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Understanding ageing issues of rural people in Bangladesh: A study on Sitakunda catchment area

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YPSA (Young Power in Social Action)

An Organization for Sustainable Development | Since 1985

Organization in special Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council (UN-ECOSOC)

Background of the Statement

- ❑ Bangladesh has witnessed similar kind of trajectories over the five decades and has now higher proportion of elderly compared to its independence in 1971 (Khan and Leeson, 2006; Khan 2018).
- ❑ The nuclear family is increasing day by day and older people left alone living separately from their family and becoming vulnerable in Bangladesh.
- ❑ As of 2019, over 13 million people living in Bangladesh are aged over 60 which is 8% of the country's total population. The proportion of older people is expected to double to 21.9% in 2050 with 36 million people aged over 60. This means that for every five Bangladeshis, one will be a senior citizen (BBS, 2020).
- ❑ Bangladesh is rated 136th out of 189 countries on the latest United Nations Human Development Index Ranking in 2018. Only a third of people (33.4%) older than the statutory pensionable age in Bangladesh receive an old-age pension (contributory, noncontributory or both) (HelpAge International. 2012).
- ❑ Previously the society of Bangladesh took care of the elderly but now the situation is becoming changed due to change of social, psychological and economic standpoint.

Background of the Statement

- ❑ However, Bangladesh has pension policies to ensure social security on old age for retired government employees only. According to Public Service Retirement Act 1974b now the retirement age of government employee of Bangladesh is 59 years [1].
- ❑ The National Policy for Older Persons 2013 places importance on the contributions from older people within communities, emphasizing the importance of communication and social facilities. Older people are directly involved in the process of monitoring the implementation of the policy and the successes of different programs such as education and training, poverty reduction, financial security and healthcare.
- ❑ Moreover, recently the Parent Care Act 2013 of Bangladesh tried to ensure that the children have to take necessary steps to look after their parents for three years and provide them with maintenance [2].

Activity for elderly people in Bangladesh

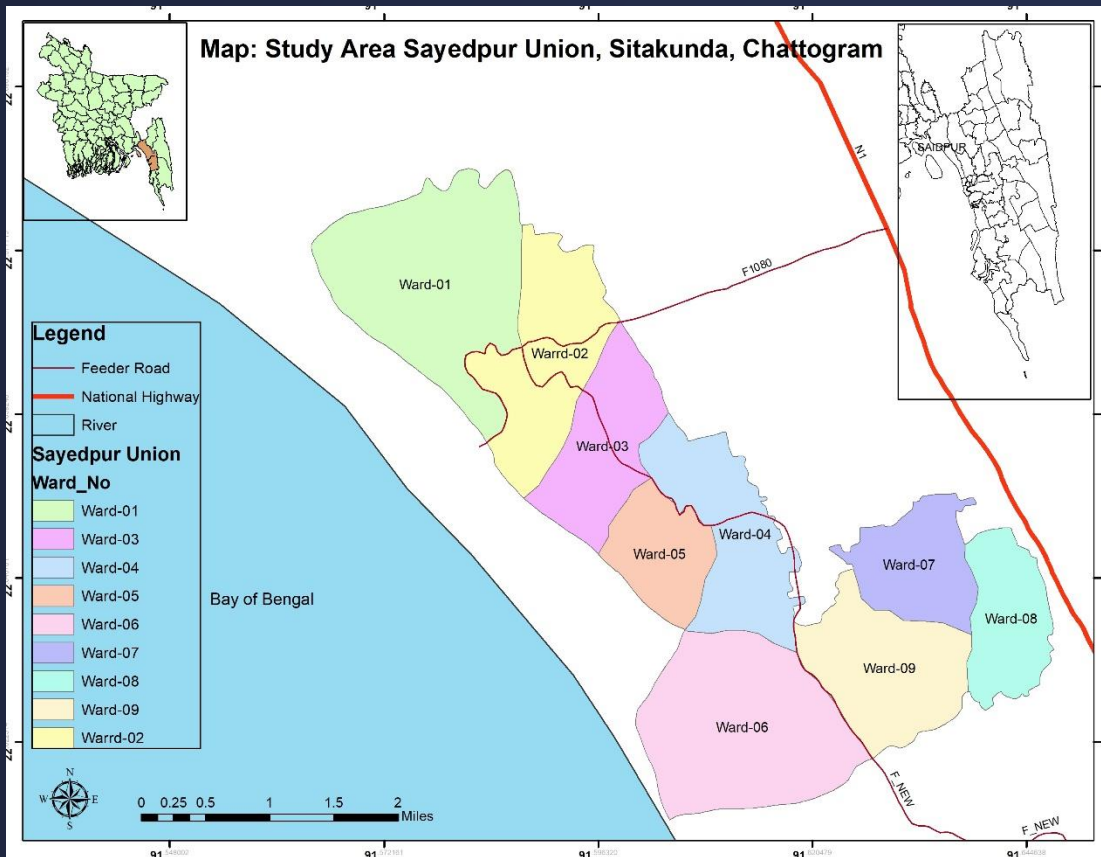
YPSA is a voluntary, nonprofit and an organization for sustainable development, established on 1985 that registered with the different department of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. YPSA has been working on Elderly issue in the rural areas of Bangladesh since 1985.

To continue the regorious work plan on Elderly issue in Bangladesh, YPSA received financial support from different national and international organization like Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) one of them. Hence, under the financial support of PKSF, YPSA has been implemented different activities for Elderly issue in the rural Bangladesh. Such as

- Establishing social centres (Aging –Friendly Spaces-AFP) for the elderly people in every Union.
- Providing old age allowances and assistive materials (walking sticks, commodes, blankets warm cloths, wheel chairs, umbrellas etc).
- Provision of Special Savings and Pension Fund.
- Recognising the contribution for the society made by the elderly persons.
- Awarding children for looking after their parents.
- Providing appropriate credit and IGAs-based training facilities to the poor elderly people.
- Offering physiotherapy services & geriatric nursing to the elderly by organizing training for the Physiotherapy Aide.
- Rehabilitation of poor and distress elderly in community.

GIS mapping showing healthcare services for elderly in Sitakunda

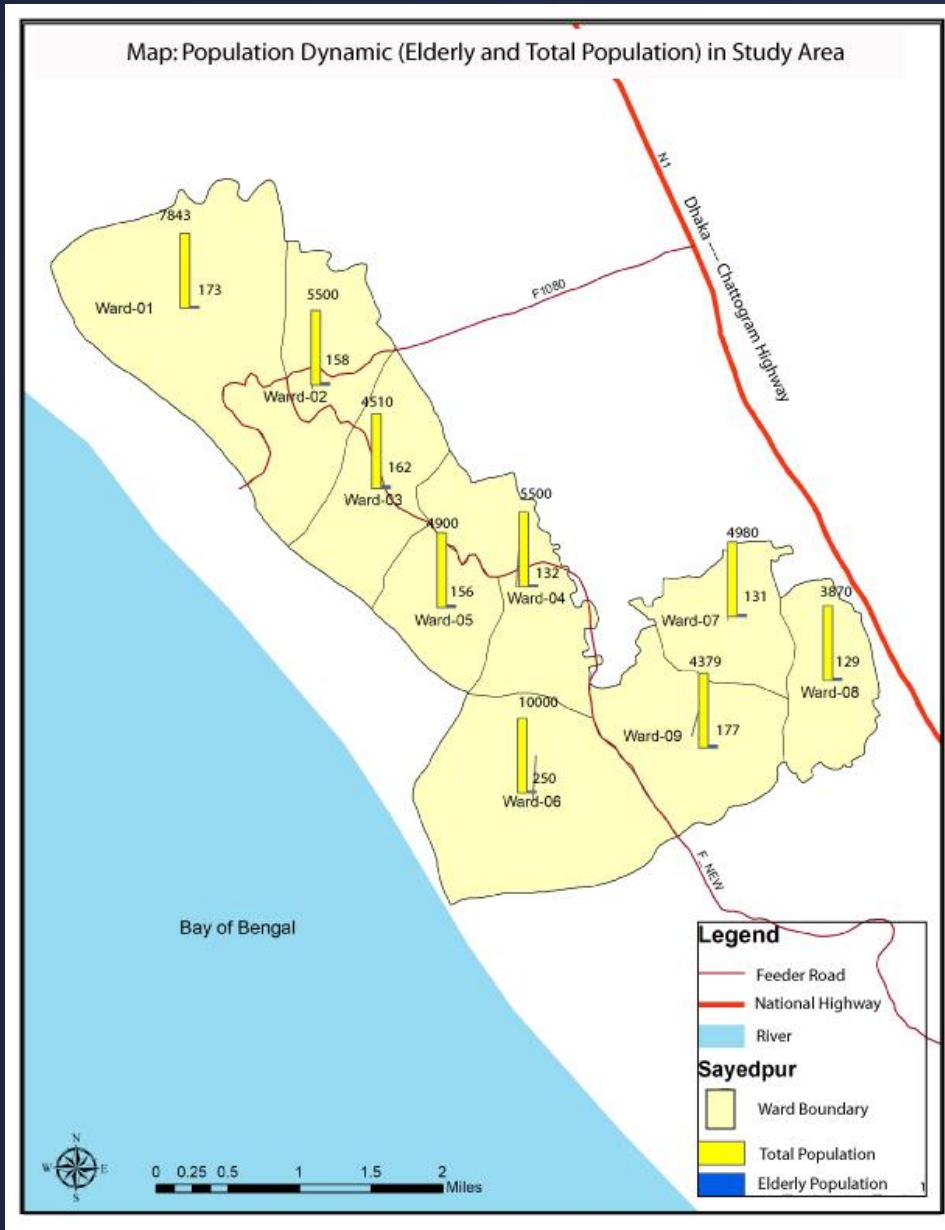
As per the Ministry of Health, People's Republic of Bangladesh and to ensure the healthcare facilities for marginalized people, one community health care center (community clinic) has been established to cover three wards (the last administrative union in Bangladesh) in a Union (a union consists of nine wards). A registered physician is visited three times in this health care center. It is joint partnership (private and public) approach initiative at local level. This health care center provides healthcare to all aside elderly people.



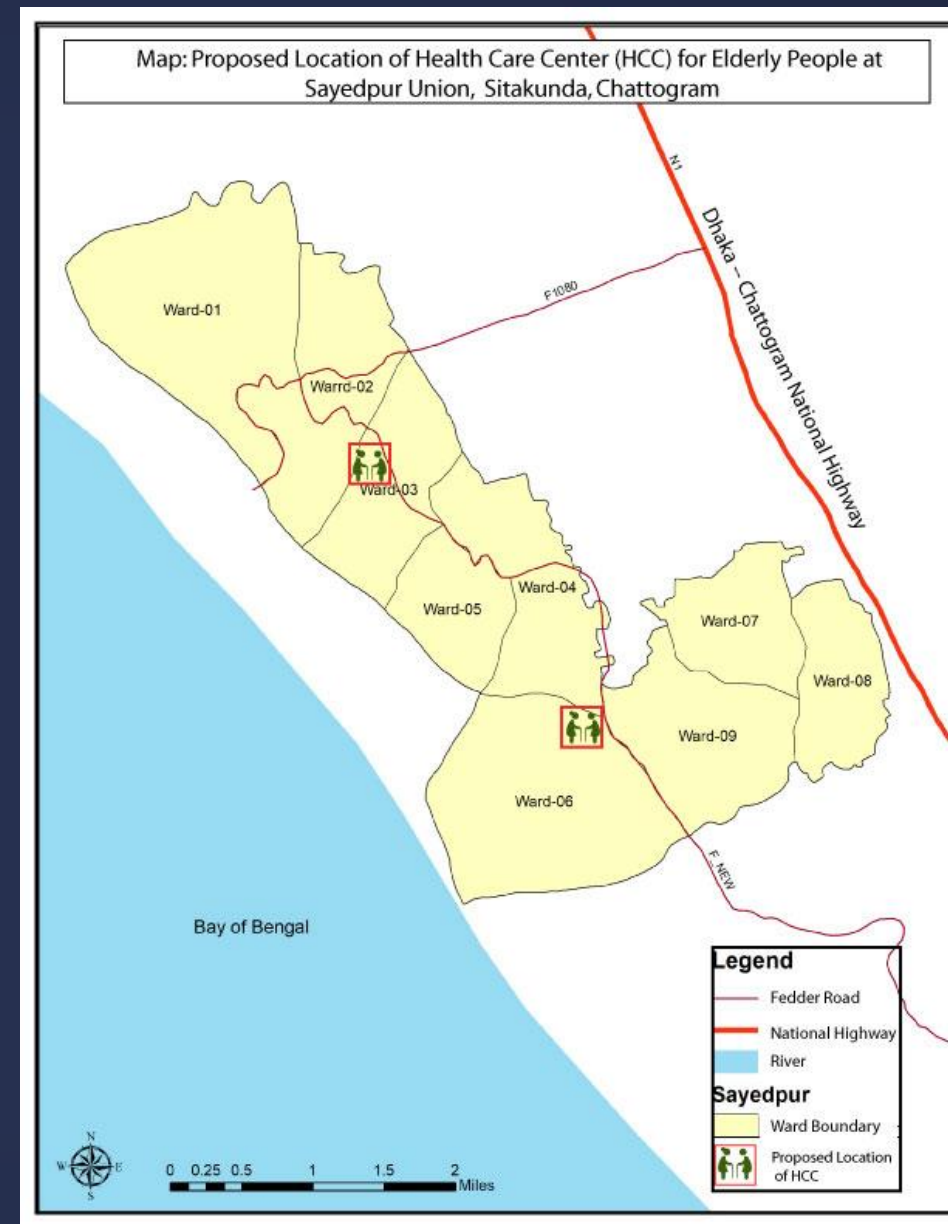
This map presented the study area along with the statistics of total population and elderly population. Also proposed the potential place of health care centre in a union.

Name of Ward	No. Elderly People	No of total population	Total percentage
Ward no -1	173	7843	2.2
Ward no-2	158	5500	2.9
Ward no-3	162	4510	3.6
Ward no-4	132	5500	2.4
Ward no-5	156	4900	3.2
Ward no-6	250	10000	2.5
Ward no-7	131	4980	2.6
Ward no-8	129	3870	3.3
Ward no-9	177	4379	4.0
Total Nine Words	1468	51482	2.9

GIS mapping showing healthcare services for elderly in Sitakunda



This map presented the study area along with the statistics of total population and elderly population.



if elderly population is less than 8% of total population then we will propose two EHCC else three EHCC

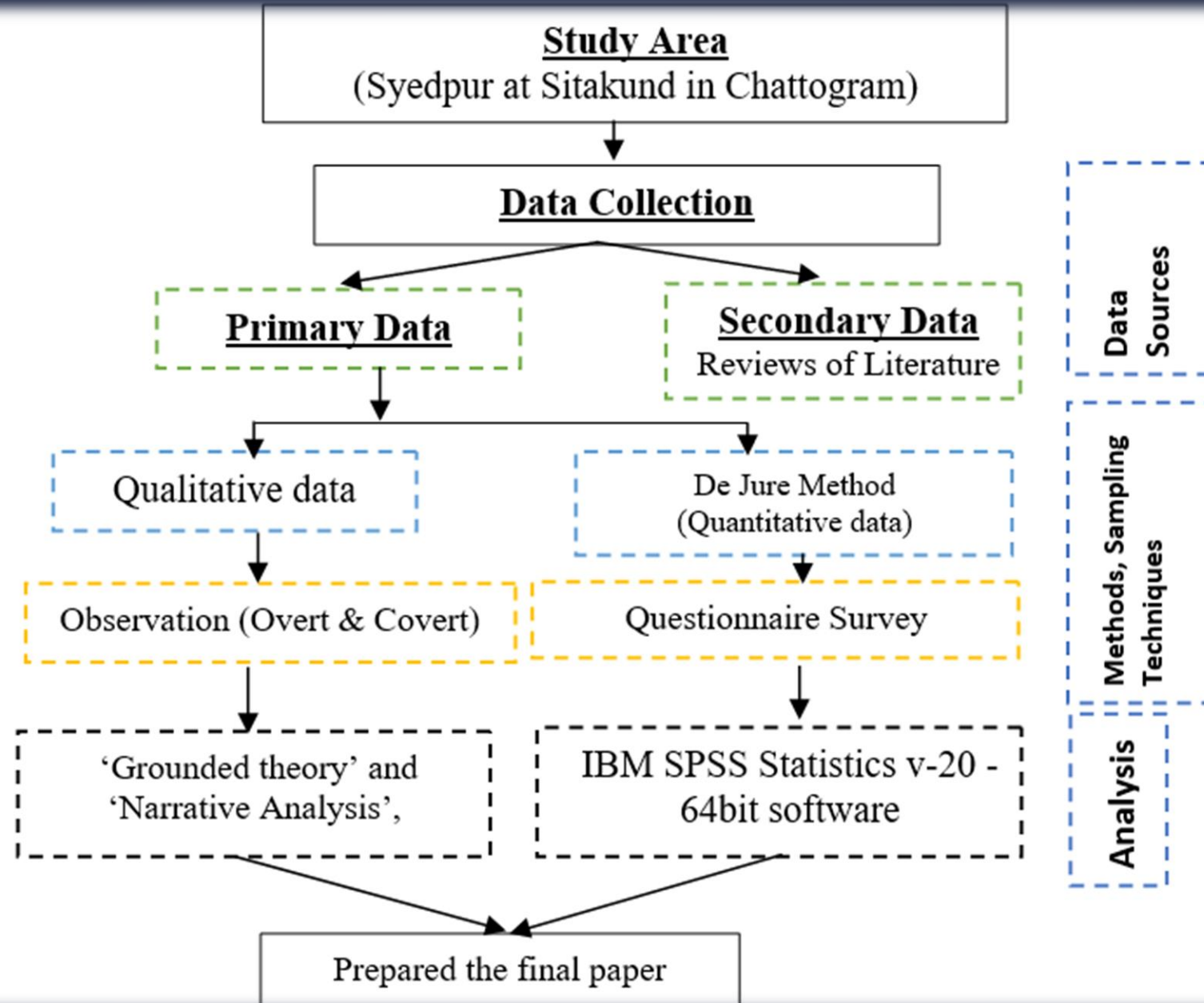
For considering the above issues and ensuring safer life and livelihood, YPSA has decided to conduct the research on **'Understanding ageing issues of rural people in Bangladesh: A study on Sitakunda catchment area'**.

Objectives of the Study

The study focuses on different things of ageing people, namely demographic conditions of the respondent, living arrangements, care and support information, physical health condition, mental health condition, family and social engagement, abuse and exploitation, control over life and resources , social safety net, gender perspective and issues during disasters respectively. The specific objectives of the study are as follows;

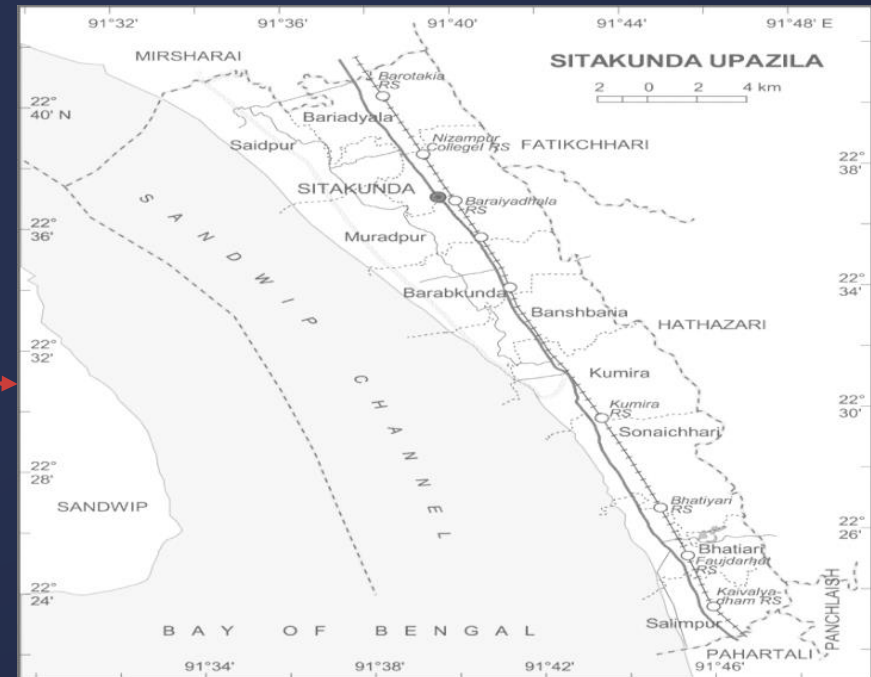
- Exploring conditions of elderly people in the study area;
- Investigating the living arrangements in the family;
- Finding out the care and support related information of their family;
- Knowing the physical health condition;
- Studying their engagement in family and in social level;
- Observing the exploitation of elderly people at family and society level;
- Exploring the elderly issue in gender perspective; and
- Examining 'Dementia' of elderly people in the study area.

Methodology



Selection of the Study Area

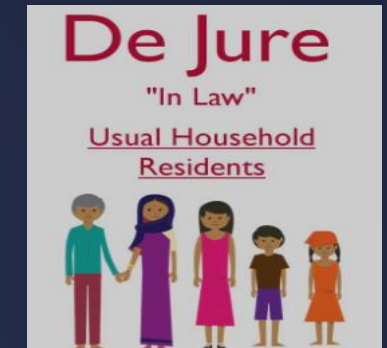
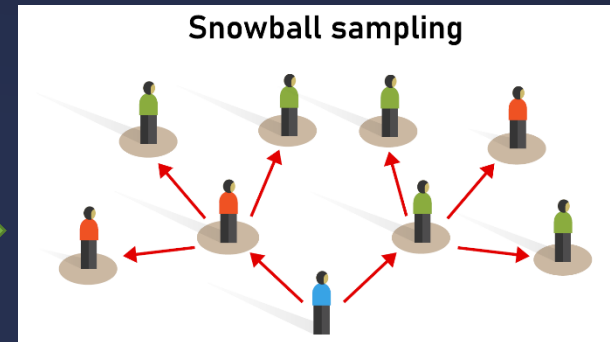
The research will be conducted at Syedpur Union at Sitakunda Upazila in Chattogram district. Geographically, this location bears a big significance as populations are mixed with ethnic identities (some are native Bengali and some portion have indigenous community). The area is selected for heavy industrial hub in this region.



Methodology

Sampling

Snowballing sampling technique.



Statistical basis of the sample size

Sample will be collected from entire area through 'De Jure' method. Under this method, enumerators will collect the information from households by visiting them very often to fill up the various schedules. However, the study will exclude this elderly people from this study those who unable to give consent.

Procedures

Organizational staffs (those who are well oriented about the present study) will collect the household data through door to door household survey.

Methods of data collection

Data will be collected from primary sources. Primary data will be collected through Observation (Overt and Covert) and Questionnaire survey.

Methodology

Pretesting

About 15 questionnaires were pretested. Later, the questionnaire was submitted to 'Bangladesh Medical Research Council' (BMRC) for getting approval.

Data interpretation

Quantitative data would be analyzed through various types of statistical tools and techniques, especially used SPSS software and qualitative data would be analyzed with 'Narrative Analysis'.



Thanks