

# Exploring the Socioeconomic Realities of Shatranji Workers in Rangpur

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## ABSTRACT

The Shatranji industry in Rangpur, Bangladesh, is a vital traditional craft and a Geographical Indication (GI) product, supporting around 50,000 families. This study examines the socioeconomic conditions of Shatranji workers based on a qualitative survey of 115 workers, all of whom are women. The findings reveal that most workers are 30–40 years old, have limited education, and belong to low-income families. They earn modest wages, with the majority earning less than 100 takas daily, and live in poor housing conditions. Financial insecurity is widespread, with 67% of workers lacking savings or loans. Despite these challenges, there is a strong emphasis on education for their children. Unemployment rates within families are high, yet workers generally perceive their workplaces as safe. However, improvements in living conditions have been minimal, and nutritional intake remains inadequate. The study highlights the need for targeted interventions, including wage increases, job security, improved healthcare, and financial literacy programs. These recommendations aim to enhance the socioeconomic status of Shatranji workers and ensure the sustainability of this culturally significant industry.

**Key words:** Shatranji, Socioeconomic Status, Social Security, Sustainable Development

## INTRODUCTION

The Shatranji industry has brought smiles to nearly 50,000 families today. Poor, helpless people have the opportunity to change their destinies. At the same time, this industry has gained fame worldwide. In every corner of the country today, the value of Shatranji has increased (Karmaker, 2021). Exports go to at least half a hundred countries around the world. It is known that once upon a time, Mughal Emperor Akbar was also impressed by the form and quality of Shatranji. That's why he used Shatranji in court. Over the ages, this Shatranji has been used in many emperors and noble families' guesthouses, hangouts, and dining halls. The times have changed a lot today. Rangpur Shatranji is being exported to various parts of the world, including Europe and North America.

What is more interesting is that today's Shatranji is wider than Nisbetganj village; its production has spread throughout Rangpur. A few private institutions, namely Karupanya, Neer Shatranji, Shatranji Palli, and Charushi are already working to gain national and international recognition in this industry. As a result, many factories have been built. The most gratifying thing

is that the courtyard and roof of every house in the Nisbetganj area are now Shatranji manufacturing factories. More happy news is that almost 60 percent of export trade from handicrafts in Bangladesh comes from Rangpur's Shatranji. When Bangladesh moves forward with sustainable development, it will be impossible to leave anyone behind. Many people are directly and indirectly involved in this industry, whose quality of life affects our overall economy. Economics cannot, in any case, deny their existence and partnership. Various individuals and organizations may use the results obtained in this research in their subsequent research. Various policy-making departments and government offices can use the results of this research to improve the quality of life of Shatranji workers. The researcher believes that the results obtained in the study will lead the life crises of these workers down a path of possibilities.

## Research Objectives

The main objective of this study is to accurately determine the socioeconomic status of the workers in the Shatranji industry in Rangpur, Bangladesh. However, this study will be conducted with the following objectives in mind:



- Evaluate the workers of Rangpur Shataranji Industries about the quality of life;
- To understand the crisis facing workers at Rangpur Shataranji Industries and their plans.

### Scope of Research

This study is conducted to review the socioeconomic status of the workers in the Rangpur Shataranji industry in Rangpur, Bangladesh. The scope of the research is limited to the mentioned area only. This study is conducted on all the workers of Rangpur Shataranji Industries in this region. The study also determines the workers' economic capacity and social position. This study explores various issues, including wages, working hours, income, health, safety, education, accommodation, and wealth of Shataranji industry workers, and finds a conclusion about their lives and livelihoods.

### LITERATURE REVIEW

Shataranji, a traditional handwoven carpet from the Rangpur region, is celebrated for its centuries-old craftsmanship. According to recent studies, 'Rangpur Shataranji' carpets, once cherished by royalty, have become a prominent export commodity in Bangladesh, facilitated by their recognition as a geographical indication (WIPO, 2023). According to Shataranjicraft (2023), Shataranji was widely used during British rule. In 191, Hunter, a noted historian in the Rangpur Gazetteer, noted Nishbet's influence in promoting the art of Shataranji, leading to the development of Nishbetgonj as a creative hub for the industry.

The shatranji industry in Rangpur, Bangladesh, faces severe challenges threatening its survival. According to local traders, dwindling demand during the COVID-19 pandemic and soaring raw material costs have crippled production. Historically, shatranji, a traditional handloom craft, thrived in Rangpur, but post-partition and the advent of machine-made products led to its decline. Financial constraints and inadequate marketing strategies persist despite efforts to revive the industry. Local artisans, predominantly women, struggle with meager wages and fluctuating material prices, pushing many to abandon the profession for better-paying alternatives (Qamruzzaman & Ferdaous, 2014). Amid these challenges, stakeholders urge governmental support, including more accessible access to finance and strategic initiatives to boost market visibility (Yasmin, 2016). Efforts to train women in shatranj weaving, coordinated by organizations like the Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation, have stalled due to the pandemic, further complicating the industry's prospects for recovery. (The Daily Star, 2021)

Financial Express (2019) pointed out the increasing demand for Rangpur shatranji, a traditional handcrafted rug with historical significance dating back to the Mughal era.

Initially popular across the subcontinent and used by Emperor Akbar, the craft faced decline due to political unrest and technological advancements. However, it saw a revival thanks to the efforts of Shafiqul Alam, who established a showroom and cottage industry to promote the craft, eventually employing around 1,000 workers. The Rangpur Dinajpur Rural Service (RDRS) also created job opportunities for impoverished communities, particularly vulnerable women, thereby contributing to the resurgence of Shatranji. The rugs, now produced with innovative designs and techniques, have gained global recognition, indicating the potential for large-scale industrial production and export from northern Bangladesh.

Mostafiz (2022) highlighted the challenges faced by Rangpur due to its heavy reliance on agriculture, which needs to be increased to sustain the local population. Factors like river erosion, seasonal unemployment, and a lack of industrial growth contribute to poverty and social issues such as child marriage. Although efforts like dairy farming, shatranji weaving, and small cottage industries offer some relief, they are not enough. The article suggests that agro-based industries, enhanced jute production, and establishing more effective industrial zones could provide necessary alternative employment opportunities and boost the region's economy.

The Financial Express (2019) reported the resurgence of shatranji production in Rangpur, which was once popular during the Mughal era. With government and private initiatives, including support from the Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) and local entrepreneurs, shatranji weaving has expanded beyond Nishbetganj to various areas in Rangpur. This revival has created employment opportunities for women and boosted local economies. The handcrafted rugs, known for their unique designs and cultural significance, are now exported to about 40 countries, reflecting growing global demand.

Hossain (2024) discussed women's empowerment through the traditional craft of Karupannyas Shatranji rugs. It highlights how this artisanal practice, rooted in cultural heritage, has provided economic opportunities and social advancement for women in the region. These rugs' global success is attributed to their unique craftsmanship and the increased recognition of the artisans' work (Saha & Jannat, 2021). By blending tradition with contemporary markets, the initiative not only preserves an ancient craft but also enhances the socioeconomic status of women, showcasing a successful model of women's empowerment through cultural industries (Mohammed et al., 2023).

Mosfahiz (2022) argues for the urgent need for development projects in Rangpur, emphasizing that such initiatives are crucial for the region's socioeconomic advancement. It discusses the current developmental challenges faced by Rangpur, including inadequate infrastructure and limited economic opportunities. The

piece advocates for targeted investments and strategic planning to address these issues, highlighting that well-planned projects could significantly improve living standards, boost local economies, and foster sustainable growth (Thompson et al., 2019). This review underscores the importance of development projects in catalyzing regional progress and addressing systemic disparities.

Ahmed (2023) highlighted the cultural and economic significance of Shataranji, a traditional handwoven rug from Bangladesh. It explores the intricate craftsmanship involved in creating Shataranji and how this heritage art form has become a source of livelihood for many artisans, particularly women. The piece emphasizes the role of Shataranji in preserving cultural heritage while providing economic empowerment to rural communities. It also discusses the growing recognition and demand for Shataranji in international markets, further contributing to the artisans' socioeconomic development.

**RATIONALE OF THE STUDY**

Shataranji is officially exported to 40 countries around the world. Due to the GSP facility in Shataranji, 60 percent of the export products are going to Europe, 10 percent to America and Russia, and 20 percent to China. Currently, 70 percent of handicrafts in the export trade in Bangladesh are Rangpur's Shataranji. There are no heavy industries in the agrarian Rangpur, so Shataranji changed the fate of the region's people. It has created employment for thousands of people. This traditional Shataranji of Rangpur was recognized as a Geographical Indication (GI) product on June 17, 2021, by the Directorate of Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks (DPDT) of the Ministry of Industries. Those involved in this industry have become more encouraged and excited.

As a result, Rangpur will now be known to the whole world through Shataranji. In 1976, the Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSIC) officially started a project to make Shataranji in Nisbetganj village of Rangpur to sustain this weaving industry, which almost disappeared during the war of independence. Still, no significant market was created for this product at that time. As a result, the project stalled. Later, in 1991, private initiative began again. Then, there was no looking back. Currently, about 30 thousand men and women are working in this factory. The number of women workers is higher among them. Their estimated monthly salary is 8 thousand to 10 thousand taka. History says that Shataranji once lost his way. If we can't make the living conditions of Shataranji workers easy, normal, safe, and peaceful, then this industry will suffer and face another setback. Hence, the socioeconomic status of its workers needs to be assessed for the proper development of this industry (Genilo & Sharif, 2016). This study is mainly conducted for that purpose.

**RESEARCH METHODS**

This study followed the quantitative approach of research methodology. Quantitative analysis is conducted in this research. In this study, the researcher emphasizes the numerical analysis and the research conducted using that analysis method. Primary and secondary data are used in this research. All the workers of Rangpur Shataranji Industries are considered the population of this study. The data is collected through constructive interaction with the sample unit by selecting the sample using convenience sampling. A specific questionnaire is used in this study. Research activities descriptively use the information gained through relevant discussions during the talks. The results of various past studies have also enriched this research. Reports published in different newspapers and periodicals are also used in this study. Also, an attempt is made to make the report more practical through case studies.

**DATA ANALYSIS**

The researcher collected the data through questionnaires and personal interactions with the respondents. All those data are interpreted and presented below using various statistical tools and techniques.

**Gender of Sataranji Workers**

The following table provides data on the gender distribution of Sataranji workers in Rangpur district based on a field survey. This table shows that the entire workforce surveyed in the Sataranji industry in Rangpur consists of women. The number of female respondents is 115, making up 100% of the total respondents. There are no male or any third-gender respondents among the Sataranji workers.

Table 1: Gender of Sataranji Workers

Gender	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Male	0	0
Female	115	100
Third Gender	0	0
Total	115	100

Source: Analysis of Field Survey Data

**Age Distribution of the Sataranji Workers**

Table 2: Age of the Sataranji Workers

Age	Frequency	Percentage (%)
<25 years	2	1.74
25-30	17	14.78
30-35	48	41.74
35-40	28	24.35
40-45	11	9.57
45-50	4	3.48
50-55	5	4.35
55-60	0	0.00
>60 year	0	0.00
Total	115	100.00

Source: Analysis of Field Survey Data



According to a field survey, the table provides data on the age distribution of Sataranji workers in Rangpur. The table shows that under the age range of 25–30 years, 30-35 years, 35–40 years, 40–45 years, 45–50 years, and 50–55 years, there are 17, 48, 28, 11, 4, and 5 respondents, respectively. There is no respondent above the age of 55. The table shows that most Sataranji workers in Rangpur are 30-35 and 35-40, making up a significant portion of the workforce.

**Educational Qualifications of Sataranji Workers**

The following table shows data on the educational qualifications of Sataranji workers in Rangpur based on a field survey. The data shows that two workers have no formal education, representing 1.74% of the respondents. This table shows that most Sataranji workers in Rangpur still need to complete their SSC, with 93.91% falling into the below SSC Pass category. Only a small portion have achieved an SSC pass, while none have pursued higher education.

Table 3: Educational Qualification of Sataranji Workers

Educational Qualification of the Sataranji Workers	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Uneducated	2	1.74
<SSC Pass	108	93.91
SSC Pass	5	4.35
HSC Pass	0	0.00
Graduate, Post Graduate or above	0	0.00
Total	115	100.00

Source: Analysis of Field Survey Data

**Occupation of the father of the Sataranji Workers**

The following table provides information on the occupations of the fathers of Sataranji workers in Rangpur based on a field survey. The data shows that 37 respondents reported their fathers were auto-risk drivers, representing 32.17% of the total. 23 respondents had fathers who were easy-bike drivers, accounting for 20.00%. 35 respondents stated their fathers were day laborers, making up 30.43%. This data suggests that a significant proportion of the fathers of Sataranji workers are engaged in low-income, labor-intensive occupations such as auto-rickshaw driving, easy-bike driving, and day labor.

Table 4: Occupation of the Father of the Sataranji Workers

Occupation of Sataranji Workers' Father	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Sataranji Worker	0	0.00
Auto-rikswa Driver	37	32.17
Easy-bike Driver	23	20.00
Day Laborer	35	30.43
Farmer	3	2.61
Out of job	8	6.96
Others	9	7.83
Total	115	100

Source: Analysis of Field Survey Data

**Occupation of the Mother of the Sataranji Workers:**

The following table provides data on the mothers' occupations of Sataranji workers in Rangpur. The table shows that 53 respondents reported their mothers were Sataranji workers, representing 46.09% of the total. 38 respondents stated their mothers were day laborers, making up 33.04%. 18 respondents indicated their mothers were housewives, accounting for 15.65%. 6 respondents listed their mothers' occupations as something other than the provided categories, representing 5.22%. The data suggest that nearly half (46.09%) of the mothers of Sataranji workers are also involved in Sataranji work, highlighting a strong family involvement in this craft.

Table 5: Occupation of the Mother of the Sataranji Workers

Occupation of Sataranji Workers' Mother	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Sataranji Worker	53	46.09
Day Laborer	38	33.04
Only Housewife	18	15.65
Others	6	5.22
Total	115	100

Source: Analysis of Field Survey Data

**Occupation of the Husband of the Sataranji Workers**

The following table presents data on the occupations of the husbands of Sataranji workers in Rangpur. The data show that none of the respondents' husbands are Sataranji workers (0.00%). There are 24 husbands (20.87%) who work as auto-risk drivers. Out of 115 respondents, 13 husbands (11.30%) are easy-bike drivers, and 52 husbands (45.22%) work as day laborers, the largest group in this category. On the other hand, nine husbands (7.83%) are unemployed, and 7 husbands (6.09%) have other unspecified occupations. According to the data, most of the husbands of Sataranji workers in Rangpur are engaged in labor-intensive jobs, working as day laborers, followed by auto-risk drivers.

Table 6: Occupation of the Husband of the Sataranji Workers

Occupation of Sataranji Workers' Husband	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Sataranji Worker	0	0.00
Auto-rikswa Driver	24	20.87
Easy-bike Driver	13	11.30
Day Laborer	52	45.22
Farmer	10	8.70
Out of job	9	7.83
Others	7	6.09
Total	115	100.00

Source: Analysis of Field Survey Data



### Numbers of Family members of Sataranji Worker

The following table provides data on the number of family members in the households of Sataranji workers in Rangpur. The data shows that most Sataranji workers' households comprise 3 to 4 family members (46.96%). A significant proportion also have between 2 and 3 family members (34.78%). Households with fewer than two family members make up 7.83%, while those with 4 to 5 members constitute 6.96%, and only a tiny percentage (3.48%) have more than five family members.

Table 7: Numbers of Family members of Sataranji Worker

Number of family members in the Sataranji Workers' family	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
≤2	9	7.83
2-3	40	34.78
3-4	54	46.96
4-5	8	6.96
>5	4	3.48
Total	115	100.00

Source: Analysis of Field Survey Data

### Experience of the Sataranji Workers

The following table provides data on the working experience of Sataranji workers in Rangpur. The data shows that 17 workers (14.78%) have less than five years of experience. There are 45 workers (39.13%) with between 5 and 10 years of experience, and 37 workers (32.17%) have between 10 and 15 years of experience. According to the data, most Sataranji workers have 5 to 10 years of experience. This distribution indicates a relatively experienced workforce, with a significant number having substantial expertise in Sataranji work.

Table 8: Working Experience of the Sataranji Workers

Experience of the Sataranji Workers	Frequency	Percentage (%)
<5	17	14.78
5-10	45	39.13
10-15	37	32.17
15-20	9	7.83
>20	7	6.09
Total	115	100

Source: Analysis of Field Survey Data

### Sataranji Workers' Earnings per Day

Talking to Sataranji workers in Rangpur, I discovered that their working hours are optional. They can join and leave work as they wish. That's why they do what they want. The duration of this work ranges from 2 hours to 14 hours. They are paid based on the amount of work done. This wage depends on the quality of work. Wages range from 15 to 40 rupees per square foot.

Table 9: Sataranji Workers' Earnings per Day

Sataranji Worker's Earnings Per Day (in Taka)	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
<100	73	63.48
100-200	34	29.57
200-300	6	5.22
300-400	2	1.74
400-500	0	0.00
Total	115	100.00

Source: Analysis of Field Survey Data

The above table provides information on the daily earnings of Sataranji workers in Rangpur. Most Sataranji workers earn less than 100 takas daily (63.48%), indicating that a significant portion of the workforce earns meager daily wages. A smaller proportion of workers earn between 100 and 200 taka (29.57%), with very few earning more than 200 taka. The earnings are low across the board, with no workers earning between 400 and 500 taka daily.

### House structure of the Sataranji Workers

The following table provides information on the types of house structures in which Sataranji workers in Rangpur live. The table shows that most Sataranji workers live in tin-shed tin houses (71.30%), indicating that this is the predominant type of housing among them. A smaller number live in brick houses (12.17%) or tin-shaded brick houses (6.96%), with an equal proportion living in bamboo houses (6.96%) and a few in other types of houses (2.61%). The data suggests that many Sataranji workers live in relatively basic and less durable housing structures.

Table 10: House Structure of the Sataranji Workers

House structure of the Sataranji Workers	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Tin-shaded brick house	8	6.96
Brick house	14	12.17
Tin-shed tin house	82	71.30
Bamboo house	8	6.96
Others	3	2.61
Total	115	100.00

Source: Analysis of Field Survey Data

### Financial Conditions of the Sataranji Workers

The following table provides data on the financial conditions of Sataranji workers in Rangpur. The survey shows that most Sataranji workers (66.96%) have neither savings nor loans, indicating a lack of economic security and access to credit. A significant portion (29.57%) has loans, which may suggest they are in debt or have relied on borrowing to manage financial needs. Only a tiny fraction (3.48%) have savings, reflecting limited financial stability and planning.

Table 11: Financial Conditions of the Sataranji Workers

Financial Condition of the Sataranji Workers	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Have savings	4	3.48
Have loans	34	29.57
No savings, no loans	77	66.96
<b>Total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Analysis of Field Survey Data

**Educational status of children of Shatranji workers**

The following table provides information on the educational status of the children of Sataranji workers in Rangpur. The data shows that most Sataranji workers (73.91%) have children attending school, reflecting a solid commitment to education among their families. A small percentage (0.87%) have children not attending school, and 12.17% have children who are not yet old enough for school. A minimal number (1.74%) have both school-going and non-school-going children. Additionally, 11.30% of respondents are unmarried or do not have children.

Table 12: Educational status of children of Shatranji workers

Educational status of the Sataranji Workers' children	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Children are going to school	85	73.91
Children are not going to school	1	0.87
Children are not old enough to go to school	14	12.17
Some of the children are going to school; some are not	2	1.74
Others (Unmarried/ No Children)	13	11.30
<b>Total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Analysis of Field Survey Data

**Employment Situation of the family of the Sataranji Workers**

Table 13: Employment Situation of the Family of the Sataranji Workers

Employment Situation of the Sataranji Worker's Family	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
There are unemployed members of the family	87	75.65
There are no unemployed members in the family	28	24.35
<b>Total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Analysis of Field Survey Data

The following table provides information on the employment situation of the families of Sataranji workers in Rangpur. The survey data shows that a significant majority of Sataranji workers' families (75.65%) have at least one unemployed member. In contrast, only 24.35% of families report having no unemployed members. This indicates a prevalent issue of unemployment within these families, which could impact their overall economic stability.

**Safety at Workplace of Shatranji Workers**

The following table provides information on the safety conditions of Sataranji workers in Rangpur's workplace. The table shows that most Sataranji workers (94.78%) perceive their workplace as safe, indicating a generally upbeat assessment of safety conditions. However, a small percentage (5.22%) do not find their workplace to meet safety expectations, suggesting that there may be specific concerns or areas for improvement in safety practices.

Table 14: Safety at Workplace of Shatranji Workers

Safeness	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Save	109	94.78
Not save as per the expectation	6	5.22
<b>Total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Analysis of Field Survey Data

**Changes in Financial Conditions of the Shatranji Workers over the last five years**

Table 15: Changes in Financial Conditions of the Shatranji Workers over the last five years

Condition	There has been a positive change		Negative changes have occurred		No changes have occurred		Total	
	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
<b>Asset Change</b>	3	2.61	9	7.83	103	89.57	115	100.00
<b>Agricultural Income</b>	6	5.22	1	0.87	108	93.91	115	100.00
<b>Household condition</b>	15	13.04	1	0.87	99	86.09	115	100.00
<b>Household income</b>	3	2.61	9	7.83	103	89.57	115	100.00

Source: Analysis of Field Survey Data

The following table provides information on the changes in various financial conditions of Sataranji workers in Rangpur over the past five years. The table shows that most Sataranji workers have yet to experience any significant changes in their economic conditions over the past five years. Specifically, most workers report no change in assets (89.57%) and household income (89.57%). Similarly, a high percentage report no change in agricultural income (93.91%). The condition of the household has seen some improvement for 13.04% of workers, but 86.09% report no change. Very few reports of positive changes in asset value (2.61%) and household income (2.61%) exist. On the other hand, there are few negative changes overall, particularly in agricultural income (0.87%).

### Food Security of the Shatranji Workers

The researcher talked to the Shataranji workers in Rangpur to learn about their daily diet and nutritional status. Hearing the question, they were a little shocked. They are not so aware of the nutritional value. They think they would be happy to get three meals a day. According to the information obtained by the researcher, they do not have the opportunity to eat fish, meat, and eggs daily. They can't get regular protein food. They satiate their hunger somehow.

### Entertainment and Recreation of the Shatranji Workers

While talking to Shataranji workers in Rangpur, the researcher wanted to know about their entertainment and recreation. The answer is that their life is entirely of hard work. They wake up early in the morning and do their household work. Then they went to their workplace. After returning home in the afternoon, evening, or night, they join the family's work again. This is their actual daily life. If they ever have time, they can watch mobiles and television. Apart from this, there is no entertainment in their lives. They spend their free time with their husband, children, and family members.

## CHALLENGES OF SHATRANJI WORKERS AND ENTREPRENEURS

Shataranji workers in Rangpur face several problems affecting their daily lives and work. Researchers found the following issues among Shataranji workers and Shataranji entrepreneurs: The government and the responsible authority should take the initiative to solve the problems regarding Shataranji workers and Shataranji entrepreneurs to develop this industry.

### Challenges of Shatranji Workers

- Workers usually get low wages, which are not enough to meet the daily needs of their families.
- They often become jobless due to reduced work or a lack of orders.
- Sitting for long hours causes back, neck, and hand pain and other health problems. They are not

wearing a mask in their mouth, which is also risky for their health.

- Many workers need access to education, which hampers their quality of life.
- More training is required to keep up with modern technology and design.

### Problems for Shataranji Entrepreneurs

- The non-availability of loans and other financial support on easy terms makes it difficult for them to expand their business.
- It is a big challenge to market their manufactured Shataranji properly and reach buyers.
- Due to a lack of government support and policies, they need help developing the industry.
- The price of raw materials is increasing daily, so the production cost is also increasing, which is an essential cause of market loss.

## CONCLUSION

The field survey conducted on Sataranji workers in Rangpur reveals several crucial aspects of demographic, economic, and social conditions, highlighting their challenges and the broader implications for the Sataranji industry. The workforce in the Sataranji industry in Rangpur is entirely composed of women, with all 115 respondents being female. Age distribution data indicates that most workers fall within the 30-40-year age range, suggesting a relatively mature workforce. The data shows that most workers have not completed their SSC, with only a few having completed this level of education and none having pursued higher education. The survey also sheds light on the socioeconomic backgrounds of the workers. The fathers of the Sataranji workers are predominantly engaged in low-income occupations such as auto-rickshaw driving, easy-bike driving, and day labor.

Similarly, the mothers are mainly Sataranji workers or day laborers. The husbands of these workers are also primarily engaged in labor-intensive jobs, with a significant portion working as day laborers. Experience levels among workers show a substantial portion with 5-10 years of experience, pointing to a skilled workforce with substantial industry experience. However, their earnings remain low, with the majority earning less than 100 takas daily, underscoring these workers' financial difficulties. Housing conditions are primary, with most workers living in tin-shed houses, reflecting their modest financial means. Financial conditions reveal that most workers have neither savings nor loans, indicating a lack of financial security. Despite this, there is a strong emphasis on their children's education, with most children attending school, which suggests a commitment to improving prospects. Over the past five years, there has been little change in the financial conditions of the workers, with most reporting no change in assets, household income, or agricultural income. Food security

remains a concern, as workers often cannot afford regular protein-rich meals. Entertainment and recreation are limited, with workers' lives dominated by hard work and household responsibilities, leaving little time for leisure activities. The survey identifies several critical problems faced by Sataranji workers and entrepreneurs. Workers struggle with low wages, job insecurity, health issues, a lack of education, and insufficient training. Entrepreneurs face challenges in obtaining financial support, marketing their products, and dealing with rising raw material costs. Government intervention and support are crucial to address these issues and develop the Sataranji industry.

Time and money are constraints on this research project. There is no way to deny personal limitations in research work. The main objective of this study is to review the socioeconomic status of the Rangpur Shataranji workers. However, a proper review process is complex as socioeconomic status affects many people. Workers are sometimes discouraged from providing accurate information, negatively affecting this research. Above all, the researcher tried, in light of his research skills, to overcome these problems and present a meaningful research result.

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