FACTORS INFLUENCING THE LIVING STATUS OF THE TEA GARDEN WORKERS

MOHAMMAD RABEL ISLAM SUHEL

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION & INFORMATION SYSTEM

SHER-E-BANGLA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, DHAKA-1207

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BY

MOHAMMAD RABEL ISLAM SUHEL

Reg. No. 19-10163

Mobile No- 01755140641

E-mail: suhel1357@gmail.com

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APPROVED BY:

<table>
<tr>
<td>

(Dr. Muhammad Humayun Kabir)
Supervisor
Professor
Dept. of Agril. Ext. and Info. System
Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University

</td>
<td>

(Md. Mahbubul Alam, PhD)
Co-Supervisor
Professor
Dept. of Agril. Ext. and Info. System
Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University

</td>
</tr>
</table>

Prof. Mohammad Zamshed Alam, PhD

Chairman
Examination Committee
Dept. of Agricultural Extension and Information System
Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the thesis entitled **"FACTORS INFLUENCING THE LIVING STATUS OF THE TEA GARDEN WORKERS "** submitted to the department of Agricultural Extension and Information System, Faculty of Agriculture, Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science (M.S.) in Agricultural Extension, embodies the result of a piece of bona fide research work carried out by **MOHAMMAD RABEL ISLAM SUHEL, Registration No. 19-10163** under my supervision and guidance. No part of the thesis has been submitted for any other degree or diploma.

I further certify that any help or source of information, as has been availed of during the course of this investigation has been duly acknowledged by the Author.

Dated: December, 2021
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Dr. Muhammad Humayun Kabir
Supervisor
Professor
Department of Agricultural Extension and
Information System
Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University

DEDICATED
TO
MY BELOVED
PARENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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ABBREVIATIONS

GDP   Gross Domestic Product

BBS   Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

SDG   Sustainable Development Goals

MDGs   Millennium Development Goals

BTB   Bangladesh Tea Board

FAO   Food and Agricultural Organisation

ILO   International Labour Organization

SD   Standard Deviation

SPSS   Statistical Package for Social Sciences

DAE   Department of Agricultural Extension

FACTORS INFLUENCING THE LIVING STATUS OF THE TEA GARDEN WORKERS

ABSTRACT

The objectives of this study were to describe some selected characteristics of the tea garden workers; to assess the factors influencing the living status of the tea garden workers. The study was conducted with randomly selected 104 tea garden workers in Tuker bazar union of Sylhet sadar upazila under Sylhet district. A pre-tested interview schedule was used to collect data from the respondents during 05 March to 05 April, 2022. Factors influencing the living status of the tea garden workers was the dependent variable and it was measured by on basis of contribution scores. Factors influencing the living status of the tea garden workers and the 10 selected characteristics of the respondents contributed the independent variables of the study. Regressions analysis was used to examine the contribution of the selected characteristics of the respondents. The highest proportion (74.04%) of the tea garden worker had medium contribution as compared to (15.38%) and (10.58%) having low and high contribution. There is a significant contribution of respondents' age, education had negative and annual family income of the respondents had significant positive contribution with their factors influencing the living status of the tea garden workers and the rest seven characteristics namely, family size, length of working experience, number of dependent members, time spending household management, organizational participation, extension media contact and credit received had no significant factors influencing the living status of the tea garden workers .

1.1 Background of the Study

Tea is one of the most important cash crops in Bangladesh. It is also an important food commodity of international trade. There are about one hundred and sixty four (164) tea estates in Bangladesh. Bangladesh is producing more than 54 million kg of tea annually from about 49000 hectares of land. Tea cultivation in Bangladesh is spread over the hilly zones on the eastern part mainly in four districts (Sylhet, Moulvibazar, Habigonj and Chittagong). Among the plantation crops, tea is a highly labor intensive sector (Kamruzzaman et al., 2015). The tea garden workers are considered to be among the poorest and most deprived section of organized labor. Livelihood status of the tea garden workers have not been changed over time. Although it may be difficult to establish what constitutes a living wage, it is often claimed that the minimum wage levels are highly insufficient to cover basic needs, because wages in the tea plantation sector are relatively low, even by the plantation sector's standards (Hassan et al., 2014). The reliance of families on the tea plantations for food, water, shelter, education, health and sanitation makes them extremely vulnerable to closures. The children cannot avail of any reservation facility in educational institutions; the youth do not enjoy any opportunity in the employment sphere. After passing from the lower primary schools of the gardens, they are forced to join the tea labor workforce as unskilled workers with no educational and alternative employment opportunity. Generation after generation, they remain tied to the gardens (Ahmad et al., 2015).

The export of tea has been declining due to a lack of exportable surplus (BBS, 2011). Gradually, the country is losing its export market due to the increasing internal demand for tea consumption (Kamruzzaman et al., 2015). To extend our export market, Bangladesh has to increase tea production by bringing more areas under tea cultivation (Sabur et al., 2000). It is also noteworthy that almost total tea suitable areas in greater Sylhet and Greater Chittagong has been saturated by tea cultivation (Rahman et al., 2018). Like other tea producing countries, if we utilize cultivable land lying vacant in the existing tea gardens in greater Sylhet and Chittagong, more production will be obtained which will fulfill the internal demand of the country

(Shabbir, 2010). Beginning from 2000, small, marginal, and bigger farmers and investors are showing interest in tea farming on the plain land in the sub-Himalayan district as a cash crop (Islam *et al*., 2005).

Tea is a popular beverage made from the leaves of evergreen shrub or tree Camellia sinensis, family Theaceae (Arancon *et al*., 2007). It is predominantly an agro-based export-oriented evergreen crop in Bangladesh (Rahman et al., 2020 and Adnan *et al.,* 2020) and the perennial crop is grown as a monoculture on large contiguous areas (Ahmed and Hossain, 2013). Tea cultivation in Bangladesh was originated in Malnicherra of greater Sylhet in 1854. Since its inception, tea cultivation has been extending to greater Sylhet and Chittagong. The annual tea production is 82.13 million Kg with an average yield of 1529 kg/ha which is low as compared to other leading tea producing countries (Banglapedia, 2015). About 0.15 million people are directly employed in the tea industry (Ahmed and Hossain, 2013). Many more people are indirectly employed in other sectors related to tea processing and business (Ahmed et al., 2012). Tea is a major foreign currency earning product of Bangladesh (Rahman et al., 2018). Bangladesh is facing a major challenge due to the rise of domestic tea consumption and the global competitive market (Nasir and Shamsudoha, 2011). Presently, Bangladesh is producing 1.89% of the world tea (Sangstha, 2018).

Tea cultivation is an important agro-based industry in Bangladesh. It plays an important role within the domestic economy. In Bangladesh, most popular quencher is tea. Demand of tea consumes is being increased day by day. In Bangladesh, tea has evolved into a labor-intensive, export-oriented industry. The tea industry also meets domestic demand for the iconic beverage. In recent years, the industry has struggled to meet domestic demand as the local demand has risen dramatically. Tea staffs make a significant contribution to the country's economy and industry. Despite the fact that tea garden women workers are the most dominated communities of people in terms of earning foreign currency and ensuring Bangladesh growth, they are deprived of basic necessities and political rights, resulting in a new term: modern slavery. Keeping all of these constraints in mind, this study attempts to explain the real situation of tea garden female labor regarding their economic factors influencing the living status of the tea garden workers.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Tea garden workers are one of the cluster groups of people who are severely deprived from basic rights (Das and Jakirul, 2014). Bangladesh is one of the poorest countries in the world with 20.5 percent of its total population are living below the poverty line (Bangladesh Economic Review, June 2022). The poverty rate is expected to decline to 13.5 percent by 2021 (Seventh Five-year Plan). Poverty reduction has got the top most priority agenda of the government of Bangladesh. The number one target of MDGs was to reduce extreme poverty and hunger by half by 2015. The 2030 Agenda of the United Nations which is Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) also targets to end poverty by 2030. The Perspective Plan (2010-2021) of the Government of Bangladesh is a strategic document which wishes to make vision 2021 into reality by achieving the goal of reaching middle income status. All policy documents, like perspective plan and 7th five year plan, align with the SDG target of eradicating poverty by 2030. Policies stress the inclusiveness and pro-poor approach to growth. A comprehensive scheme of social inclusion can help the process of substantial poverty reduction. For realizing the status of middle income country and ending poverty, it is important to increase labour productivity. Proper wage and fulfilment of basic needs can improve the productivity of labourers. So, it is important to investigate the economic empowerment of the tea garden workers on their livelihood status as they are the most isolated community in the society. The present research will try to investigate the following question-

1. What was the extent of tea garden workers living status?
2. What were the characteristics of the tea garden workers?
3. What were the contribution of the selected characteristics of the tea garden workers to their living status?

1.3 Specific Objectives of the Study

The following specific objectives were formulated to give proper direction to the study:

1. To assess the living status of tea garden workers
2. To describe some selected characteristics of the tea garden workers
3. To explore the contribution of the selected characteristics of the tea garden workers to their living status.

1.4 Justification of the Study

Tea industry has many problems that need to be addressed and nationally and globally. The main justification for selecting tea industry was its large production area, large employer field, poverty alleviation and women empowerment, wide consumption and export market, related supporting industry, economic importance and prospective industry. This study has laid emphasis on the changes that have taken place in the tea industry over the years.

It is important to improve the living standard of tea workers with essential livelihood facilities such as food, housing, treatment, education and entertainment facilities for mainstreaming the backward portion of the society. It is also pertinent to develop the industry as a sustainable one in line with its increasing demand at home by improving labour productivity. A number of studies have been done on human rights situation, female worker situation, social and political consciousness of the tea garden workers, gender issues and children rights and literacy issues of tea garden workers. However, few studies focus on measuring poverty in terms of absolute or relative poverty of the workers. Therefore, a study focused on the factors affecting on the living status of the tea garden workers.

1.5 Scope of the Study

The main focus of the study was to determine the living status of tea garden workers. The study was tried to find out the living pattern and the issues relating to causes of poverty among the tea labourers and their economic contribution to the family. The findings of the study may explicitly applicable to Sylhet District. However, the findings might also have implications for other areas of the country having relevance to the socio-cultural context of the study area. The researcher believes that the findings of the study may disclose the phenomenon related to the current economic status and its impact on the uplift of their family. These may be of special concern to the policy makers and planners in formulating and redesigning the living standard of tea garden workers.

1.6 Assumptions of the Study

An assumption is the supposition that an apparent fact or principle is true in the tight of available evidence (Goode and Hatt. 1952). The following assumptions were in

mind of the researcher during conducting the study:

- The respondents included in the sample were capable of furnishing responses properly to the questions included in the interview schedule.
- Views and opinions furnished by the respondents were the presentative opinions of the population of tea garden workers of the study area.
- The responses furnished by the respondents were reliable and valid.
- The researcher who acted as the interviewer was well adjusted to the social environment of the study area. Hence, the data collected by the researcher were free from bias.
- The respondents for the study were competent enough to answer the queries made by the researcher.

1.7 Limitations of the Study

The purpose of the study was to have an understanding of the extent of living status of the tea garden workers and to explore its contribution with their selected characteristics on their living status. Considering the time, money and other necessary resources available to the researcher and to make the research manageable and meaningful from the practical point of view, it was necessary to consider the following limitations:

- The study was confined mainly to living status of the tea garden worker.
- The study was confined to selected one tea garden of khadim union under Sylhet sadar upazila of Sylhet District.
- There were many characteristics of the tea garden workers but only ten of them were selected for this study?
- Facts and figures were collected by the investigator applied to the present situation in the selected area.
- For information about the study, the researcher was dependent on the data furnished by the sampled respondents during data collection. As none of the respondents kept records, they furnished information to the different queries by recall.
- Major information, facts and figure supplied by the respondents were applicable to the situation prevailing in the locality during the year 2021.

1.8 Definition of Terms

A researcher needs to know the meaning and contents of every term that he/she uses. For clarity of understanding of the following terms used frequently throughout the study have been defined and interpreted stated below in alphabetical order:

Tea garden workers

Tea garden workers referred to the workers who are related with the all stages of tea production such as tea plants planting, pruning, cutting, drain making, fertilizer applying, leaf plucking, leaf transporting, leaf processing, tea selling etc.

Age

It is defined as the chronological duration of time from birth of the tea garden workers to the time of interview.

Education

Education is referred to describe change of human behavior i.e. change in knowledge, skill and attitude of an individual through reading, writing and other related activities. Education of a tea garden worker refers to the development of desirable knowledge, skill and attitude in the individual through reading, writing and other related activities. In this study education was meant for total years of schooling of the respondents.

Access to credit

It is defined the process by which money can be borrow from different sources such as NGOs, relatives, friends, neighbors, colleagues, local leaders.

Working experience

It referred to the number of years a respondent has been engaged himself/herself in a work and it is expressed in number of years.

Extension media contact

It referred to the contact with different media such as friends, relatives, neighbors, colleagues, local leader, mobile, radio, television and others for dissemination of new knowledge and technologies.

CHAPTER II
REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The present study was concerned with the living status of the tea garden workers. This chapter deals with the reviews of the past works that relates to this investigation directly or indirectly. The researcher searched internet and reviewed related literatures. But frantic search, the researcher found no studies which were directly related to the living status of the tea garden workers but a very few literatures had indirect relentless. The researcher intensively searched internet, available books, journals and printed materials from different sources of home and abroad and tried his best to collect related information. On this consideration, the literatures had been organized into following three sections:

First Section: Living Status of Tea Garden Workers

Second Section: Relationship contribution of the selected Characteristics of Tea
Garden Workers with their living Status

Third Section: Conceptual Framework of the Study

2.1 Living Status of Tea Garden Workers

Kamruzzaman et al. (2015) found that livelihood status moderately improved for the tea garden workers (63.3%). Social & physical capital mostly improved and financial capital deprived off specially. Livelihood status of tea garden workers was mostly influenced by their condition of formal education, monthly income and communication media exposure.

Rashid et al. (2015) observed that most of the women tea workers (70%) had medium adoption of survival strategies. The mean adopted survival strategies were higher for food, health & hygiene and financial aspect than housing and immediate incidence aspect. They also found that formal education, access to credit and communication media exposure had significant positive relationships with the survival strategies adopted by women tea workers.

Sangeeta (2015) concluded that only 27% of the total population was employed in the tea garden as permanent and casual labours. The pay period of the plantation labours

working in tea garden was on 12 days basis where daily wage was Rs.90.50 irrespective of gender. Permanent labours of the garden receive ration for the whole family but the casual labours receive for himself/herself only. They did not have proper sanitation facility and water supply facility.

Yasin et al. (2015) reported that 34% of the families had two and three members working in their family. And only 1.33% families had six members working. Their works were fixed. The survey reveals that tea garden workers family had child worker. They also found that, a substantial part of the people under the study use open space as toilets which was very unhealthy and prone to various sanitation related diseases.

Enamol (2014) revealed that female workers were being oppressed and suppressed in each and every sphere of life as from family residence to job field. The study also exhibited very explicitly that 68% of female workers had no control over their own income. 94% had no hereditary property ownership though they were entitled to get it legally from their family.

Pallabi (2014) found that total 61% of the respondents were in the age group of 30-40 years and 72.25% of the respondents were illiterate, while 14% were under matric, 6.75% were matriculate, 5.85% were undergraduate and rest 1.25% was graduate. About 92% of the women workers had their monthly wage Rs. 1000-5000 in the selected tea garden were as of Sonitpur District.

Biswajit (2013) observed that all of the tea workers in these selected tea gardens workers were living within half to one-mile distance from working place. Their weekly wage was only 330 Taka for 8 hours working in a day.

Das et al. (2013) concluded that more than 85% of the women workers faced medium to high risk. The mean risk was highest for food and housing aspect and lowest for financial aspect. They also observed that number of dependent members had significant positive relation and formal education and income had significant negative relation with the risk faced by women tea workers to maintain livelihood.

Barkat et al. (2010) reported that about 74% of households in the tea gardens fall below the absolute poverty line and about 50% fall below the hardcore poverty line. It was observed that 94% of the surveyed households cooked their food inside the living space, a practice that had an inverse relation with the educational level of the household head and household income, declining as these rises. Gender differentials show girls were more wasted than boys.

Tulsi et al. (2006) revealed that around 55% respondents wanted the physical structure of their respective house to be improved and almost 64% respondents want to be ensured of having scientific sanitation and pure drinking water, and 53% respondents requested for increasing the wage of tea garden labourers.

2.2 Contribution of the Selected Characteristics of the Tea Garden Workers to their living status

2.2.1 Age and living status

Kamruzzaman et al. (2015) found in their study that age of the tea garden workers had no significant relationship with their socioeconomic livelihood status.

Rashid et al. (2015) observed in their study that age of the tea garden workers had no signification relationship with their socio-economic survival strategies adopted.

Das et al. (2013) revealed in their study that age of the tea garden workers had no significant relationship with their socio-economic livelihood.

2.2.2 Education and living status

Kamruzzaman et al. (2015) found in their study that formal education of the tea garden workers had significant relationship and positive relationship with their socio-economic livelihood status.

Rashid et al. (2015) observed in their study that formal education of the tea garden workers had signification relationship and positive relationship with their socio-economic survival strategies adopted.

Das et al. (2013) revealed in their study that formal education of the tea garden workers had significant relationship and negative relationship with their socio-economic livelihood.

2.2.3 Family size and living status

Kamruzzaman et al. (2015) found in their study that household size of the tea garden workers had no significant relationship and negative relationship with their socio-economic livelihood status.

Rashid et al. (2015) observed in their study that household size of the tea garden workers had no signification relationship with their socio-economic survival strategies adopted.

Das et al. (2013) revealed in their study that household size of the tea garden workers had no significant relationship with their socio-economic livelihood.

2.2.4 Working experience and living status

Kamruzzaman et al. (2015) found in their study that working experience of the tea garden workers had no significant and negative relationship with their socio-economic livelihood status.

Rashid et al. (2015) observed in their study that working experience of the tea garden workers had no signification and positive relationship with their socioeconomic survival strategies adopted.

Das et al. (2013) revealed in their study that working experience of the tea garden workers had no significant and positive relationship with their socioeconomic livelihood.

2.2.5 Income and living status

Kamruzzaman et al. (2015) found in their study that monthly income of the tea garden workers had significant and positive relationship with their socio-economic livelihood status.

Rashid et al. (2015) observed in their study that monthly income of the tea garden workers had no signification relationship with their socio-economic survival strategies adopted.

Das et al. (2013) revealed in their study that monthly income of the tea garden workers had significant and negative relationship with their socio-economic livelihood.

2.2.6 Organizational participation and living status

Yasin et al. (2015) found that organizational participation had significant relationship with their socio-economic livelihood status.

2.2.7 Extension media contact and living status

Kamruzzaman et al. (2015) found in their study that communication media exposure of the tea garden workers had significant and positive relationship with their socio-economic livelihood status.

Rashid et al. (2015) observed in their study that communication media exposure of the tea garden workers had signification and positive relationship with their socio-economic survival strategies adopted.

Das et al. (2013) revealed in their study that communication media exposure of the tea garden workers had no significant and positive relationship with their socio-economic livelihood.

2.2.8 Credit received and living status

Kamruzzaman et al. (2015) found in their study that access to credit of the tea garden workers had no significant relationship with their socio-economic livelihood status.

Rashid et al. (2015) observed in their study that access to credit of the tea garden workers had signification and positive relationship with their socioeconomic survival strategies adopted.

Das et al. (2013) revealed in their study that access to credit of the tea garden workers had no significant and negative relationship with their socio-economic livelihood.

2.3 The Conceptual Framework of the Study

The contribution on the experimental variables on the main focus of the study can be clearly précised with the help of conceptual framework of the study. The researcher was made an attempt to explore contribution of the tea garden workers selected characteristics on their living status. It was conceptualized in the research of the tea garden worker their living status may be influenced and affected by the interacting forces of many socio-economic and their characteristics. To make the process outstandingly interpretable a conceptual framework has been presented in a schematic diagram (Fig 2.1).

Independent variables
Selected characteristics of the tea garden workers

Dependent variable

❖ Age
❖ Education
❖ Family size
❖ Working experience
❖ Number of dependent members
❖ Time spends for household management
❖ Annual family income
❖ Organizational participation
❖ Extension media contact and
❖ Credit received.

Tea garden workers living status
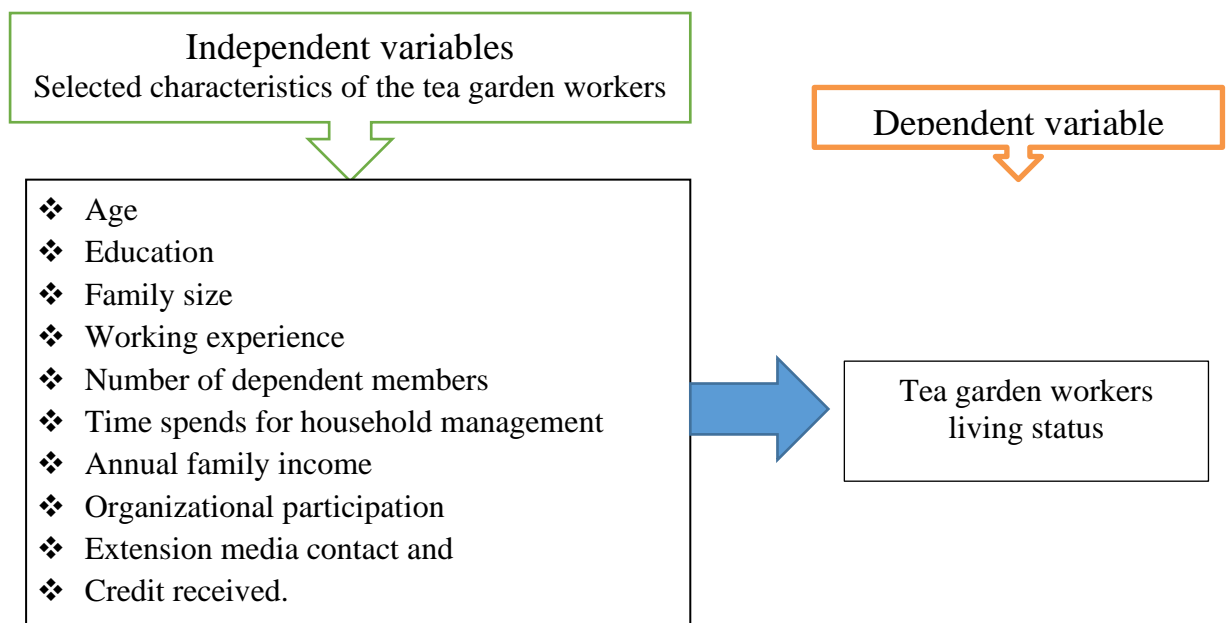
Figure 2.1: Conceptual Framework of the Study

CHAPTER III
METHODOLOGY

Methodology deserves a very careful consideration in scientific research. It is one of the most important parts before conducting a research work. To fulfill the objectives of the study, a researcher should be very careful while formulating methods and procedures in conducting the research. Research method is a structured set of guidelines or activities to generate valid and reliable research results. The researcher has great responsibility to describe clearly as to what sorts of research design, methods and procedures he would follow in collecting valid and reliable data and to analyze and interpret those to arrive at correct summary and conclusion. Methodology of any study should be such as to enable the researcher to collect valid and reliable information to analyze the same properly and to arrive at appropriate decisions. Methods and procedures followed in conducting this study has been discussed in this chapter.

3.1 Locale of the Study

Selecting locale of the study is an important step for conducting a scientific study. It depends on the objectives of the international labour organization search. The union named Tuker bazar of Sylhet sadar upazila under Sylhet district was selected purposively as the locale of the study. Primary data was collected from one villages namely lakkatura under Tuker bazar union of Sylhet sadar upazila under Sylhet district. One village was considered as the locale of the study and it was selected randomly. A map of Sylhet district showing Sylhet sadar upazila is shown in Figure 3.1 and a map of Sylhet sadar upazila showing the study area is shown in figure 3.2.
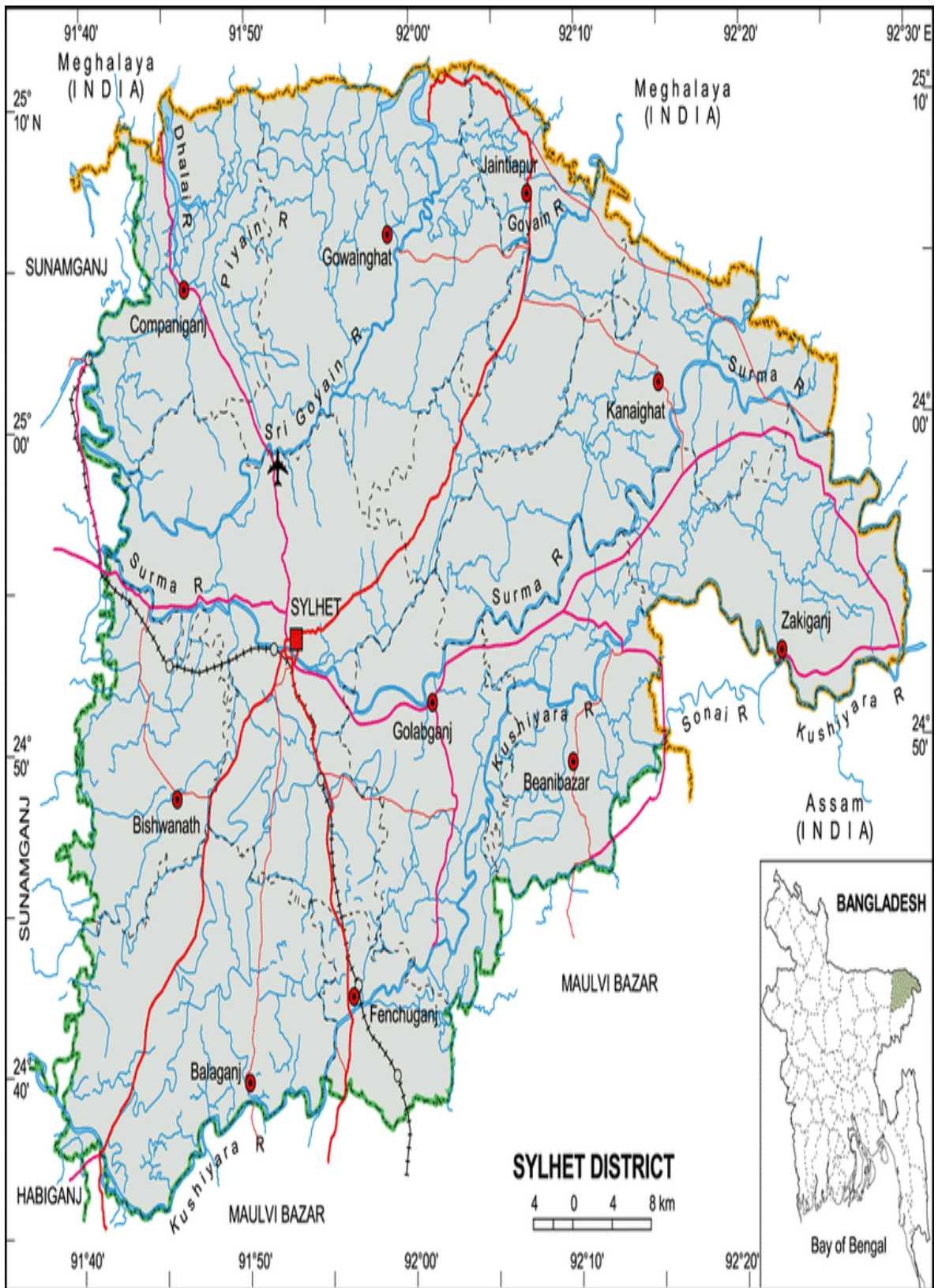
Figure 3.1 A map of Sylhet district showing Sylhet sadar upazila
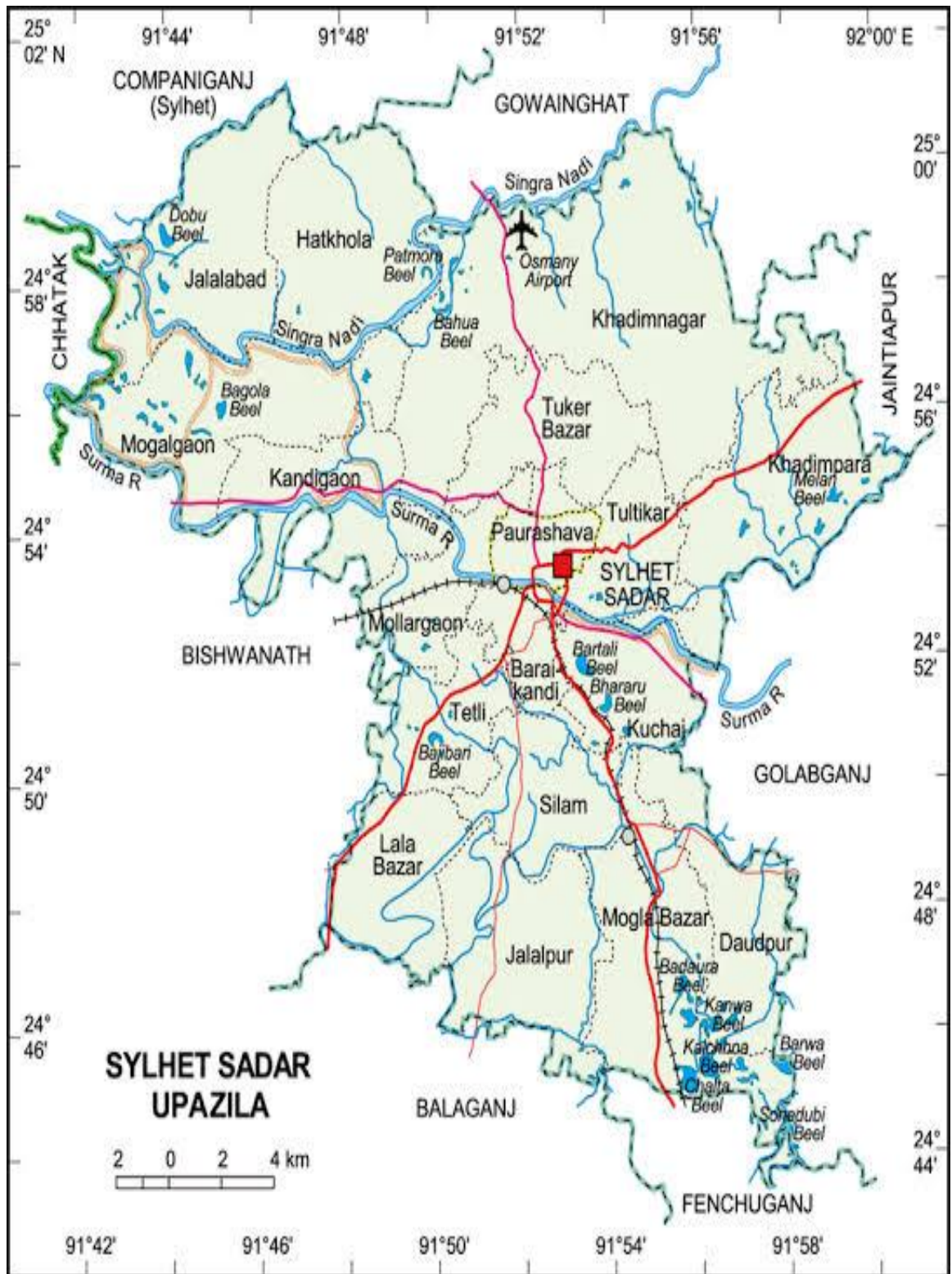
Figure 3.2 A map of Sylhet sadar upazila showing the study area

3.2 Population and Sample of the Study

The number of the tea garden workers of this selected garden (Lakkatura) was 1043. A pilot survey was held with Ten (10) tea gardens. Thus, a total of 1043 tea garden workers constituted the population of the study.

Out of 1043 workers, 104 (10% of the population) were selected as the Samples of the study by using random number. The researcher first collected the list of the workers from each garden with the help of worker leaders called Babu of the gardens. A reserve list of 10 (10% of the sample size) workers was prepared for use in case of unavailability of the respondent of the original sample for any reason. Distribution of the population, sample and reserve list are shown in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1 Distribution of the population, sample and reserve list size of the respondents in Tuker Bazar

Unions	Name of the tea garden	Population	Sample Size	Reserve list
Tuker Bazar	Lakkatura	1043	104	10

3.3 Data Collecting Instrument

In a social research, preparation of an interview schedule for collection of information with very careful consideration is necessary. Keeping this fact in mind the researcher prepared an interview schedule carefully for collecting data from the respondents. Objectives of the study were kept in view while preparing the interview schedule.

The initially prepared interview schedule was pre-tested among 10 respondents of the study area. The pretest was helpful to find out gaps and to locate faulty questions and statements. Alterations and adjustments were made in the schedule on the basis of experience of the pretest. English version of the interview schedule is shown in appendix-A.

3.4 Collection of Data

The researcher collected data from the sample respondent with the help of a pretested interview schedule. Before starting collection of data, the researchers met with the local Babu of the garden in order to explain the objectives of the study and requested them to provide necessary help and cooperation in collection of data. The local leaders of the area were also approached to render essential help. As a result of all

these a good working atmosphere was created in the study area which was very helpful for collection of data by the researcher.

Before going to the respondents for interview they were informed earlier, so that they would be available in their respective area. The interviews were held individually in the house or tree garden of the respective respondent. The researcher established adequate rapport so that the respondents did not feel hesitant to provide actual information. Whenever any respondent faced difficulty in understanding a particular question, the researcher took care to explain the same clearly. No serious constraints were faced by the researcher in collecting data. Collection of data took 30 days from 5th March to 5th April, 2022.

3.5 Variables of the Study

A variable is any characteristics, which can assume varying or different values in successive individual cases. An organized piece of research usually contains at least two important variables viz., dependent and independent variables. But, it is very difficult to deal with all the factors in a single study. Taking the relevant available literatures, discussion with academians, experts and research fellows in the relevant field and considering the time and resources available to the researcher, variables were selected. living status of the tea garden worker was considered as the dependent variable of the study. The researcher selected ten characteristics of the respondent as the independent variables. The characteristics includes age, education, family size, length of working experience, number of dependent members, time spending household management, annual family income, organizational participation, extension media contact and credit received.

3.6 Measurement of Variables

In order to conduct the study in accordance with the objectives, it was necessary to measure the selected variables. This section contains procedures for measurement of both independent as well as dependent variables of the study. The procedures followed in measuring the variables are presented below:

3.6.1 Measurement of independent variables

The selected characteristics of the Tea garden workers constituted the independent variables of the study. To keep the research within the manageable sphere, 10 independent variables were selected for the study. The procedures of measurement of the selected variables were as follows:

3.6.1.1 Age

Age of a respondent was measured in terms of years from birth to the time of interview which was found on the basis of response (Azad, *et al* 2014). A score of one (1) was assigned for each year of age. This variable appears in item number one (1) in the interview schedule as presented in Appendix-A.

3.6.1.2 Education

Education was measured in terms of one's year of successful schooling. One (1) score was given for passing each year in an educational institution (Amin, 2004). For example, if the respondent passed the S.S.C. examination, his/her education score was given as 10, if he/she passed the final examination of class Seven (VII), his/her education scores was given as 7. If the respondent did not know how to read and write, his/her education score was given as '0' (zero). A score of 0.5 (half) was given to that respondent who could sign his/her name only. This variable appears in item number two (2) in the interview schedule as presented in Appendix-A.

3.6.1.3 Family size

Family size was operationally measured by assigning a score of one for each member of the family who jointly lived and ate together. The members included the respondent himself, his wife/her husband, children and other dependent members. This variable appears in item number three (3) in the interview schedule as presented in Appendix-A.

3.6.1.4 Working experience

Length of working experience of a Tea garden worker was determined by the number of years a he/she respondent had worked as tea garden worker from the date of joining in his/her job to till the time of data collection. It was measured in complete years. This variable appears in item number four (4) in the interview schedule as presented

in Appendix-A.

3.6.1.5 Number of dependent members

Number of dependent members was measured by assigning a score of one for each dependent member of the family who jointly lived and ate together. The dependent members included the respondent him/herself/her husband/his wife, children and other dependent members. This variable appears in item number five (5) in the interview schedule as presented in Appendix-A.

3.6.1.6 Time spend in household management

Time spend in household management by the respondent was measured by total hours per day. This variable appears in item number six (6) in the interview schedule as presented in Appendix-A.

3.6.1.7 Annual family income

Annual family income of a Tea garden worker was measured in Thousand Taka. The total yearly earning from working in tea garden, agricultural (field crops, vegetables, fruits, spices, livestock and fisheries) and nonagricultural sources (service, business, and others) by the respondent himself and other members of his/her family was determined. Thus, yearly earning from tea garden working and agricultural and nonagricultural sources were added together to obtain annual family income of a tea garden worker. A score of one was given for each Tk. 1,000 to compute the annual income scores of the respondents. This variable appears in item number seven in the interview schedule as presented in Appendix-A.

3.6.1.8 Organizational participation

Organizational participation of respondent was measured on the basis of the nature of their participation in 4 selected organizations. Final score was computed by adding all the scores of selected organizations.

Organizational participation score = P x D
Where,
P= Participation Score
D= Duration (no. of years) score

Following scores were assigned for nature of participation:

Nature of participation	Scores assigned
No participation	0
Participation as ordinary member	1
Participation as executive member	2
Participation as executive committee officer	3

This variable appears in item number eight (8) in the interview schedule as presented in Appendix-A.

3.6.1.9 Media contact

The extension media contact of a respondent was measured with four selected media. A scale was developed arranging the weights for 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4 for the responses for not at all, rarely, occasionally, often and regularly contact with each of these media respectively.Thus, Extension contact score of the respondents could range from 0 to 16, while '0' indicating no extension contact and '16' indicating very highest extension contact. This variable appears in item number nine (9) in the interview schedule as presented in Appendix-A.

3.6.1.10 Credit received

Credit received of a respondent was measured in '000' BDT on the basis of total yearly received of credit from different sources by the respondent him/herself and other family members. This variable appears in item number ten (10) in the interview schedule as presented in Appendix-A.

3.7 Measurement of living status (Dependent Variable)

Living status of the tea garden workers was the dependent variable of the study. It was measured based on some contributing items related to living status. Each of the sample tea garden worker was asked to indicate the degree of by his/her living status against each of 6 selected items. The alternative response were 'high', 'medium', 'low' and 'not at all'. The score of 3, 2, 1 and 0 were assigned to these alternative

responses, respectively. Finally, living status score of a respondent was determined by summing up the weights of his/her responses to all the six items. Thus, living status score of the respondent was ranged from 0 to 18, where '0' indicating very low living status and '18' indicating highest living status. This variable appears in item number eleven (11) in the interview schedule as presented in Appendix-A.

3.8 Statement of the Hypotheses

As defined by Goode and Hatt (1952) a hypothesis is a proposition which can be put to test to determine its validity. It may seem contrary to, or in accord with common sense. It may prove to be correct or incorrect. In any event, however, it leads to an empirical test.

3.8.1 Research hypotheses

In the light of the objectives of the study and variables selected, the following research hypotheses was formulated to test them in. The research hypotheses were stated in positive form, the hypotheses were as follows:

"Each of the selected characteristics of the tea garden worker had contribution to their living status."

3.8.2 Null hypotheses

In order to conduct statistical tests, the research hypotheses was converted to null form. Hence, the null hypothesis was as follows:

"Each of the selected characteristics of the respondents had no contribution to their living status."

3.9 Data Processing
3.9.1 Editing

The collected raw data were examined thoroughly to detect errors and omissions. As a matter of fact, the researcher made a careful scrutiny of the completed interview schedule to make sure that necessary data were entered as complete as possible and well arranged to facilitate coding and tabulation. Very minor mistakes were detected

by doing this, which were corrected promptly.

3.9.2 Coding and tabulation

Having consulted with the research Supervisor and Co-supervisor, the investigator prepared a detailed coding plan. In case of qualitative data, suitable scoring techniques were followed by putting proper weight age against each of the traits to transform the data into quantitative forms. These were then tabulated in accordance with the objectives of the study.

3.9.3 Categorization of data

Following coding operation, the respondents were classified into various categories. These categories were developed for each of the variables by considering the nature of distribution of the data and extensive literature review. The procedures for categorization have been discussed while describing the variables under consideration in Chapter IV.

3.10 Statistical Analysis

Data collected from the respondents were analyzed and interpreted in accordance with the objectives of the study. The analysis of data was performed using statistical treatment with SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Science) computer program, version 24. The statistical measures such as range, mean, standard deviation, percentage, rank order were used for describing both the independent and dependent variables. Tables were also used in presenting data for clarity of understanding. Regressions analysis was run to explore contributions of the selected characteristics of the tea garden workers to their living status. Five percent (0.05) level of probability was used as the basis for rejection of a null hypothesis throughout the study. Co-efficient values significant at 0.05 level is indicated by one asterisk (*) and that at 0.01 level by two asterisks (**).

Sequential and detailed result and discussion has been presented in this Chapter. The Chapter divided into following three sections: First section: Living status of the tea garden workers; Second section: Selected characteristics of tea garden workers; Third section: Contribution of the selected characteristics tea garden workers to their living status.

4.1 Living Status of the Tea Garden Workers

Ten characteristics of the Tea Garden workers were selected for this research. The characteristics include: age, education, family size, length of working experience, number of dependent members, time spending for household management, annual family income, organizational participation, extension media contact and credit received. Salient features of the characteristics of the tea garden workers are presented in table 4.2 in order to have an overall picture of these characteristics at a glance. However, for ready reference, separate tables are provided while presenting categorizations, discussing and /or interpreting results concerning each of the characteristics in this chapter.

Table 4.2 The salient features of the selected characteristics of the tea garden workers

Categories	Measuring Unit	Range		Mean	S D
		Possible	Observed		
Age	Years	-	19-60	39.24	9.59
Education	Year of schooling	-	00-7.00	2.67	1.92
Family size	Number	-	2-8	4.66	1.35
Working experience	Score	-	0-45	15.49	9.90
Number of dependent members	Score	-	0-5	1.89	1.16
Time spending for household management	Hours	-	4-10	6.95	1.26
Annual Family income	'000'Tk.	-	45-160	96.08	20.47
Organization participation	Score	-	0-17	4.21	4.73
Media contact	Score	0-30	2-7	4.88	1.14
Amount of credit	Score	-	0-60	16.83	16.88

4.2.1 Age

The age of the tea garden workers ranged from 19 to 60 year, the average being 39.24 years and the standard deviation was 9.59. On the basis of their age, the tea garden worker were classified into three categories: "young" (up to 35), "middle aged" (36-50) and "old" (above 50). The distribution of the tea garden worker according to their age is shown in Table 4.3.

Table 4.3 Distribution of the tea garden workers according to their age

| Categories | Tea garden workers | | Mean | SD |
	Number	Percent		
Young aged (up to 35)	43	41.35		
Middle-aged (36-50)	45	43.27	39.24	9.59
Old (>50)	16	15.38		
Total	**104**	**100**		

The highest proportion (43.27 percent) of the tea garden worker was middle aged compared to 41.35 percent of them were young aged and 15.38 percent of them were old. The overwhelming majority (84.62 percent) of the tea garden worker were young to middle aged.

4.2.2 Education

The education score of the tea garden workers ranged from 0-7, with an average of 2.67 and standard deviation 1.92. Based on their education scores, the tea garden worker were classified into three categories namely illiterate (0-0.5), primary education (1-5) and secondary education (6-10). The distribution of the tea garden worker according to their education is shown in Table 4.4.

Table 4.4 Distribution of the tea garden workers according to their education

| Categories | Tea garden workers | | Mean | SD |
	Number	Percent		
Illiterate (0-0.5)	29	27.88		
Primary level (1-5)	68	65.38	2.67	1.92
Secondary level (above 5)	7	6.73		
Total	**104**	**100**		

It is evident from the Table 4.4 that the highest proportion (65.38 percent) of the tea garden worker had primary level of education compared to 27.88 percent of them were illiterate. About 6.73 percent of them had secondary level of education. Thus,

the overwhelming majority (93.26 percent) of the tea garden workers either were illiterate or had primary level of education. No body had education more than class seven (7) pass

4.2.3 Family size

The family size of the tea garden workers ranged from 2 to 8 and the mean was 4.66 with standard deviation of 1.35. According to the family size of the tea garden worker, they were classified into three categories as "Small (up to 3)", "Medium (4-6)" and "Large (>6)". The distribution of the tea garden worker according to their family size is shown in Table 4.5.

Table 4.5 Distribution of the tea garden workers according to their family size

Categories	Tea garden workers		Mean	S D
	Number	Percent		
Small family (up to 3)	18	17.31		
Medium family (4-6)	76	73.08	4.66	1.35
Large family (above 6)	10	9.61		
Total	**104**	**100**		

Above three–fourth (73.08 percent) of the tea garden worker had medium family size compared to 9.61 percent of them had large family size and 17.31 percent of the tea garden worker had small family size.

4.2.4 Working experience

Working experience score of the tea garden workers ranged from 0 to 45 with a mean of 15.49 and standard deviation of 9.90. Based on the experience scores, the tea garden workers were classified into three categories: "low experience" (upto 5 years), "medium experience" (6-26 years) and "high experience" (above 26 years). The distribution of the tea garden workers according to their experience is presented in Table 4.6.

Table 4.6 Distribution of the tea garden workers according to their experience

Categories	Tea garden workers		Mean	SD
	Number	**Percent**		
Low experience (up to 5)	20	19.23		
Medium experience (6-26)	67	64.42	15.49	9.90
High experience (above 26)	17	16.35		
Total	**104**	**100**		

About two third (64.42 percent) of the tea garden workers had medium length of working experience & while the rest 19.23 percent and 16.35 percent of them had low and high length of working experience in tea garden

4.2.5 Number of dependent members

The number of dependent members of the tea garden worker ranged from 0 to 5 and the mean was 1.89 with standard deviation of 1.16. According to the number of dependent members of the tea garden workers, they were classified into four categories as "No (0)", "Small (up to 1)", "Medium (2-3)" and "Large (>3)". The distribution of the tea garden workers according to their dependent member is shown in Table 4.7.

Table 4.7 Distribution of the tea garden worker according to their dependent members

Categories	Tea garden workers		Mean	S D
	Number	Percent		
No dependent (0)	13	12.50		
Small (up to 1)	27	25.96		
Medium (2-3)	56	53.85	1.89	1.16
Large (above 3)	8	7.69		
Total	**104**	**100**		

Above half (53.85 percent) of the tea garden workers had medium number of dependent members compared to 7.69 percent of them had large number of dependent members and 25.96 percent of the tea garden worker had small number of dependent members and rest12.5% had no dependent members.

4.2.6 Time spend for household management

Time spend for household management by the tea garden workers varied from 4 to 10 hrs per day with an average of 6.95 and standard deviation of 1.26. Based on their time spend for household management, the tea garden workers were classified into three categories namely less time spend (up to 4), moderate time spend (5 to 6) and high time spend (above 6). The distribution of the tea garden workers according to their time spend for household management is presented in Table 4.7.

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Table 4.8 Classification of the respondents according to their time spends

Categories	Tea garden workers		Mean	SD
	Number	Percent		
Less time spend (up to 4)	35	33.65		
Moderate time (5-6)	66	63.46	6.95	1.26
High time spend (>6)	3	2.88		
Total	104	100		

Data presented in Table 4.8 indicates that majority (63.46 percent) of the tea garden workers spent moderate time, 33.65 percent of them spent less time and 2.88 percent spent high time for household management. Time spends in spending household management is helpful to increase knowledge, improve skill and change attitude of the tea garden workers. It also builds confidence of the tea garden workers for making appropriate decisions at the time of need. Generally, time spends in household management helps to cope up any problematic situation as well as increase skill.

4.2.7 Annual family income

Annual family income of the tea garden workers ranged from Taka 45 thousand to 160 thousand, the mean being 96.08 thousand and standard deviation of 20.47 thousand. On the basis of their annual income scores, the tea garden workers were divided into two categories: "very low income" (up to 100), "low income" (100-160). The distribution of the tea garden worker according to their annual family income is shown in Table 4.9.

Table 4.9 Distribution of the tea garden workers according to their annual income

Categories	Tea garden workers		Mean	SD
	Number	Percent		
Very low income (up to 100)	13	12.50		
Low income (100-160)	91	87.50	96.08	20.47
Total	**104**	**100**		

The majority (87.50percent) of the tea garden workers had low income compared to 12.50 percent of them had very low income.

4.2.8 Organizational participation

The observed organizational participation score of the tea garden workers ranged from 0 to 17. The mean score was 4.21 with the standard deviation was 4.73. From the observed range, on the basis of organizational participation, the respondents were classified into four categories namely, no, low organizational participation, medium organizational participation and high organizational participation, as shown in Table 4.10

Table 4.10 Distribution of the tea garden worker according to their organizational participation

Categories (Scores)	Tea garden workers		Mean	SD
	Number	**Percent**		
No participation (0)	43	41.35	4.21	4.73
Low participation (up to 5)	31	29.81		
Medium participation (6-10)	17	16.35		
High participation (above 10)	12	11.54		
Total	104	100		

Data contained in the Table 4.10 revealed that the majority (41.35%) of the tea garden workers had no organizational participation as compared to 29.81% and 16.35% had low and medium organizational participation respectively. Rest 11.54 percent of the tea garden worker had high organizational participation. The mean value is little bit lower than the SD. This indicates the organizational participation level of the tea garden workers were not uniform.

4.2.9   Media contact

The observed extension contact scores of the tea garden worker ranged from 2 to 7 against the possible range from 0 to 28, the mean and standard deviation were 4.88 and 1.14 respectively. According to this score, the tea garden worker were classified into three categories: "low extension contact" (up to 4), "medium extension contact" (5-6) and "high extension contact" (above 6). The distribution of the tea garden worker according to their extension contact is shown in Table 4.11.

Table 4.11 Distribution of the tea garden workers according to their contact

Categories	Tea garden workers		Mean	SD
	Number	Percent		
Low contact (up to 4)	11	10.58		
Medium contact (5-6)	87	83.65	4.88	1.14
High contact (above 7)	6	5.77		
Total	**104**	**100**		

A proportion of 83.65 percent of the tea garden worker had medium extension contact compared to 5.77 percent of them having high extension contact and 10.58 percent of the tea garden worker had low contact. Thus, overwhelming majority (94.23 percent) of the tea garden worker had low to medium extension contact.

4.2.10 Credit received

The observed credit received scores of the tea garden workers ranged from 0 to 60, the mean and standard deviation were 4.88 and 1.14 respectively. According to this score, the tea garden workers were classified into two categories: "no credit received" (0), and "low credit received" (up to 60), The distribution of the tea garden worker according to their credit received is shown in Table 4.12.

Table 4.12 Distribution of the tea garden worker according to their credit received

Categories	Tea garden workers		Mean	SD
	Number	Percent		
No (0)	45	43.27		
Low (up to 60)	59	56.73	16.83	16.88
Total	**104**	**100**		

More then half (56.73%) of the tea garden worker received low credit compared to rest 43.27 percent of them received no credit.

4.2 Selected characteristics Tea Garden workers

Living status of the tea garden workers was the dependent variable of the study. The observed living status scores of the respondents ranged from 5 to 16. Against the possible range of 0-18. The mean scores were 8.48 with the standard deviation of 1.94. Based on their living status scores, the Tea garden workers were classified into

three categories namely low living status, medium living status and high living status as shown in Table 4.13

Table 4.13 Distribution of the tea garden workers according to their contribution

Categories	Tea garden workers		Mean	SD
	Number	**Percent**		
Low (up to 6)	16	15.38	8.48	1.94
Medium (7-10)	77	74.04		
High (above 10)	11	10.58		
Total	104	100		

Data contained in the Table 4.1 revealed that the majority (74.04%) of the tea garden worker had medium living status as compared to (15.38%) and (10.58%) having low and high living status respectively. Majority (84.62%) of the Tea garden worker had low to medium living status.

4.3 The Contribution of the Selected Characteristics of the Tea Garden Workers to their Living Status

In order to estimate the contribution of the selected characteristics of the tea garden worker to their living status, the multiple regression analysis was used which is shown in the Table 4.14

Table 4.14 Regression coefficients of the contribution of the selected characteristics of the tea garden workers to their living status

Dependent variable	Independent Variable	S.E.	β	t-value	Sig.
Tea garden workers living status	Age	.041	-.467	-2.322	.022*
	Education	.115	-.298	-2.648	.010*
	Family size	.267	.033	.172	.864
	working experience	.037	.231	1.235	.220
	Number of dependent members	.250	.156	1.044	.299
	Time spendss for household management	.148	.077	.794	.429
	Annual family income	.015	.329	2.130	.036*
	Organization participation	.075	-.107	-.584	.560
	Extension media contact	.188	-.021	-.192	.848
	Amount of credit	.021	.137	.764	.447

** Significant at p<0.01;

*Significant at p<0.05

$R^2=0.321$

Adj. $R^2=0.247$

F=4.35

Table 4.12 shows that age and education and of the tea garden workers had significant negative contribution to their living status. Annual family income had positive significant contribution to living status. Coefficients of other selected variables don't show any contribution to living status.

The value of R^2 is a measure of how of the variability in the dependent variable is accounted by the independent variables. So, the value of $R^2= 0.321$ means that independent variables accounts for 32% of the variation with their contribution of the tea garden in improving living status. The F ratio is 4.35 which is highly significant (p<0).

However, each predictor may explain some of the variance in respondents their contribution of the tea garden in maintaining their livelihood simply by chanced. The adjusted R^2 value penalizes the addition of extraneous predictors in the model, but value 0.247 is still show that variance is tea garden workers their contribution of the tea garden in improving living status can be attributed to the predictor variables rather than by chanced (Table 4.13). In summary, the models suggest that the respective authority should be considers the tea garden worker' age, education and annual family income, on their contribution of the tea garden in improving living status and in this connection some predictive importance has been discussed below:

4.3.1 Contribution of age of the tea garden worker on their living status

From the multiple regression, it was concluded that the contribution of age of the tea garden workers to their living status was measured by testing the following null hypothesis;

"There is no contribution of age of the tea garden workers to their living status".

The following observations were made on the basis of the value of the concerned variable of the study under consideration.

  a. The contribution of the age was significant at 5% level (0.022)
  b. So, the null hypothesis could be rejected.
  c. The direction between age and contribution was negative.

The b-value of tea garden worker age was -0.467. So, it can be stated that tea garden workers' age increased by one unit, tea garden workers' living status decreased by 0.467 units, considering the effects of all other predictors are held constant. Based on the above finding, it can be said that tea garden workers with more age decreased their living status. It might be due to that the older tea garden worker had lower living status.

4.3.2 Contribution of education of the tea garden workers to their living status

From the multiple regression, it was concluded that the contribution of education of the tea garden workers to their living status was measured by the testing the following null hypothesis;

"There is no contribution of education of the tea garden workers to their tea garden living status".

The following observations were made on the basis of the value of the concerned variable of the study under consideration.

  a. The contribution of the education was significant at 5% level (.010)
  b. So, the null hypothesis could be rejected.
  c. The direction between education and contribution was negative.

The b-value of education was -0.298. So, it can be stated that education decreased by one unit, tea garden workers living status decreased by 0.298 units.

Based on the above finding, it can be said that tea garden workers having more education decreased their living status. Thus may be due to the fact that the tea garden

workers had education range from illiterate to class seven (7) pass. Comperatively higher educated workers felt lower status of their living.

4.3.3 Contribution of annual family income of the tea garden workers to their living status

From the multiple regression, it was concluded that the contribution of annual family income of the tea garden workers to their living status was measured by the testing the following null hypothesis:

"There is no contribution of annual family income of the tea garden workers to their living status".

The following observations were made on the basis of the value of the concerned variables of the study under consideration:

a. The contribution of the annual family income was significant at 5% level (.036)

b. So, the null hypothesis could be rejected.

c. The direction between annual family income and contribution was positive.

The b-value of annual family income was 0.329. So, it can be stated that annual family income increased by one unit, tea garden workers living status increased by 0.329 units.

Based on the above finding, it can be said that tea garden workers having more annual family income increased living status. It was quite logical that annual family income of the tea garden workers to help improve their living status.

CHAPTER V
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The study was conducted in the Tuker bazar union of Sylhet sadar upazila under Sylhet district to find out the tea garden workers factor influencing the living status of the tea garden worlers. Total 1043 respondents were selected from the study area as the population and according to 10% of the population size, the respondents comprised of 104 constituted the sample of the study. A well-structured interview schedule was developed based on objectives of the study for collecting information. The independent variables were: age, education, family size, length of working experience, number of dependent members, time spending household management, annual family income, organizational participation, extension media contact and credit received. Data collection was started from 5th March to 5th April, 2022. Various statistical measures such as frequency counts, percentage distribution, mean and standard deviation were used in describing data. In order to estimate the contribution of the selected characteristics of the respondents to their contribution of the tea garden worker in improving living status, multiple regression analysis was used. The major findings of the study are summarized below:

5.1 Summary of the Findings

The major findings of the study are summarized below:

5.1.1 Individual characteristics of the tea garden workers

Age

The highest proportion (43.27 percent) of the tea garden worker was middle aged compared to 41.35 percent of them was young aged and 15.38 percent of them old.

Education

The highest proportion (65.38 percent) of the tea garden worker was primary level of education compared to 27.88 percent of them was illiterate. About 6.73 percent of them were secondary level of education.

Family size

Above three–fourth (73.08 percent) of the tea garden worker had medium family size compared to 9.61 percent of them having large family size and 17.31 percent of the tea garden worker had small family size.

Length of working experience

About 64.42 percent of the tea garden workers had medium length of working experience & while the rest 19.23 and 16.35 percent of them had low and high length of working experience in rice cultivation.

Number of dependent members

Just above fifty (53.85 percent) of the tea garden workers had medium number of dependent members compared to 7.69 percent of them having large number of dependent members and 25.96 percent of the tea garden workers had small number of dependent members.

Time spend for household management

Majority (63.46 percent) of the respondents had moderate time spend against 33.65 percent of the respondents had less time spend and 2.88 percent had high time spend for household management.

Annual family income

The majority (87.50percent) of the tea garden workers had low income compared to 12.50 percent of them had very low income.

Organizational participation

The majority (41.35%) of the tea garden worker had no organizational participation as compared to (29.81%) and (16.35%) having low and medium organizational participation respectively. And only 11.54 percent of the tea garden worker had high organizational participation.

Media contact

A proportion of 83.65 percent of the tea garden worker had medium extension contact compared to 5.77 percent of them having high extension contact and 10.58 percent of the tea garden worker had low contact.

Credit received

More than half (56.73%) of the tea garden worker received low credit compared to rest 43.27 percent of them received no credit.

5.1.2 Living status of the tea garden workers

Living status of the tea garden workers was the dependent variable of the study. The observed living status scores of the respondents ranged from 5 to 16. Against the possible range of 0-18. The mean scores were 8.48 with the standard deviation of 1.94. Based on their living status scores, the Tea Garden workers were classified into three categories namely low living status, medium living status and high living status the majority (74.04%) of the tea garden worker had medium living status as compared to (15.38%) and (10.58%) having low and high living status respectively. Majority (84.62%) of the Tea Garden worker had low to medium living status.

5.1.3 Contribution of the selected characteristics of the tea garden workers to their living status

Among 10 selected characteristics of the tea garden workers 3 characteristics namely, age, education had negative and annual family income had significant positive contribution with their contribution of the tea garden in improving living status and the rest 7 characteristics namely, family size, length of working experience, number of dependent members, time spending household management, organization participation, extension media contact and amount of credit had non-significant contribution with their contribution of the tea garden in improving living status.

5.2 Conclusions

Conclusions have been drawn on the basis of findings and its logical interpretation has presented below:

  1. The findings revealed that the majority workers (74.04%) of the tea garden worker had medium contribution as compared to (15.38%) and (10.58%) having low and high contribution respectively. It means that majority of the tea garden workers socio-economic livelihood contribution is not satisfactory. Therefore, it may be concluded that there is urgent necessity to improve tea garden worker socio-economic contribution.

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2. Regressions analysis showed that level of education of the tea garden workers had significant negative contribution with their live and living status improvement. Therefore, it can be concluded that having illiterate women played more role to improve living status

3. Overwhelming majority of the tea garden workers was possessed medium annual family income. Regressions revealed that, annual family income of the tea garden workers had significant positive contribution with their living status improvement. Therefore, it can be concluded that having annual family income they can improve their living condition.

4. Regressions revealed that, age had significant negative contribution with their socio-economic characteristics. So, it can be concluded that younger women contribute more than the older to improve living status.

5.3 Recommendations

5.3.1 Recommendations for policy implications

The following recommendations are made on the basis of experience, observation and conclusions:

1. Majority of the tea garden workers contribution level was low to medium to up lift family condition. Therefore, it may be recommended that initiative should be taken to increase tea workers salary and income.

2. It may be recommended that the NGOs and other related GOs might take steps to motivate the tea workers with relatively higher educational level to contribute more for family.

3. It can be recommended that motivational campaigning to be arranged by GOs, NGOs and garden authorities for the tea garden workers, with relatively low family income, to contribute more for family

4. The younger women contributed more than the older gardeners for family up-liffment. Therefore, the respective government and non-government agent should work more with older gardeners on how the contribute more for improving their family status.

5.3.2 Recommendations for further research

➢ The present research was done in the Sylhet sadar upazila of Sylhet district. The findings of the study should be tested in the other areas of the country.

➢ In the present study only ten independent variables were studied. There were some other important characteristics of the respondent that could not be included in this study. So it needs to be studied with different variables.

➢ The present study was conducted determinants contribution of the tea garden in maintaining their livelihood considered in this study. Further study should be conducted to assess the specific indicators.

➢ The present study was conducted on the basis of the recall data furnished by the respondents. Further study should be carried out without using recall data.

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English version of the Interview Schedule
Department of Agricultural Extension & Information System
Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University Dhaka – 1207

Interview Schedule for data collection for the Research on
"Contribution of tea garden workers to improving their living status"

(This interview schedule is entitled for a research.
Collected data will only be used for research purpose and will be published
aggregately)

Serial No......
Name of the respondent ....

Village ....Union ....

Upazila ....District ....

1. Age: What is your present age? ....Years.

2. Education:
  a) Cannot read and write .... b) Can sign only......................
  c) I read up to class .... d) Non formal education…………..

3. Family size .... (members)

4. Length of working experience ....(years)

5. Number of dependent members……

6. Time of spending in household management...........(hours) per day

7. Annual family income:
Please mention your annual family income

S.L	Source of Income	Amount (Tk)/year
1	Work in garden	
2	Agricultural	
3	Livestock and Fisheries	
4	Business	
5	Service	
6	Others	
	Total	

8. Organizational participation: Please mention the nature and duration of your participation in the following organizations.

S.L	Number of the Organization	Duration and Nature of participation			
		NO participation	Ordinary member	Executive member	Executive Officer (President, Secretary, Treasurer)
1	NGO (eg. BRAC, PROSHIKA, ASA, Grameen Bank)				
2	'Cooperative Society'				
3	Youth Club				
4	Bazar Committee				

9. Media contact:

Please indicate the extend of your contact with following media

S.L	Source of media	Extent of Contact				
		Not at all	Rarely	Occasionally	Often	Regullarly
1	Neighbours and relatives					
2	Experienced workers					
3	Opinion leader					
4	Television					
5	Group discussion					

10. Did you receive credit last year?

    a) Yes   b) No

If yes, Please mention the amount of credit (tk)……….

11. Living status of the tea garden workers

(Please mention the extent of your living status on the following items)

Item of contribution	Extent of living status			
	High	Medium	Low	Not at all
Children education				
Access to electricity				
Purchasing food for family members				
Treatment for family members				
Manage pure drinking water				
Purchasing furniture				

…………………….

Date: Signature