GENDER DIFFERENCES IN TIME USE IN BANGLADESH

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this paper is to analyze gender gap in the light of time-use by the men and women of Bangladesh. The paper also looks into the descriptive and analytical statistics of the time-use survey of Bangladesh shows differences in time use pattern by different socio-economic cluster of the population of Bangladesh. Econometric tools such as regressions and Oaxaca-Blinder Decomposition have been used to find the results. The results show that, there is not much difference in the hours spent in total work (paid work and household work) by men and women. However, when each activity is considered separately, there is noticeable difference in the time use pattern of Bangladeshi men and women. While the men are more engaged in the paid work, women are more confined in household work. Men have more time for entertainment and socialization while the women have less leisure and bear most of the child care responsibilities. Also, from Oaxaca decomposition, it is concluded that, even with the same socio-economic characteristics provided to men and women, there exists a gap in their time use in certain activities, and the gap can be termed as Gender Gap.

Keywords: Time use survey, Time use survey in Bangladesh, Gender gap in time use, paid and Household work.