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Enhanching Digital Government & Economy (EDGE) Project

Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC) Information and Communication

Technology Division Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications, and Information Technology Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

And

Center for Digital Transformation (CDT)

Begum Rokeya University, Rangpur

Rangpur-5404, Bangladesh

Project Title:

"The Educational Disparity Between Rural and Urban Areas"

Name : Rashedul

Department : Bangla

Year 3rd

Semester : 2nd

Batch No : B - 17

Serial No : 05

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Introduction:

Educational disparities between rural and urban areas are a significant issue in many countries, including Bangladesh. Rural areas often face challenges in terms of access to quality education, infrastructure, and resources. The urban centers, on the other hand, tend to have better facilities, qualified teachers, and more opportunities for students. This project aims to explore the differences in the education systems between these two regions and suggest possible solutions to bridge the gap.

Objectives

The main objectives of this project are: 1. To analyze the differences in educational opportunities and quality between rural and urban schools.

- 2. To understand the socio-economic impact of education disparities on students from rural areas.
- 3. To propose potential solutions to reduce the education gap between rural and urban areas in Bangladesh.

Research Methodology

- 1. This project uses a combination of qualitative and quantitative research methods.
- 2. Data Collection: Interviews and surveys will be conducted with teachers, students, and parents from both rural and urban schools.
- 3. Data Analysis: The collected data will be analyzed to compare factors such as teacherqualification, infrastructure, resources available, and academic performance.
- 4. Government Policies: A review of the current government policies regarding rural education will be done.
- 5. Case Studies: Specific case studies from rural and urban schools will be presented to highlight the issues and challenges faced.

Results

The preliminary results indicate a clear disparity in the quality of education between rural and urban schools. Urban schools typically have better-qualified teachers, advanced teaching tools, and a higher rate of student success. In contrast, rural schools suffer from a lack of educational resources, poor infrastructure, and a shortage of qualified teachers. These disparities contribute to a significant gap in learning outcomes.

Analysis

The analysis of the data reveals that the rural education system faces significant barriers:

- Lack of qualified teachers
- Inadequate school infrastructure
- Insufficient access to modern learning materials and technology
- Limited government support and policies aimed at improving rural education

These issues are exacerbated by socio-economic challenges in rural areas, which further hinder students' ability to access and benefit from quality education.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the educational divide between rural and urban areas is a major concern that needs immediate attention. While urban schools tend to perform better in terms of student outcomes, rural schools face numerous challenges that prevent them from providing quality education. Addressing these issues through effective government policies, better infrastructure, and teacher training canhelp bridge the educational gap.

Recommendations

To improve rural education and reduce disparities, the following recommendations are made:

- 1. Increase investment in rural school infrastructure, including better classrooms, libraries, and access to technology.
- 2. Provide teacher training programs specifically designed for rural educators.
- 3. Implement government scholarships and financial aid programs for rural students to ensure they can access higher education.
- 4. Encourage collaboration between urban and rural schools to exchange resources and best practices.
- 5. Create more government initiatives aimed at promoting rural education, including subsidies and improved public policy.

References

- Bangladesh Education Policy Report 2020 - World Bank Report on Education in Rural Areas (2021) - Ministry of Education, Bangladesh - Journal of Rural Education and Development (2022)