes the working area where street children spend their whole day for the earnings of living. These areas are: Agricultural Market, *Mohammadpur* Town Hall Bazar, *Mohammadpur*, *Katasur* Glass factory, *Agargaon* Bazaar, *Kallayanpur* Bazaar, *Gabtoli*

Bus Stand, Zoo Area, *Mirpur*, Salvation Complex Market, *Kawranbazaar*, *Kochukhet* Bazaar, *Bhasantec* Bazaar & *Beribadh Vangari* Sell Center, Mirpur-11 *Benarosi* Market and *Kacaha* Bazaar. ASD has conducted its project near these areas thus street children's can take benefit and service from the centers as their accessible time. However, study sessions were conducted in *Gabtolli* Bus Stand, *Kallayanpur*, *Kochukhet* Bazar, *Bhasantec* Bazaar and Salvation Complex Market area. ASD project's streets Children who were involved in various professions were selected for this study. Selection criteria have followed the age and gender based allocation and homogeneous professions. Both boys and girls jointly participated in the sessions. In this way, primary data of the research were collected from street children, guardian and employers under ASD project area.

Perception of the Street Children to 'Money'

Street children perceived money as their 'future' or something which enables them 'to have large things', 'to fill wishes', 'good food and expensive dress', 'what mind wants', 'to live on earth', 'the root of business', 'the light of life', and 'the dust of hand'. The street children's insight of money was expressed around following aspects: problem, future, a mean to meet emergencies, purchase power, and reward of their work (Serrokh, 2005). First, children have usually depicted money as a problem, linking money with the menacing side of their street life experience. Indeed, many of them already experienced some troubles because of money. As they did not have a safe place where to deposit their earnings, many of them were keeping their money in their pockets, trying to hide it as best as they could, being therefore a source of problems as other children and adults knew this. In their interviews, street children have mentioned the plethora of pickpockets that were there, especially in highly common places (for example, the vegetable market of Karawan Bazar in which children work during the night). Even if the money was expressed as a 'problem', it was perceived as being useful and having a lot of advantages, one being that it enabled them to build their future. Money was associated with 'good job', i.e. the element which would enable them to have a pretty life. A good future was also linked with 'education', as the 'school' is still for some of them a mean to have a better future. They particularly emphasized on the link between money, emergencies and more generally as a tool for their survival in the society. Many of them have pointed out how money was needed for eating, treatment, shelter and for their daily survival (Serrokh, 2005). A particular interesting point was the altruistic view of 'survival' and 'emergencies'. Indeed, the majority of children was specifying how

money was necessary for the survival of their families, and therefore, has informed the researchers on the significant role the money has been playing to contribute to the well-being of their families. Moreover, it has given an introduction to the difficult living environment surrounding them and their responsibility in meeting their families' basic needs. Children have highlighted how money was necessary to buy assets, dress, tea, machinery tools, etc. The assets were needed for not only of their consumption, but also for providing the inputs for their businesses. Indeed, many of them have mentioned how money used to help them to buy tea, vegetables, '*chutneys*' (i.e. Indian sauces), in other words, the products that were necessary to run their businesses. It is, therefore, logical to find the expressed link between money and work. In their view, money is not something they received from their parents, but was the result of their work.

Necessity of Savings for Street Children

Street children, as any other people in the world, need savings in order to meet their future financial needs, which are categorized as life-cycle, such as supporting their family or getting education, meeting emergencies, in order to be able to meet their own as well as their families' emergency costs, opportunities, in order to invest it (either directly, or through the loan they can get from their savings). Those are the three pillars of their need to perform savings. However, what makes particular a street child than that of other person in society is his/her street life insecurity, which is the root of their needs for savings. Street children, in line with their hardship in street life, have pointed out how they need savings in order to meet their life-cycle needs. Those needs refer to the predictable events that hit the children (Rutherford, 1999), and these can be classified in two categories: supporting family and get involved in taking education. As they mentioned that providing financial support to the family came as one of the most important expenditure in the street children's budget and was significant in terms of financial pressure and frequency. Although expressed by the children of all categories and ages, their financial behaviors in terms of family support were different. In order to investigate these diversities, researchers have categorized the street children into two different sets, based on their physical proximity with their families and the other with physical non-proximity with their families.

Economic Activities of Street Children

In order to assess correctly the demand for financial services, it needs to understand the economic activities of street children. It was found in the

research that street children were particularly present in the informal labor market. *Padakhep*, a national level NGO, has identified more than thirty economic activities in which street children are involved. The professions include carpenters, masons, small traders, shopkeepers, welders, van pullers, rickshaw pullers, drivers, scavengers, day labourers, trainees, sales boys, iron men, garment workers, domestic helpers, garage workers, boutique workers, hotel boys, '*tokai*' (street urchin), bakers, water sellers, tea stall workers, helpers, sewers, service, factory workers, venders, beggars, Minti, electrical workers, beauticians, packet makers etc. (Serrokh, 2005). As it was observed, the range of their economic activities was long and showed how street children bear a broad imagination in finding income generating activities. This is being useful to segregate these occupations i.e. economic activities of the street children into two broad categories: trade related activities and wage related activities. Regarding their trade related activities, the majority of children were found to work as '*tokai*', a Bangali term that defines a child who moves around the town to pick up various used items like papers, bottles, shoes, clothes, etc in order to sell them. Many were reselling those items around different markets (especially at *Kawran Bazaar*) and were earning taka 30 to taka 50 daily. Some other of them uses to sell flowers, snacks (chips, chocolates, etc) or cigarettes in the streets. The rest of them are involved in seasonal businesses, and is reported to earn quite high wages during some occasional periods. For example, many children use to buy food during *Ramadan*- a holy month for fasting of the Muslim community, and sell it for '*iftar*'—time of fast-breaking. Some were involved in wage related activities. The most recurrent job among them was carrying luggage of fish or vegetables and other goods for shop owners and customers in the market places, railway stations, bus stations and shops. However, the carrying luggage is an informal job that is equivalent to a Bengali terminology, '*coolli*' (port or terminal worker), who does the same job but needs to be registered with the government and therefore, use to earn higher wage (ILO, 2003).

Initiatives of Microfinance for Street Children

Microfinance, as a cogent tool aimed at delivering financial services to poor people, has become a new method of intervention in the lives of street children. However, these interventions are few and are also very diverse. In general, the beneficiaries of microfinance interventions are mainly women. Cheston and Kuhn (2002) have highlighted three reasons that make women so popular among micro-finance institutions. First one is the financial criterion, which indicates that 'women's repayment rates are typically far superior to those of men, leading therefore to lower

arrears and loan loss rates and having a positive effect on the efficiency and sustainability of the institution'. The second reason is the empowerment of women, which are generally located among the poorest of the poor, the UNDP reporting of 70 per cent of the 1.3 billion people living on less than \$1 per day are women (UNDP, 1995). However, the impact of microfinance is likely to be beneficial only if the household (especially the mother) is playing the role of interface. However, as pointed by Nagarajan (2004), capital is assumed to flow from the family for adolescents but family support is limited for orphaned and poor adolescents to access capital to start a business and to help accumulate assets. Consequently, microfinance has recently opened its scope of interventions to children and youth, as part of the new project of 'microfinance for youth' being advocated by some Youth Serving Organizations (YSOs) and Microfinance Institutions (MFIs)--65 institutions all around the world, wherein it is supported that poor youth need access to financial resources (i.e. credit, savings, and insurance) in order to build their capacity and to increase their employability. Indeed, youth between 15 and 24 years are more than 1 billion in the world, 85% being concentrated in developing countries where many are especially vulnerable to extreme poverty (ILO, 2006). Therefore, this does not mean that micro-insurance or other micro-financial products may not be suitable to street children.

Major Findings of the Study

Financial Need, Demand, Performance and Conceptions of Street Children

This study has tried to realize and dig out a picture on financial need (income, expenditure, savings and debit), demand, and performance and conceptions of street children. In addition, this has tried to find out the street children's seasonal income, expenditure, savings and debits in different seasons (periods) of the year. In finding of the research, it was very difficult to make a simplification of the financial needs, demands, performances and conceptions of street children because of their different ages, professions, incomes and social status. Various techniques were applied to realize the assignment in assessing their actual need. In most cases, financial demand and needs of street children have been assessed from the field experiences gathered by them. It was found that most of the children wanted to be trained up in their respective work, but due to lack of time and money they could not be able to earn necessary skills required for their profession. Because, when they became involved in training, their regular job was likely to be closed up on the one hand and they were not able to collect money they need for training. They didn't

have enough savings and didn't get loan from others. Though they have the desire, but could not be able to manage any job. Most of the time, they became sick and that time they needed doctor for treatment. But they didn't have enough savings for treatment. As a result, they became more ill and had been subjected to severe ailments and chronic diseases.

The study findings indicated that most of the street children wanted to buy cloths on the occasion of various festivals, but due to have little or no money, they had to enjoy these festivals with old cloths. Sometimes, they used to lose their job and that time they fell into complex and unavoidable situation due to having fewer savings. In meeting these financial situations, they needed to manage other various job. In this context, they were likely to feel if they had little money, they were able to start little businesses of the products including fruit, fish, water, chocolate, tea, nut, flower, cake, ice-cream, hawker, egg sell, and rickshaw riding etc. Even in the extreme crisis period, as the children interviewees informed, they were in need to arrange money for their mothers' pregnancy period and treatment of elder brothers and sisters. Though they felt to have some desires to eat good food, wearing new cloths, and watching movie, but these were not at all possible to fulfill due to the limitation of money in their hand. In the period of *hartal* hours and during their period of sickness, they were not able to work. At this critical phase, they used to fall into the sufferings of having no savings. They needed money to get rid of starvation.

In the winter, they could not be able to manage extra money to buy winter cloths to get rid of colds and as a result, they faced huge health troubles at that time. They wanted to go to school but it was not possible for them to continue both school and works together. From this experience, they found out that all people must have 2 or 3 cloths at the same time. However, these street children were compelled to wear one cloth due to have empty money and even for this, sometime they needed to wear dirty and torn cloths. They used to go to their working place on foot or by train without having any ticket or without paying any fare. As they were so poor, they were forced to participate in begging to collect the costs of funeral ceremony of their relatives, house rent, for taking bath and using public latrines as well as for managing the costs for their hair-cut. The financial needs and demands of the street children were found different in three particular seasons of the year. These seasons are winter (November to February), summer (March to June) and rainy season (July to October). This seasonal difference influenced their income, expenditure, savings and debit. This study also found the area based seasonal difference of street children's income, expenditure,

savings and debit in different areas of the Dhaka city including *Mohammadpur Town Hall, Kawran Bazar, Bhasan Tac Bazar, Salvation Complex, Gabtoli Bazar, Mohammadpur Agricultural Market and Kallyanpur Bazar*. The separate financial needs of the street children in terms of seasonal variations are described with chart as follows:

Figure: 1 Financial Needs and Demand of Street Children at Mohammadpur Town Hall, Dhaka

	Winter November - February	Summer March to June	Rainy season July to October
Income	In this season they work in vegetable market as day laborer and earn more money in winter, because available consumer come to buy winter vegetables	This is not season for vegetable for that reason, consumer come fewer than winter. And they could not earn more as like as before.	Customer could not come due to rain. Even if they come, they can't purchase more daily essentials. For that reason their income become low
Expenditure	They need more money to buy clothes for festivals and cold weather. For that reason their expenditure become higher in this region	In this season both income and expenditure of street children become lower.	Customer could not come due to rain. For that reason, their income become low, however, they have minimum expenditure.
Savings	In winter season, vegetable price become reasonable and more customer come to buy vegetable. Their income become high and they can save the money.	In summer season, both income and expenditure become equal. For that reason their saving becomes low.	Due to rain they can't go for income as well as for savings.
Debit	In <i>hartal</i> (strike) time and sickness period, they are not able to work. That time they don't have any savings. They need money to get rid of starvation.	Sometimes they wants to watch movie, play game, go outside, and need to have good food. But lack of money, they are not able to afford these.	They need to buy basket. Sometimes their baskets also become stolen. They don't have any secure place to keep their clothes, pillow. They feel that they need protected place during rainy season.

Figure: 2 Financial Needs and Demand of Street Children at Kawranbazar, Dhaka

	Winter November - February	Summer March to June	Rainy season July to October
Income	In this season, lots of vegetable and fruits are sold in the market and customers also use to come here more than that of other season and they can earn more.	Their income is fewer than that of winter season	Customer could not come due to rain. Even if they come, they are not able to purchase daily essentials they need. For that reason, their income becomes low in this season.
Expenditure	In winter season, their expenditure becomes more for sickness, warm and festival clothes than that of other season.	In summer, their expenditure becomes lower than winter.	For rain, their expenditure becomes lower than that of other season
Savings	In winter, both of the savings and income of street children become increased	Savings become lower than that of the winter	Due to rain, they are not able to go outside and therefore their earning as well as the savings becomes limited.
Debit	They think they can start small business like van ride, sell vegetables, fruits, fish etc. And they need money to start small business	They need to buy baskets for carrying their daily needs. Sometimes their baskets also become stolen. They don't have any secured place to keep their clothes and pillow. They feel that they need of a protected place during this season.	They don't have any secured place to keep their money. Even when they wake up from sleep they found that all their money has stolen.

Figure: 3 Financial Needs and Demand of Street Children at Bhasantec Bazaar, Dhaka

	Winter November - February	Summer March to June	Rainy season July to October
Income	In winter season, street children go for the collecting of <i>vangari</i> (pieces of different things), <i>takri</i> , break brick, sell nut, <i>muri</i> , eggs and cakes, and as a result, they are able to earn	This season is very hot and hard to work for long time. For that reason, they are not able to earn more.	Due to rain, it is not possible for them to collect <i>vangari</i> . And what they collect, half of them are thrown by the employer. As a result, they are not able to earn more.
Expenditure	In this season, they are not too much sick, and their expenditure also become lower than that of other seasons.	In summer season, their expenditure becomes nearly as same as close to income.	For rains, they become sick and expenditure becomes very scant for their treatment
Savings	In winter season, street children's savings increases.	Savings become lower than that of the winter	Due to rain, they are not able to income sufficiently and for that reason, their savings also become limited or nil.
Debit		They can't work when they become sick and during <i>hartal</i> . At that time, they don't have any savings. They need money to get rid of starvation.	They want to buy clothes during festivals. But due to the lack of money they are not able to fulfill their dreams of taking new clothes.

Figure: 4 Financial Needs and Demand of Street Children at Salvation Complex

	Winter November - February	Summer March to June	Rainy season July to October
Income	During this season street children can sell flowers and collect <i>vangari</i> . For that reasons, their income becomes lower than that of summer season.	They make more paper packets and sell woods, water and cucumber during this season. In this period, they are able to earn more.	They make more paper packets but due to rains all days, it takes more time to dry. They can't collect wood, <i>vangari</i> . For that reason, their income becomes lower.
Expenditure	In this season they do not become too much sick. For that reason, their expenditure becomes lower than that of other season.	In this season, their daily expenditure becomes same to their level of income.	In rainy season, they become sick and the expenditure becomes higher for their treatment than that of other season
Savings	This is the season for flowers and there are lots of flowers in the markets. As a result, street children can sell more flowers. But in this season, their savings become comparatively lower than that of the dry season	There is less expenditure than income during this season. For that reason, they can save more.	Due to rains, it is not possible for them to work. For that reason, they are not able to save their earned money.
Debit	During this season, they can manage job and don't need to take loan from relatives or from informal lenders	They can work more in this season. For that reason, they don't need to take loan.	Due to rains all day, they are not able to work regularly. For that reason, they take loan from employer and friends. They need money when their family members become ill. And it is not possible for them to collect money. So they use to take loan.

Figure: 5 Financial Needs and Demand of Street Children at Gabtoli Bazar, Dhaka

	Winter November - February	Summer March to June	Rainy season July to October
Income	During this winter season, the street children move to very small number of places. For that reason, their income becomes lower.	Street children can collect <i>vangari</i> form March to June due to dry and warm weather. People become thirsty in this season. For that reason, they can sell water, chocolate, cucumber and carrots etc. and their income become higher.	They stay at home due to rains all the day. For that reason, they can't earn more and sharply fall their income.
Expenditure	In this season, their expenditure become higher than that of summer, because they have to buy warm clothes and use to take tea, cakes etc regularly.	Income become more higher than of the expenditure they need in this season	They are not able to work regularly due to rains all the day that make limited of their income and also cannot make savings.
Savings	They have to buy warm clothes that need extra money spending. For that reason, they are not able to save their earned money.	Income becomes higher than that of expenditure. So, their savings also become higher than that of the other seasons.	They are not able save during this period.
Debit	They can't cut their hair due to lack of money. Income becomes lower and they feel to take loan. They don't have suitable clothes to get rid of winter colds. At that that time, they feel to take loan to buy warm clothes to get rid of colds.	They don't need to take any kind of loan in this season. They think that they can earn more money easily.	Savings become fewer than that of other seasons.

Figure: 6 Financial Needs and Demand of Street Children at Kallyanpur Bazar

	Winter November - February	Summer March to June	Rainy season July to October
Income	In this season, they only can sell water, cakes, eggs and flowers etc. They could not be able to collect <i>vangary</i> to earn their livelihood. So, their income becomes lower than that of the summer.	In this season, they can increase their income due to the availability of vegetables and they are able to collect more <i>vangary</i> . They pull water for shops in the bazaar. Rickshaw tubes' puncher increase in this season. They get job in the garage. They can sell cucumber, carrot, water in this season.	They could not earn due to rain. Their income become lower and savings become emptied.
Expenditure	In this season, their expenditure becomes lower than that of the summer. They have to buy warm clothes and to take more tea, cakes regularly.	In this season, their expenditure also becomes lower, because they don't have money to buy extra clothes so that they become less sick.	Don't have any income but have expenditure. They become sick due to work in the rains. They need to change their clothes frequently and they need more clothes that steers extra spending.
Savings	They need to take more tea and cakes regularly and that limits their savings, and becomes lower than that of the summer season.	Their income becomes higher than that of their expenditure. This helps them to save money. They become able to do more work in this period than that of the other times of the year.	They don't have any savings in this season.
Debit	Fewer debits than that of the rainy season. They can sell flowers, eggs and vegetables and they don't need debit. They want to go school. But not possible for them to continue both work and school.	They think that every person must have more than 2-3 clothes. But they only have one cloth as because of limited income. And most of the time they have to wear dirty and torn clothes.	They can't earn more. For that reason they need to debit. They take loan from <i>vangari</i> takers and vegetable employers, which they return by working in the dry season.

Figure: 7 Financial Needs and Demand of Street Children at Agriculture Market, Mohammadpur

	Winter November - February	Summer March to June	Rainy season July to October
Income	They work as a laborer in rice trucks or lorries. But this season is not for rice production and therefore, they can't earn more money.	They work as a laborer in rice trucks or lorries. And this is the season of rice and more trucks came with full of rice. This helps them increasing their income.	In rainy season, rice trucks come less than that of the summer and their income also become lower than that of the other seasons.
Expenditure	In this season, both of their income and expenditure become lower.	In this season, they can increase their income. They can buy clothes, take good food and spend joyful time. And their expenses become higher than that of the other seasons.	Both of their income and expenditure become equal.
Savings	Little savings triggers. Because they need to take more tea and cakes regularly.	Their income becomes higher as well as they can save too.	They need to buy umbrella, shoe, and clothes for their protection from rains. Sometimes, they become sick that steers extra spending for their treatment. For that reason, they are not able to save money.
Debit	They take loan from their employer, friends to buy winter clothes. Sometimes they become workless and they don't have money to survive and face troubles. But they can manage another job within a few days.	They need to send money to their parents living at village. As they do not have any saving they can't send money to the parents as required. They want to learn work but could not manage time.	They have to work in rainy days and suffer of frequent sickness from fever. For treatment they need to take loan form their employer and friends.

Propensity of Street Children to Seasonal Migration

The study has found a greater propensity of street children for seasonal migration to the places where they have abundant opportunities for works and employments. They were found to have lower proportion of migration mainly in the months of March, June, July and November. It

was found that though street children have been migrating in various places for employment and for better living condition, however, the most of them (70%) were found to return in their previous places from where they migrated. Sometimes, they were found to shift their places while their employers become rude to them in the workplace. In addition, they may also have the desire to visit new places and search for better opportunity that pushed them to migration. Some of them used to migrate to the village during the months of March, June, July and November to enjoy local fair as well as to earn more money from the festival fair. These migration tendencies were seen especially in paddy season (in the months of November and December). Sometimes their working areas were found very far than that of the distance from their residence and the throwing out from temporary residences by local vested interests were also found as another important reason for their migration.

Providing Financial Support to Street Children

There were a number of financial service providers available in the urban and suburban areas; however, street children could not take any benefit from these service providers due to their social status in the society. Income and Expenditure opportunities were found very little for street children. Sometimes, they used to keep saving to their employers; however, it was found that they felt this place to be very insecure for their savings. Sometimes, their savings has also been stolen and faced many risks to make deposit in this way. They also used to save their money in the cooperative fund organized and managed by them. But in this sector, their experiences were not found very satisfactory. When they were asked about the security of the savings under this method, they informed that they didn't have any trust on cooperative firm because they have bad experience with this and most of the time they could not be able to trace the cooperative office. To secure the street children's future savings, it was suggested to have a necessity of arrangement for training, micro business training for children and arrangement of the treatment costs for them. When they fell into difficulties or financial crisis in emergency time, they had had the desire for financial support. They felt if they were able to keep their money in reliable organizations, their money would have been safer and they would be able to utilize that money in their crisis period. Because of their financial crisis, they used to borrow from their employers and friends. Some of them were able to return this money and some of them were unable to return. For that reason, they lost that financial support when they became engrossed in trouble. As a result, they often lived with starvation, malnutrition and distress. Sometimes, their employers showed sympathy for them and provided them with financial support which they tried to return by an arrangement of manual works.

Life Cycle of the Street Children and Financial Contemplation

Present circumstance is found to be the main concern for street children in their movement to survive in society. However, sometimes they possess dreams for their future. Each and every moment they are found to be concerned for their nature of existence in the next day. This mental instability is found to be their usual companion. Sometimes they were found to become impatient by thinking for how they would be able to carry on expenses in the next day. When they were asked about their wish in life, they informed that they might have some wishes, which, however, by and large, are not able to come in reality and are unable to complete their vital works due to lack of money. So working and living on the street has become a genesis of fate and was considered to be as on their last station. They also mentioned that they become bored by doing regular hazardous works. So they want to get release from this dirty life and want to do some permanent job. In order to get a permanent job, they need to increase their skill and sufficient training. But lack of enough time and money, they are not able to get these facilities that lead them to bore with a painful life. Street children have explained their life cycle by thinking a long and realistic approach. They have informed that they become engaged with this hazardous works at the age of six to provide a financial support to their family and for the earnings to maintain their livelihood. Though they were found to be very much aware that they need to go to school at this age, but they have taken financial responsibilities for their family. Most of the street children are found to be from Muslim community. And they are found to have some senses that without circumcise they would not be Muslim, and for that purpose, they need money and they expect to have extra money for that period. They do have a prolonged sense that within 10 years of age, their custom of circumcise must be completed. At the younger age they have a desire for getting a better job so that they are able to complete their marriage in time and for that purpose, they want to prepare them from this age. They are found to be acquainted with passing a distress life and they don't want their future generation to have engrossed with this troublesome life like them. They are also found to have some senses of responsibility to their parents and possess plans to look after their parents at their older stage of life. They wish that they have to bear financial costs of their parent's treatments and rituals after their death. However, they don't want to depend on their children like them in their future family life, and have the desire to save money for supporting them so that their next generation children would have no miseries in their lives.

Nature of the Property Belongings of the Street Children

Street children have divided their property into two parts. One is that they consider their physical strength which is used mainly for the manual

work as their first possession in the sense of property ownership. This has been found as their emotional and practical expression. In their sense, if they are physically well they can earn. In this context, they consider their healthy body to be their property. They use to describe their property that they achieve by their work time to time and give importance on ownership of the wage they earn. They informed that property belongings and realization has some relation with their past records of job satisfaction and present works they engaged with. And with the variations of income in these two positions, they are found to have an endeavor to own property. Without this effort, they are not able to own their property. On the other hand, they consider their basket to be their property. Some of street children use to collect *vangari* (pieces of things) but now they are selling ice-cream and some of them are found to be van riders. They consider these items of *vangari*, ice-cream and van etc are their property. They are found to be afraid of if they take much loan they have to lose their property. So they are found to take loan only when they need it and only when they don't have any other alternatives. In this way, they have pointed out the names of several items for example, organization like dispensary, NGO, availability of drinking water and sanitary latrine, places for sleep, quilt, pillow, cassette player etc as their property. And with these belongings, they are found to have a desire for building a better life while a continuous aspiration has been brought into being to increase these possessions under a process of having greater opportunity of property ownership.

Perception of Guardian and Employer to Street Children's Economic Needs and Demand

Findings of the FGD sessions with guardians and employers revealed that they have emphasized on the economic need and demand of street children. According to their view, street children do not use their money in proper way and when they earn more money they also use to spend this extra money in many unnecessary ways. These unnecessary costs lead their life to danger and peril. Because, they are found to mix with many risky people that make their life insecure. As a result, they become addicted with drugs and even are found to spend time with sex workers. Besides, it has been observed that some adolescent street children work as unblemished sex worker. For that reason, guardians and employers feel to bring out these street children from wrong path. And also take initiative to make protection for those who are not still walk in this road. They also informed that if this street children do not get chance to get rid of this dirty life, these children might have been the burden of the society in the days to come. They are found to have been engaged with several criminal activities like steal, robbery, hijacking and murdering etc. According to the suggestions of the guardian and employers, it is therefore obvious to lead these street children to grow habit in them for

saving the money. And street children are likely to be very grateful if they find some secure places to save their money. Employers also are found to support the cause of the street children and hope if some organizations come forward to take initiatives in this direction so that these children could be able to deposit their earned money. Guardians and employers informed that street children deposit their money to them at present and use to take their money frequently when they need.

Financial Need, Demand, Behavior and Conceptions of Street Children

The study has found out some seasonal and area based differences of street children on the basis of their level of income, expenditure, saving and debit. Accordingly, it is necessary to analysis the income, expenditure, saving and debit of street children in different ways avoiding so far the simplistic approach. Street children are found to migrate in different areas for extra income and for searching new job. Sometimes, unfavorable situation in working area forced them to move another place or they use to search for diverse works to get release from their present bored life. There are so many financial service providers but street children could not take any benefit from them due to inferior social position as per their present age, education and work and wage status. Although the street children have the access to a few cooperative offices, however, they are found to have engrossed with bad experience as these children were cheated by them. Street children wanted to give importance on trustworthy organization. All street children are realistic and the present that they have is found to be considered as their main concern. However, they are found to think about their future life too. Most of them could not be able to find any solution while they think about their future plan. Besides, they possess many dreams for their establishment in future life and use to set many plans as usual for how these dreams would be able to come to truth. They want to make their life beautiful. However, it is found in the study that in most cases, family and financial crisis, divorces of their parents have forced them to work on the street. They are not able to collect their required material's expenses for working in the street. So their dreams as they informed never come out for reality. When they were asked about the plan for their future generation, they informed that they would never want their children to pass this hazardous life once they would become parents of the children. Some of them are found to have emotions and sympathies for their poor parents and use to send money for them regularly and consider this as a part of their responsibility. They also have a very blunt idea that money is needed to establish in life and hence, they must need to do some good work with higher wage. Accordingly, most of them are found to think that savings is necessary. The street children are found to have an idea that the people those who have more property, s/he would have been happier in life. For

that reason, owning property has also been seen necessary for their part. According to their understanding, human life is always changing and never stays in one position and by using time and opportunity, they can own their property and would be able to alter their destiny. Some of the guardians and employers are found to have a fundamental realization that these street children has become as social liability in the civilized citizenry and therefore, they should be given proper attention providing with necessity supports to rehabilitate them in society as a matter of urgency. Government and non government organization have to come forward to take policies and initiatives for the proper rehabilitation of these street children.

Conclusion

To realize the street children's behavior, need, demand and concept it was found that income of the street children were not spent in proper way. Though they use to have income in their part, however, their torn economic conditions and social status have never been changed. In the face of their occupational diversity and different income sources, their demand of more income remains more or less in the same level. Participatory market research for micro finance of street children has found out a particular form of their lifecycle that pretends a static situation. In this condition, in most cases, their demand to be an economically well off person in society and so as to their future plans are found to remain with no change for all times. It was found that there are a lot of differences in their present position and future plan, however, it has been argued in different level of discussion that proper development initiative for street children can change their lifestyle and only then their desire for an improved economic life would be able to change their status in urban society. At present, the street children are found to have no access in financial support organization. In this context, it has been suggested to involve them with some financial support organizations in their vicinity. As a result, government and non-government organizations would be able to play an important role by giving importance to arrange financial support to these children. And this would be able to bring them under a formal social safety network of supporting financial need as well as building a habit for savings. The study has found that there are no effective organizations—whether these are public or private initiatives, which are fully responsible to look after the works and movement of the street children and to stop them from risky and hazardous work. As it is their life and livelihood as well as they are the part of the civilized community, families of the street children and government along with non-government organizations and civil society need to come forward to address the issue immediately.

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