Case Study

Skill training helps to get job; a story about successful individual

“When my father died, I was only 15 and witnessed a very critical situation of my family. My father was the only earning member to feed our five members family. His sudden death felt like we were in a deep sea. We were helpless and no one extended support to us through which we could overcome the immediate sufferings. Since I have no brothers, my mother had to take care all of the family responsibilities. She also gone through with unbearable sufferings to make us grow and educated. She has gone through a very adverse situation and overcome all the challenges and I felt proud of my Mother” - Said Ayesha Siddiqa, 25 years of age, who is a participant of Garments Research Project which was being funded by Institute of Labor Economics (IZA) & International Development Research Centre (IDRC). This was an Experimental intervention, carried out by Dr. Abu Shonchoy of New York University, Dr. Selim Raihan of Dhaka University & Dr. Tomoki Fuji of Singapore Management University. The intervention was aimed to explain the labor market dynamics and the associated growth and poverty - reduction linkages in Bangladesh.

Ayesha Siddiqa is an eldest child of her parents who lives with her family at Kisamot Bagchi village, a village of Gaibandha district. Her father died at the time of her SSC examination in the year of 2008. She witnessed herself with an abject poverty since her father died. Her father left nothing but only 20 decimal cultivable lands. Then her mother started to cultivate that land by her own initiative. Besides, she started also homestead gardening and poultry rearing. But the income was coming from those initiatives was not enough to meet her family needs. Ayesha also started contributing financially as she started tuition in her village. Meanwhile, she passed both SSC and HSC examination and got admission into a degree college. Her two younger sisters were also studying in school leading to a gradual rising in the family expenses. She was unable to progress her graduate studies into the final year due to financial crisis. Desperately, she was looking for job but wanted to continue her study also. She had a lack of proper job network and referral leads her unemployed. Passionately, she was looking for something like skill training that could assist her to mitigate the unemployment problem and all on a sudden she got a chance to be trained on sewing machine operation by Gana Unnayan Kendra (GUK) under the Garments Research Project. She was randomly selected for the 3rd treatment group; a group provided with training and stipend to finance migration. She came to Dhaka after the completion of 22 days residential training and got a job as a helper of the sewing machine operator. After satisfactory performance during probation period, she was promoted later as a sewing machine operator in the same factory. In the meantime she moved to her village and completed the graduation. After staying a few months in the village, she migrated again to Dhaka and found a job in a foreign apparel factory named Kingstal Limited. Since then, she has been working as a Quality Inspector and earning around BDT 14000 each month. She is also contributing to her family by remitting BDT 5000 each month. She has to spend a big portion of her salary for her own expenses. Despite the reduction of big portion of the salary, she has been making a considerable savings from the beginning. She also contributed from her savings to sister's marriage, building a new house and to purchase some furniture and home appliances. Her journey towards employment was not easy as the community people unwelcomed her work in garments factory and criticized several times. But over the years, many of them wanted to use her as referral to send their child to garments factory.

“Being a woman, I am not unemployed and financial contribution to my family is a great achievement of my life. I am happy that my family has already come out of the sufferings from poverty. I am also planning to get tied with a person who will allow me to continue the job even after getting marriage”.
Do management interventions last? Evidence from India

Differences in management account for about 30% of the unexplained total factor productivity (TFP) differentials driving the large differences in the wealth of nations (Van Reenen 2018). As a consequence, many governments run programs designed to help firms improve their management practices. But there is a debate over how long we should expect any improvements to last. One view is that management improvements become self-sustaining, epitomized by the 'Toyota way' (Liker 2004). But a contrasting view is that maintaining good management is difficult, and that two-thirds of transformation initiatives ultimately fail (Sirkin et al. 2005). In this connection, Bloom et al. 2018., examine the persistence of an intensive management intervention carried out in India. To know more about the study, Click Here.

Global Research

How to reform a government investment agency: Insights from Ethiopia

The rapid growth of several countries in sub-Saharan Africa over the past ten years has been one of the most talked-about stories in global economics. It has been estimated that if these countries maintain their current growth rate, they will become middle-income countries within the next ten years. This would transform the economic prospects of the continent at large. For this growth to be achieved, it will require a substantial increase in industrial output, and a broadening of the range of manufacturing activities. This cannot be achieved without a major inflow of foreign direct investment (FDI). Professor John Sutton shares insights, from his collaborations with sub-Saharan African governments, on setting up effective investment agencies. To know more about the study, Click Here.

MOMODa Events

New project is being introduced in collaboration with Brac University

MOMODa FOUNDATION in collaboration with Brac University launched a research project named “Impactful Advocacy Strategies for Tobacco Consumption Prevention in Rural Bangladesh”. The project is to undertake a research in the Char region in Gaibandha, a Northern district in Bangladesh. The research will also undertake a randomized Control Trial (RCT) to explore the impact of advocacy strategies for tobacco consumption. On that occasion, MOMODa FOUNDATION has recently organized an enumerator’s training session in the FOUNDATION’s Gaibandha office.

G2P project is its implementation phase

The Government to People (G2P) project is its implementation Phase. The project is part of the digitization process of the Government of Bangladesh. The aim of the project is to provide digital payments like freedom fighter allowance, widow allowance, and old age allowance to people. This is the pilot phase of the project and access to information (a2i) is implementing the G2P payments in 3 districts like Gopolgonj, Narshingdi and Kishorgonj. MOMODa FOUNDATION as a research partner is carrying out FGDs, market visits, agent visits in these areas. The proposed research plan is to carry out a RCT experiment to understand the impact and the effectiveness of this endeavor.

The second phase of the freelancing project training begins

The freelancing project is going to be started its 2nd phase of the training. The project is being implemented in collaboration with Creative IT Institute and Gana Unnayan Kendra (GUK) in Gaibandha. The project consider an innovative new microfinance product, based on the principles of equity financing, in which promising potential entrepreneurs are provided with capital, training and mentorship to help them become online freelancers. After the successful completion of the 3 month long training course, participants of that course are offered an internship opportunity at MOMODa Design Lab Freelancing Course in Gaibandha.

Editor

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