


# Chapter 13

## The Socioeconomic Challenges for the Garment Industry Workers of Bangladesh

**Dhanonjoy Kumar**

 <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0147-9303>

*Islamic University, Bangladesh*

### **ABSTRACT**

*Ready-made garments (RMG) are considered the foundation of Bangladesh's foreign profit sector. In Bangladesh, this industry employs roughly 4.5 million people directly and another 15 million indirectly. The purpose of this study is to ascertain the socioeconomic challenge faced by Bangladeshi ready-made garment workers. In this study, both primary and secondary data are employed. For primary data, the number of samples used was 111 RMG workers, using the non-probability sampling method. Data collection was obtained through questionnaires and interviews from five garments located in Gazipur and Dhaka districts. Important statistical techniques and tools such as descriptive statistics, reliability analysis, factor analysis, and regression analysis are used to draw a realistic conclusion based on authentic findings. The study found that garment workers are confronted with numerous socio-economic challenges and psychological problems. Because of unsecured monthly salaries or wages and a lack of appropriate medical support, the standard of living of the workers is not maintained. The study will educate policymakers, interested parties, and industrialists on the need to focus efforts on reducing the socioeconomic difficulties faced by Bangladesh's ready-made garment workers and fostering sustainable economic growth. The research's conclusions would close a gap in the body of knowledge in this field.*

DOI: 10.4018/979-8-3693-7853-3.ch013

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The RMG industries are the key pillars of the economy of Bangladesh. It earns a high portion of foreign earnings and contributes to our economy. For almost 4 million workers, the swift growth of Bangladesh's ready-made garment (RMG) industry has created enormous job prospects (Leitheiser et al., 2020; Syed, 2020). Bangladesh has been a prominent participant in the global garments sector, establishing itself as the world's second-largest exporter of garments. The nation's amazing recovery from economic hardship to prominence in the textile and clothing industries is evidence of its adaptability and tenacity (Mim et al, 2024). The Ready-made garments (RMG) industry significantly increased Bangladesh's GDP in FY23 by 10.35 percent. With a gain of 10.27 percent from the previous fiscal year, RMG export earnings for the fiscal year totaled USD 46991.61 million. With export revenues from RMGs of USD 11739.17 million during the fourth quarter of FY23, they were 4.96 percent higher than the same period in the previous fiscal year. However, compared to the prior quarter, RMG exports decreased by 4.22 percent due to the tight financial situation of the global economy. It also failed to meet the quarterly objective by 7.55 percent (Bangladesh Bank, 2023).

In Bangladesh, the RMG industry employs huge people, directly or indirectly. This industry supports rural women's empowerment, job creation, and poverty reduction. Even though the industry did not start off with significant promise, it is currently expanding quickly (Hossain, 2019). Garments employees are the nucleus of this sector. So, it's vital to notice their issues, guarantee their betterment, and inspire them towards work by creating a friendly work environment. It helps doubtless restore output from these marginal employees (Adekola & Sergi, 2016). Customary of living, housing, education, accommodation, transportation, rank, recreation, income, and job security are the most important socio-economic factors influenced by the involvement of the readymade clothes of Bangladesh (Al Mamun & Hoque, 2022). The RMG sector employees perpetually feel that they need for the most part to empty the rights and edges within the existing labor laws, particularly the rights and edges associated with the issue of appointment letters, job security, provident fund, gratuity, and dealing hours (Kader et al., 2019). The wages of the garment worker area unit are still poor, the condition is below commonplace, their living condition is a circle of financial condition, and they face extreme hardships in getting their basic desires anyhow (Uddin, 2018).

So, its' aim is to identify the socio-economic challenges of the Ready-made garments (RMG) workers in Bangladesh and it additionally signifies the relationship between the socio-economic standing of the garment employees of Bangladesh and the factors. To be more specific, the aim of the research is to meet three research objectives. First, to explore the major socioeconomic challenges of ready-made

20 more pages are available in the full version of this document, which may be purchased using the "Add to Cart" button on the publisher's webpage: [www.igi-global.com/chapter/the-socioeconomic-challenges-for-the-garment-industry-workers-of-bangladesh/375493](http://www.igi-global.com/chapter/the-socioeconomic-challenges-for-the-garment-industry-workers-of-bangladesh/375493)

## Related Content

---

### Examining the Role of Generational Attitudes in Shaping Bleisure Travel Trends and Destination Selection Using the PRISMA Model

Arhita Uppal, Sonali P. Banerjee, Priyanka Chadha and Pallavi Choudhary (2025). *Smart Travel and Sustainable Innovations in Bleisure Tourism* (pp. 315-342). [www.irma-international.org/chapter/examining-the-role-of-generational-attitudes-in-shaping-bleisure-travel-trends-and-destination-selection-using-the-prisma-model/358989](http://www.irma-international.org/chapter/examining-the-role-of-generational-attitudes-in-shaping-bleisure-travel-trends-and-destination-selection-using-the-prisma-model/358989)

### International Management, Differentiating Factors, and its Relation to Culture

Aytaç Gökmen (2018). *International Journal of Sustainable Economies Management* (pp. 30-39). [www.irma-international.org/article/international-management-differentiating-factors-and-its-relation-to-culture/208653](http://www.irma-international.org/article/international-management-differentiating-factors-and-its-relation-to-culture/208653)

### Transition and Multifunctional Agriculture in Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Ferhat Cejvanovic, Bahrija Umihanic, Kadrija Hodžic and Meldina Kokorovic Jukan (2012). *International Journal of Sustainable Economies Management* (pp. 16-23). [www.irma-international.org/article/transition-multifunctional-agriculture-federation-bosnia/63019](http://www.irma-international.org/article/transition-multifunctional-agriculture-federation-bosnia/63019)

### Monitoring the Land Use, Land Cover Changes of Roorkee Region (Uttarakhand, India) Using Machine Learning Techniques

Ashish Kumar, Rahul Dev Garg, Prabhishek Singh, Achyut Shankar, Soumya Ranjan Nayak and Manoj Diwakar (2023). *International Journal of Social Ecology and Sustainable Development* (pp. 1-16). [www.irma-international.org/article/monitoring-the-land-use-land-cover-changes-of-roorkee-region-uttarakhand-india-using-machine-learning-techniques/316883](http://www.irma-international.org/article/monitoring-the-land-use-land-cover-changes-of-roorkee-region-uttarakhand-india-using-machine-learning-techniques/316883)

### Challenges Faced When Utilizing Service Bots in the Hospitality and Tourism Industry

Mohammad Irfan, S. Dhanabagiyam, Riddhi Pandit and Mohammed K. Majeed (2024). *Special Interest Trends for Sustainable Tourism* (pp. 253-267). [www.irma-international.org/chapter/challenges-faced-when-utilizing-service-bots-in-the-hospitality-and-tourism-industry/352366](http://www.irma-international.org/chapter/challenges-faced-when-utilizing-service-bots-in-the-hospitality-and-tourism-industry/352366)