

**Report on the
Bangladesh Literacy Survey, 2010**

June 2011

**Industry and Labour Wing
Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics
Statistics Division
Ministry of Planning**

Key Findings

Indicator	Both gender (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)
1. Literacy Situation			
National			
5 years and over			
Can write a letter for communication (Literate)	55.08	57.56	52.54
7 years and over			
Can write a letter for communication (Literate)	57.53	60.15	54.84
Rural			
5 years and over			
Can write a letter for communication (Literate)	51.81	54.39	49.16
7 years and over			
Can write a letter for communication (Literate)	54.19	56.90	51.39
Urban			
5 years and over			
Can write a letter for communication (Literate)	65.83	68.09	63.54
7 years and over			
Can write a letter for communication (Literate)	68.40	70.84	65.95
2. Literacy rate by Age group			
05-09	16.43	15.78	17.10
10-14	67.38	64.51	70.57
15-19	82.17	80.57	83.98
20-24	75.09	76.77	73.73
15-24	78.63	78.67	78.86
25+	52.75	58.47	46.84
15+	59.82	63.89	55.71
15-24	78.58	78.81	78.36
3. Highest grade passed (5 years and over)			
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00
No education	38.22	35.88	40.62

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Indicator	Both gender (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)
Class I-V	29.56	29.80	28.30
Class VI-VIII	13.29	12.96	13.63
Class IX-X	8.05	7.97	8.12
SSC/equivalent	5.21	5.86	4.54
HSC/equivalent	3.08	3.81	2.34
Degree/equivalent	1.55	2.17	0.92
Master's/equivalent	0.85	1.24	0.45
Engineering/Medical	0.11	0.17	0.05
Technical/vocational*	0.08	0.12	0.04
Others	0.01	0.02	0.01
4. Training Received by Type of Training			
Technical/Vocational*	1.38	1.92	0.84
Catering Service	0.14	0.19	0.09
Garments/Tailoring	0.70	0.74	0.66
Foreign Language	0.07	0.10	0.04
In-service training	1.26	2.05	0.46
Nursing	0.05	0.03	0.06
Youth development training	0.34	0.53	0.14
Other training	1.10	1.64	0.56
5. Use of Internet Facility (15 years and over)			
Used internet	1.49	2.00	0.97
6. Mode of Using Internet			
Cell phone	63.80	63.90	63.68
Computer	33.19	33.30	32.95
Both	2.98	2.80	3.37
7. Use of Internet by Level of Education (5 years and over)			
Total	1.12	1.49	0.74
Class I-V	0.00	0.00	0.00
Class VI-VIII	0.48	0.54	0.43
Class IX-X	3.60	4.25	2.95

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Indicator	Both gender (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)
SSC/equivalent	3.65	4.27	2.83
HSC/equivalent	5.95	6.74	4.62
Degree/equivalent	13.21	13.47	12.59
Master's/equivalent	17.76	18.19	16.57
Engineering/Medical	27.35	27.20	27.96
Technical/vocational*	8.00	8.05	7.84
Others	4.28	6.36	0.00

Indicator	Male		Female	
	Radio	Television	Radio	Television

8. Use of Electronic Media by the Population for Education Purpose (%)

Several times in last 3 months	21.94	22.95	20.46	21.90
Several times in a month	6.76	14.24	5.73	12.08
Several times in a week	3.06	10.91	2.67	9.09
Daily	2.82	13.87	2.45	13.01
No scope	13.60	9.43	14.17	10.70

Indicator	Library	Book stall	News stand	Comm. centre
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9. Visit to Public Places for Attaining Literacy Skill

Several times in last 3 months	3.04	10.58	1.72	0.78
Several times in a month	0.99	2.73	0.57	0.18
Several times in a week	0.41	0.43	0.26	0.09
Daily	0.45	0.27	0.32	0.36
No scope	8.26	6.52	8.00	9.55

Notes: *= Technical/Vocational=Computer training, Motor driving/Motor mechanic, Welding, Electrical, etc,

Acronyms

BBS	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics
UNESCO	United Nation Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization
UN	United Nations
UNV	United Nations Volunteerism
LFS	Labour Force Survey
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
PSU	Primary Sampling Unit
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children Emergency Fund
HH	House Hold

Section I

Introduction and Overview

1.0 Background

Information pertaining to literacy is an important social indicator having direct bearing on different socio-economic factors, including employment. The Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) has included a very detailed literacy module in the 2010 Labour Force Survey (LFS). The items that have been included in the literacy module are ability to write a letter, highest class passed, current enrolment in the educational institutions, skill development training, use of literacy skill in every day life, viewing of education-related programmes in electronic media such as radio and television, attending places having connection with educational attainment such as library, book-stall, news-stand, community-based educational centre, etc., and use of latest Information and Communication Technology (ICT) such as internet for educational purposes. It may be mentioned that all the tables of the current report are weighted, based on 2010 Labour Force Survey.

In Bangladesh, literacy rates available from different surveys and studies are significantly different. This is mainly due to the fact that the definition of a literate person is not uniform and standardized, and most of the surveys and studies are not based on competency test. In the present survey, literacy is defined by the ability of writing a simple letter for communication.

The surveys and studies generally record the respondent's statement relating only to his/her literacy status. However, comprehensive, reliable and timely data on literacy rate is important for formulating policies and improving the state of literacy level in the country. Statistical data on literacy rate is important for both government and other stakeholders. With this objective in mind, the UNESCO planned to carry out a household-based survey on literacy rate in collaboration with the BBS.

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1.1 Objectives of the Survey

The objectives of the survey were as follows:

1. To develop and adopt a methodology for providing regular quality data on the access and use of literate environment by individuals including adults and youth in Bangladesh.
2. To obtain regular quality data on the access of literacy program and usage of literacy skills in Bangladesh.
3. To build national capacities in monitoring the literacy program and measurement of individual access and use of literacy skills and literate environment.

1.2 Scope of the Survey

It is a nationwide household based survey. The entire country is the domain of the survey. The survey covered all persons who have attained the age of 5 years and above. However, people in special dwellings such as patients in hospitals, inmates in prisons, inmates in homes for special care (e.g. disabled, aged), boarders in boarding schools were not under the purview of this survey. This survey will produce national estimate by urban and rural.

1.3 Sampling Design for the Survey

The questionnaire of the household based literacy was part of the 2010 Labour Force Survey (LFS) questionnaire as a separate module, and this questionnaire was applied in the same PSU (Primary Sampling Unit) and in the same sample households. Therefore, it was not required to develop a separate and independent sampling design for this survey. A total of 43,945 households were covered of which 34,620 households were from rural areas and 9,325 households were from urban areas. The division wise allocation of the sample PSUs and households are as follows:

Table 1: Distribution of PSUs by Divisions

Divisions	Number of PSU		
	Rural	Urban	Total
Dhaka	244	126	370
Chittagong	183	63	246
Rajshahi	268	46	314
Khulna	168	42	210
Barisal	156	26	182
Sylhet	156	22	178
TOTAL	1175	325	1500

Table 2: Distribution of Sampled Households by Divisions

Divisions	Number of Sampled Households		
	Rural	Urban	Total
Dhaka	6829	3738	10567
Chittagong	5372	1785	7157
Rajshahi	8277	1338	9615
Khulna	5031	1111	6142
Barisal	4361	690	5051
Sylhet	4750	663	5413
TOTAL	34,620	9,325	43,945

1.4 Limitations of the survey

The literacy survey 2010 is not a standalone survey, rather it is a modular survey.

The information collected under the survey is based on the responses received from the respondents where no practical tests was administered. Therefore, there is a chance for an upward bias.

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The survey was conducted with the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and the main focus was on labour force characteristics such as employment, underemployment, occupation, industry etc. This provided an opportunity to collect data on literacy. Therefore, there might be underreporting of some questions.

Special training is required for this special type of survey, but it was not done and the training was given simultaneously with LFS which may have some negative impact about the quality of the data.

Section II

Population Characteristics

2.0 Population Characteristics

Before discussing the education related information from the 2010 LFS, let us exercise the characteristics of the survey population in terms of their age-gender distribution and marital status.

2.1 Age Gender Distribution

Age-gender distribution of the population has been presented in Table-3. The highest proportion of population is in the age group 10-14 years, and the corresponding percentage is 12.48 at the national level for both gender, followed by age group 0-4 (12.22%) and 5-9 (11.75%). These three groups constitute around 36.5 % of the total population. Males constitute 37.0% and females 36.0%.

There exist urban-rural variations in the age-gender distribution of the population. In the rural areas, the percentage of population for both gender of these three age groups was 37.5% compared to 33.0% for the urban areas. This may be explained by the higher fertility in rural than urban areas. Similar differences are also seen by gender. As regards population 70 years and over, the percentage is 2.7% in rural areas and 2.1% in urban areas.

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Table 3: Percentage distribution of population by age, gender and place of residence, 2010

Age group	National			Rural			Urban		
	Both gender	Male	Female	Both gender	Male	Female	Both gender	Male	Female
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
00-04	12.22	12.26	12.18	12.65	12.68	12.61	10.79	10.83	10.75
05-09	11.75	11.70	11.81	12.09	12.02	12.16	10.64	10.64	10.64
10-14	12.48	12.97	11.98	12.77	13.35	12.17	11.52	11.68	11.36
15-19	8.58	9.03	8.12	8.45	9.12	7.76	9.04	8.74	9.34
20-24	8.80	7.75	9.88	8.45	7.53	9.41	9.98	8.52	11.46
25-29	8.46	7.67	9.27	8.07	7.30	8.85	9.77	8.90	10.66
30-34	6.83	6.36	7.32	6.60	6.00	7.22	7.61	7.58	7.63
35-39	6.99	6.87	7.12	6.79	6.63	6.97	7.66	7.71	7.60
40-44	5.55	5.64	5.46	5.45	5.48	5.41	5.88	6.16	5.61
45-49	4.98	5.28	4.66	4.96	5.21	4.71	5.02	5.51	4.52
50-54	3.69	3.97	3.39	3.68	3.87	3.48	3.72	4.33	3.10
55-59	2.93	3.15	2.71	2.97	3.12	2.81	2.80	3.23	2.37
60-64	2.45	2.62	2.27	2.56	2.72	2.39	2.09	2.28	1.89
65-69	1.73	1.88	1.58	1.82	1.97	1.66	1.44	1.56	1.31
70+	2.56	2.85	2.26	2.71	3.00	2.41	2.06	2.35	1.75
5+	87.78	44.46	43.33	67.28	34.16	33.13	20.50	10.30	10.20

2.2 Marital Status

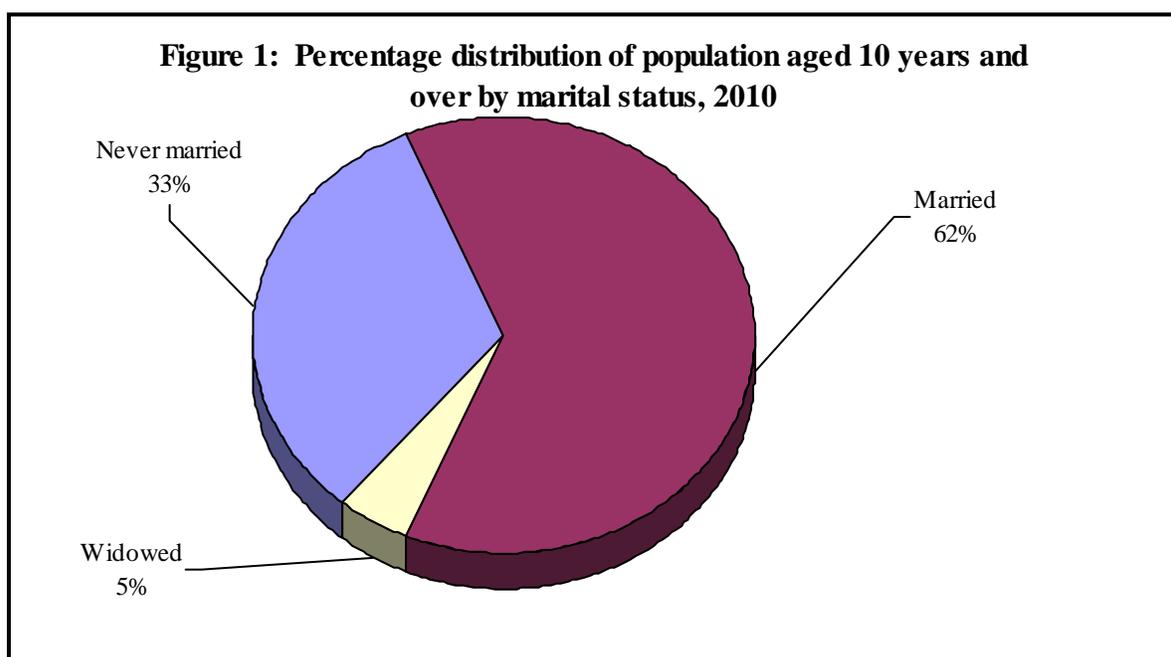
The marital status of population 10 years and over by gender and place of residence is presented in Table-4 and Figure-1. Around 60% males and 66% females aged 10 years and over are married. The percentage of unmarried is 39.29% for males compared to 25.61% for females. The percentage of widowed /widower was 1.05% for males compared to 8.52% for females.

There exist some differences in urban and rural areas with respect to marital status. In the urban areas, 33.34% males aged 10 years and over are unmarried compared to 39.92% in the rural areas. As regards females, 27.70% are unmarried in urban areas compared to 24.95% in the rural areas. The percentage of widowed was 1.06% for rural males compared to 1.01% for urban males. For the females, the percentage of widowed was 8.81% in the rural areas compared to 7.59% in the urban areas.

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Table 4: Percentage distribution of population 10 years and over by marital status, gender and place of residence, 2010

Marital status	National			Rural			Urban		
	Both gender	Male	Female	Both gender	Male	Female	Both gender	Male	Female
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Never married	32.54	39.29	25.61	32.29	39.41	24.95	33.34	38.92	27.70
Married	62.73	59.66	65.87	62.84	59.54	66.24	62.38	60.07	64.70
Widowed	4.73	1.05	8.52	4.87	1.06	8.81	4.28	1.01	7.59



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Section III

Literacy and Training

3.0 Literacy and Training

This section deals with the literacy level of population aged 5 and 7 years and over and the training received by the population 15 years and over. Literacy by age and place of residence, level of education by gender and place of residence are also discussed in this section.

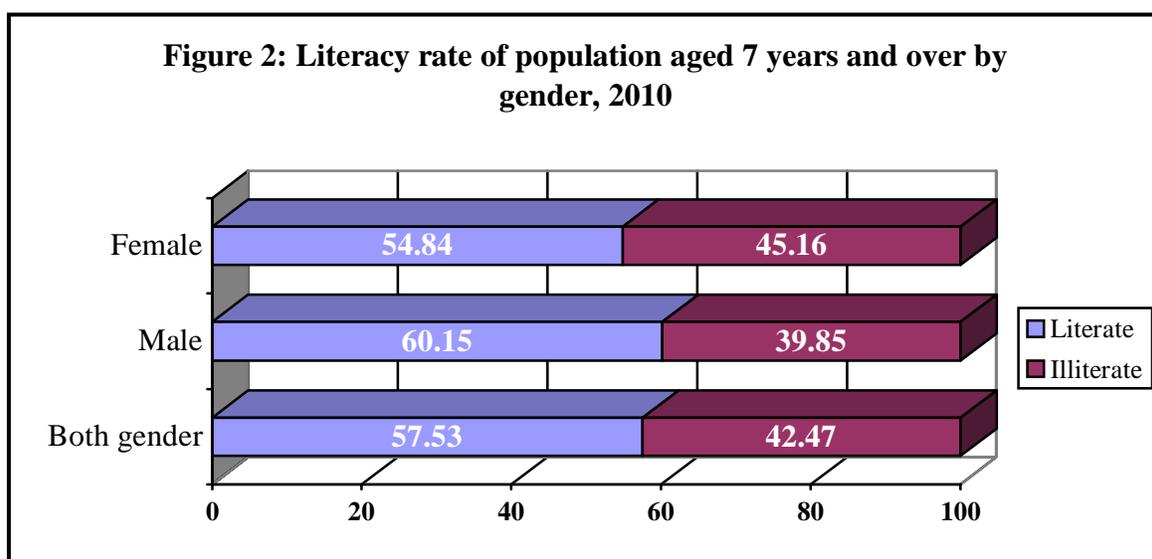
3.1 Literacy Situation

Literacy level of population aged 5 years and over is given in Table 5 and Figure 2. At the national level, 55.08% are literate for both gender, and the percentages for males and females are 57.56% and 52.54% respectively.

Table 5: Literacy rate of population aged 5 and 7 years and over by gender, 2010

Type of literacy	National					
	5 years and over			7 years and over		
	Both gender	Male	Female	Both gender	Male	Female
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Can write a letter for communication (Literate)	55.08	57.56	52.54	57.53	60.15	54.84
Can't write a letter for communication (Illiterate)	44.92	42.44	47.46	42.47	39.85	45.16

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The literacy rate of population aged 7 years and over is slightly higher, 57.53% are literate at the national level, and the corresponding rates for males and females are 60.15% and 54.84% respectively.

3.2 Literacy level by place of residence

There exist variations in the literacy rate by rural-urban residence. The literacy rate for population 5 years and over by both gender was 51.81% in the rural areas compared to 65.83% in the urban areas. The corresponding figures for males and females were 54.39% and 49.16% in the rural areas compared to 68.9% and 63.54% in the urban areas.

As regards literacy rate for population 7 years and over, literacy rate for both gender in the rural areas was 54.19% compared to 68.40% in the urban areas and male and female literacy rates in the rural areas were 56.90% and 51.39% respectively compared to 70.84% and 65.95% for urban areas.

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Table 6: Literacy rate of population 5 years and over and 7 years and over by gender and place of residence, 2010

Status of literacy	5 years and over			7 years and over		
	Both gender	Male	Female	Both gender	Male	Female
Rural						
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Can write a letter for communication (Literate)	51.81	54.39	49.16	54.19	56.90	51.39
Can't write a letter for communication (Illiterate)	48.19	45.61	50.84	45.81	43.10	48.61
Urban						
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Can write a letter for communication (Literate)	65.83	68.09	63.54	68.40	70.84	65.95
Can't write a letter for communication (Illiterate)	34.17	31.91	36.46	31.60	29.16	34.05

3.3 Literacy by Age Group

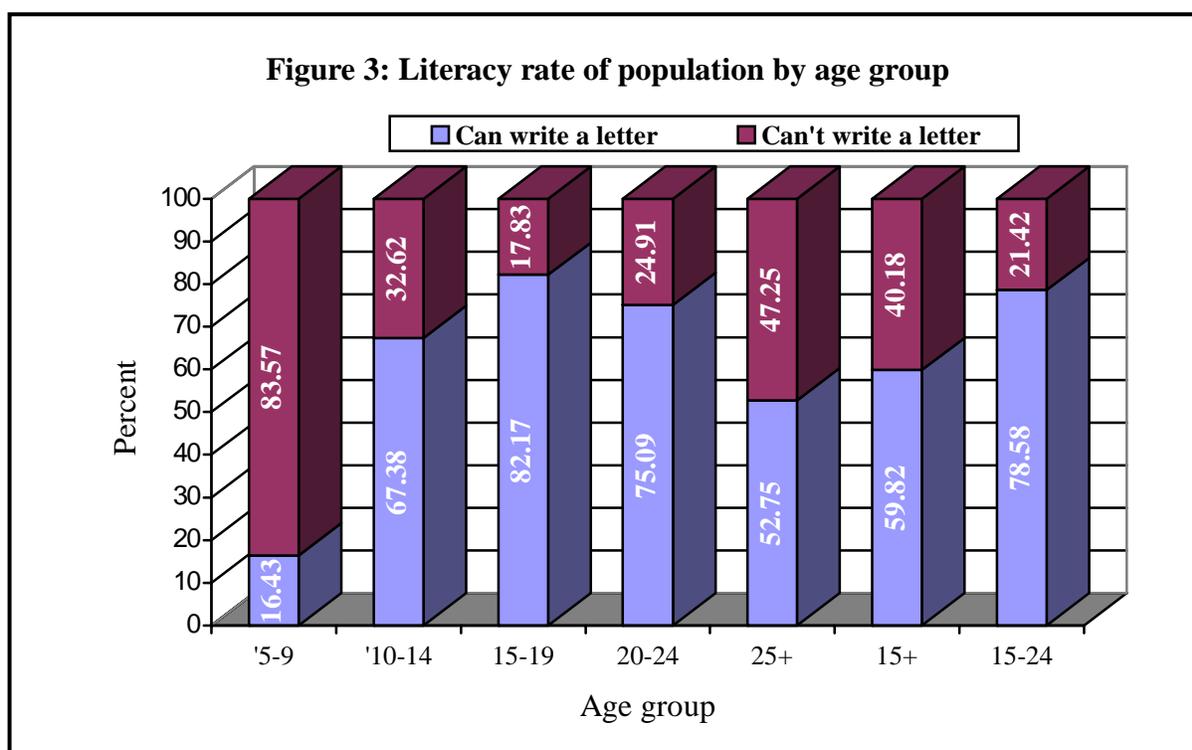
Table 7: Literacy (persons who can write a letter) rate of population by gender and age group, 2010

Age group	Both gender			Male			Female		
	Can write a letter	Can't write a letter	Total	Can write a letter	Can't write a letter	Total	Can write a letter	Can't write a letter	Total
05-09	16.43	83.57	100	15.78	84.22	100	17.10	82.90	100
10-14	67.38	32.62	100	64.51	35.49	100	70.57	29.43	100
15-19	82.17	17.83	100	80.57	19.43	100	83.98	16.02	100
20-24	75.09	24.91	100	76.77	23.23	100	73.73	26.27	100
25+	52.75	47.25	100	58.47	41.53	100	46.84	53.16	100
15+	59.82	40.18	100	63.89	36.11	100	55.71	44.29	100
15-24	78.58	21.42	100	78.81	21.18	100	78.36	21.64	100

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Literacy rate by age group has been presented in Table-7 and Figure 3.

The age groups that have been considered are 5-9, 10-14, 15-19, 20-24, 25+, 15+ and 15-24. The literacy rate increases with the age group up to certain level, and thereafter, it declines. This indicates that the attainment of literacy is a recent phenomenon.



Literacy rate for population aged 05-09 year is 16.43% for the total population, which increases to 67.38% for age group 10-14 year, 82.17% for age group 15-19 year, thereafter, it declines to 78.58% for 15-24 and 75.09% for 20-24. The literacy rate for population 25 years and over is 52.75% and 59.82% for population aged 15 years and over.

It is notable that the literacy rate in the age group 5-9, 10-14 and 15-19 is higher for females compared to males, whereas, for age group 15-24 and 20-24, male literacy rate is higher than that of females. The recent high enrolment of females at the primary and secondary levels has contributed to this higher literacy for females.

The literacy rate for 25+ and 15+ population is higher among males than females. The corresponding figures for males are 58.47% and 63.84% and 46.84% and 55.71% for females respectively.

3.4 Training Received By Type of Training

Training received by population 15 years and over by type of training has been presented in Table- 8. Only 5.0% of the population aged 15 years and over received some sort of training in their life. Such percentage was 7.2% for males and 2.8% for females.

Table 8: Percentage distribution of population aged 15 years and over who received any training by gender and place of residence, 2010

Type of training received	Bangladesh			Rural			Urban		
	Both gender	Male	Female	Both gender	Male	Female	Both gender	Male	Female
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
No Training Received	94.96	92.79	97.16	96.04	94.33	97.77	91.60	87.95	95.26
Technical/Vocational*	1.38	1.92	0.84	1.02	1.35	0.69	2.52	3.71	1.32
Catering Service	0.14	0.19	0.09	0.12	0.17	0.07	0.21	0.26	0.17
Garments/Tailoring	0.70	0.74	0.66	0.51	0.58	0.45	1.29	1.25	1.33
Foreign Language	0.07	0.10	0.04	0.05	0.08	0.02	0.13	0.18	0.07
In-service training	1.26	2.05	0.46	0.86	1.44	0.28	2.49	3.97	1.00
Nursing	0.05	0.03	0.06	0.05	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.00	0.08
Youth development training	0.34	0.53	0.14	0.33	0.53	0.13	0.35	0.51	0.19
Other training	1.10	1.64	0.56	1.02	1.47	0.55	1.38	2.17	0.58

Notes: Technical/Vocational=Computer training, Motor driving/Motor mechanic, Welding, Electrical, etc,

There exist urban-rural variations among those who received training. In the rural areas, around 4.0% received training for both gender compared to 8.4% in urban areas. The percentage of male and female training recipients was 5.7% and 2.2% in rural areas compared to 12.1% for males and 4.7% for females in the urban areas.

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As regards type of training received, the highest was technical/vocational (1.38%), followed by in-service training (1.26%), garments/tailoring (0.70%) and youth development training (0.34%). This pattern is true among both males and females as well as in both urban and rural areas.

Section IV

Reading Habit and Practice

4.0 Reading Habit and Practice

This section deals with the reading habits and practices by the population aged 5 years and over. The items that have been covered are different reading materials used, writing practice in the work of everyday usage, and viewing the electronic media (Radio and Television) for development of education skill.

4.1 Reading Habits by Type of Reading Materials

The reading materials that have been included in this survey are road signs, names of stores, posters, pamphlets, newspapers, magazines, story and novels, manuals, reference books, bill/invoices and charts and maps. Reading habits by type of reading materials have been presented in Table-9. It is observed from the table that 25.70% of the population aged 5 year and above read road-signs or names of stores several times in the last three months. Road-signs or names of stores were read several times in a month by 6.95%. Such an activity was performed by 3.68% several times in a week and 5.30% daily. Reading of posters or pamphlets was performed by 20.62% in last three months 7.75% several times in a month, 3.40% several times in a week and 4.53% daily.

Use of newspapers and magazines was not high, with only 9.39% reporting read such materials several times in the last three months, 3.54% several times in a month, 2.27% several times in a week and 2.81% used daily.

Story and Novels as reading materials were used by only 7.19% several times in the last three month, 2.55%, several times in a month 1.0% several times in a week and 2.53% daily.

Manuals and reference books were used by an insignificant proportion of the respondents. Only 2.48% respondents used such materials several times in the last three months, 0.61% used

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several times in the last months, 0.12% used several times in the last week, and 0.14% used it daily. Bills and invoices were also read by fewer numbers of respondents.

Charts and Maps were used by only 1.90% of the respondents several times in the last three months, 0.35% several times in a month, 0.14% several times in a week, and 0.09% daily.

It may be noted that more than 40% respondents can not read, and therefore, they could not use such reading materials at all. However, a high percentage of the respondents never used those materials, though they could read those materials.

There exist urban-rural variations in the use of these reading materials. Use of all reading materials was higher in the urban than rural areas, particularly, reading the road-signs and names of stores, posters and pamphlets and newspapers and magazines.

Table 9: Percentage distribution of reading times in last three months of population aged 5 years and over by place of residence, 2010

Frequency of reading habits	Road signs or Names of stores	Posters Pamphlets	Newspapers Magazines	Story Novels	Manuals Reference books	Bills Invoices	Charts Maps etc.
National	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Can't read	39.14	38.66	38.85	38.57	38.54	38.34	38.35
Never read	14.86	20.03	33.14	40.60	51.44	51.96	53.21
Several times in last 3 months	25.00	21.19	9.97	7.59	2.39	2.92	1.96
Several times in a month	7.27	7.36	3.91	2.74	0.71	0.79	0.37
Several times in a week	3.87	3.51	2.62	1.03	0.26	0.15	0.14
Daily	6.94	5.57	5.00	2.54	0.40	0.21	0.11
No scope	2.91	3.68	6.52	6.93	6.25	5.63	5.86
Not reported	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rural	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Can't read	41.94	41.47	41.65	41.41	41.13	41.13	41.13
Never read	14.82	19.25	33.67	39.02	50.37	50.37	51.25
Several times in last 3 months	24.24	20.62	9.39	7.19	2.48	2.48	1.90
Several times in a month	6.95	7.13	3.54	2.53	0.61	0.61	0.35
Several times in a week	3.68	3.40	2.27	1.00	0.12	0.12	0.14

Table 9: Percentage distribution of reading times in last three months of population aged 5 years and over by place of residence, 2010

Frequency of reading habits	Road signs or Names of stores	Posters Pamphlets	Newspapers Magazines	Story Novels	Manuals Reference books	Bills Invoices	Charts Maps etc.
Daily	5.30	4.53	2.81	2.53	0.14	0.14	0.09
No scope	3.07	3.59	6.66	6.32	5.16	5.16	5.16
Not reported	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Urban	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Can't read	29.97	29.43	29.63	29.26	29.22	29.18	29.24
Never read	14.98	22.60	31.38	45.77	57.88	57.18	59.66
Several times in last 3 months	27.50	23.04	11.85	8.90	2.89	4.38	2.16
Several times in a month	8.35	8.13	5.11	3.43	0.86	1.38	0.45
Several times in a week	4.51	3.85	3.77	1.13	0.23	0.27	0.15
Daily	12.32	8.99	12.19	2.57	0.48	0.42	0.18
No scope	2.38	3.97	6.07	8.94	8.44	7.19	8.17
Not reported	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

4.2 Literacy Practice by Performing Different Activities

Literacy practice by performing different activities in the last three months by the population aged 5 years and over has been presented in table-10. Only 7% wrote personal letters several times in the last three months, 2.40% wrote personal letters several times in a month, 0.34% wrote personal letters several times in a week, and 0.10% wrote daily.

As regards writing official letters, 2.60% wrote several times in the last three months 0.94% wrote several times in a month, 0.20% wrote several times in a week, and 0.14% wrote daily.

Filling out forms were done by 4.89% respondents in the last three months, 1.46% several times in a month, 0.21% several times in a week, and 0.13% daily.

Writing a report several times in the last three months was done by only 1.25%, 0.42% in a month, 0.13% in a week, and 0.09% daily.

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Preparing bills and invoices in the last three months for several times was reported by 1.19% of the respondents, 0.49% several times in a month, 0.12% several times in a week, and 0.12% daily.

As regards preparation of Charts and Maps, 1.26% prepared these several times in last three months, 0.27% several times in a month, 0.17% several times in a week, and 0.10% daily.

Table 10: Percentage distribution of population aged 5 years and over by writing habit and performing activities, 2010

Frequency of reading habits	Wrote personal letter	Wrote official letter	Filled in forms	Wrote a report	Prepared bills/ invoices	Prepared charts , maps, etc.
National total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Can't write	46.14	46.20	46.10	46.22	46.23	46.37
Never write	38.53	44.23	42.52	46.54	46.72	46.59
Several times in last 3 months	7.00	2.60	4.89	1.25	1.19	1.26
Several times in a month	2.40	0.94	1.46	0.42	0.49	0.27
Several times in a week	0.34	0.20	0.21	0.13	0.12	0.17
Daily	0.10	0.14	0.13	0.09	0.12	0.10
No scope	5.37	5.56	4.55	5.18	4.96	5.03
Not Reported	0.11	0.14	0.14	0.17	0.17	0.21

There exist urban-rural variations in the use of writing skills, with more urban people using writing skills compared to rural people.

4.3 Use of Electronic Media by the Population for Education Purpose

Use of electronic media such as radio and television for educational purposes has been presented in Table-11. Among the males, 21.94% had listened to educational programmes of the radio several times in last three months, 6.76% several times a month, 3.06% several times a week, and 2.82% daily. Educational programmes of television was viewed by more people than radio, where 22.95% viewed it several times in last three months, 14.24% several times a month, 10.91% several times a week, and 13.87% viewed it daily. Thus, although still low, watching television is more frequent than listening to radio programmes on education. The use of radio and television by females is slightly lower than that of males where 20.46% listened to radio and 22.95% viewed television several times in last three months.

It is interesting to note that listening to educational programmes of radio or viewing of educational programmes on television was higher in rural than urban areas, with few exceptions. In the case of radio, 22.44% rural males listened to it several times in last three months compared to 20.28% for urban areas. For viewing the television several times in last three months, the percentage for rural males was 23.18% as against 22.20% for urban areas.

In the case of females, 20.65% listened to radio and 21.68% viewed television several times during the last three months for the rural areas compared to 19.83% for radio and 22.64% for television in the urban areas.

Table 11: Percentage distribution of population aged 5 years and over by gender, place of residence, habit of watching educational programmes in the electronic media in the last three months, 2010

Frequency of using different electronic media	National		Rural		Urban	
	Radio	Television	Radio	Television	Radio	Television
Male	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Never listen/observe	50.79	27.69	51.74	30.19	47.64	19.40
Several times in last 3 months	21.94	22.95	22.44	23.18	20.28	22.20
Several times in a month	6.76	14.24	6.72	13.48	6.86	16.77
Several times in a week	3.06	10.91	3.01	11.24	3.20	9.83
Daily	2.82	13.87	2.51	11.56	3.87	21.51

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Table 11: Percentage distribution of population aged 5 years and over by gender, place of residence, habit of watching educational programmes in the electronic media in the last three months, 2010

Frequency of using different electronic media	National		Rural		Urban	
	Radio	Television	Radio	Television	Radio	Television
No scope	13.60	9.43	12.59	9.48	16.96	9.29
Not Reported	1.04	0.91	1.00	0.88	1.19	1.00
Female	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Never listen/observe	53.37	32.05	54.75	35.43	48.89	21.06
Several times in last 3 months	20.46	21.90	20.65	21.68	19.83	22.64
Several times in a month	5.73	12.08	5.62	11.18	6.11	15.03
Several times in a week	2.67	9.09	2.58	9.23	2.98	8.65
Daily	2.45	13.01	2.03	10.16	3.82	22.27
No scope	14.17	10.70	13.23	11.13	17.22	9.31
Not Reported	1.15	1.16	1.15	1.20	1.15	1.04

Section V

*Visit to Public Places for Attaining Literacy Skills***5.0 Literacy Skills Development**

Visit of the respondents to public places such as libraries, bookstalls, news-stands and village education community centres for reading purposes has been presented in Table-12. Only 3.04% visited library several times in the last three months. Visits to other places such as book-stalls, news-stands and village education community centres were 10.58%, 1.72% and 0.78% respectively. Visits to such places several times in a month were 0.99% for library, 2.73% for book-stalls, 0.57% for news-stands and 0.18% for village education community centres. Visit to these places several times in a week was 0.41% for library, 0.43% for book-stalls, 0.26% for news-stands and 0.09% for village education community centres. Daily visits to these centres were 0.45% for library, 0.27% for book-stalls, 0.32 for news-stands and 0.36% for village education community centres.

There exist variations in the use of these places by gender and place of residence, with fewer number of people from rural area visiting these places compared to those in urban areas. Also, the number of females visiting such places were lower than their male counterparts.

Table 12: Percentage distribution of population aged 5 years and over by gender, place of residence and habit of visiting different places of educational interest in last three months, 2010

Frequency of visit	Library	Book stall	News stand	Comm. centre
Male				
National	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Didn't get a chance	19.55	17.29	17.42	17.64
Never	67.01	61.85	71.35	71.03
Several times in last 3 months	3.04	10.58	1.72	0.78

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Table 12: Percentage distribution of population aged 5 years and over by gender, place of residence and habit of visiting different places of educational interest in last three months, 2010

Frequency of visit	Library	Book stall	News stand	Comm. centre
Several times in a month	0.99	2.73	0.57	0.18
Several times in a week	0.41	0.43	0.26	0.09
Daily	0.45	0.27	0.32	0.36
No scope	8.26	6.52	8.00	9.55
Not Reported	0.29	0.33	0.35	0.37
Rural	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Didn't get a chance	18.53	16.33	16.29	17.15
Never	68.74	63.56	73.30	71.89
Several times in last 3 months	2.74	10.34	1.47	0.90
Several times in a month	0.94	2.65	0.49	0.19
Several times in a week	0.37	0.37	0.21	0.11
Daily	0.45	0.28	0.30	0.40
No scope	7.96	6.14	7.58	8.99
Not Reported	0.28	0.33	0.36	0.38
Urban	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Didn't get a chance	22.94	20.49	21.19	19.26
Never	61.28	56.16	64.89	68.20
Several times in last 3 months	4.02	11.37	2.54	0.38
Several times in a month	1.18	2.99	0.87	0.13
Several times in a week	0.54	0.63	0.41	0.06
Daily	0.47	0.25	0.38	0.21
No scope	9.25	7.78	9.41	11.41
Not Reported	0.31	0.33	0.32	0.35
Female				
National	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Didn't get a chance	17.64	19.71	18.03	17.89
Never	71.03	67.85	64.90	71.71
Several times in last 3 months	0.78	2.10	7.19	0.92

Table 12: Percentage distribution of population aged 5 years and over by gender, place of residence and habit of visiting different places of educational interest in last three months, 2010

Frequency of visit	Library	Book stall	News stand	Comm. centre
Several times in a month	0.18	0.67	1.74	0.32
Several times in a week	0.09	0.31	0.30	0.12
Daily	0.36	0.42	0.25	0.22
No scope	9.55	8.59	7.21	8.42
Not Reported	0.37	0.34	0.38	0.40
Rural	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Didn't get a chance	17.15	18.65	17.10	16.70
Never	71.89	69.53	66.93	73.37
Several times in last 3 months	0.90	1.86	6.51	0.84
Several times in a month	0.19	0.58	1.61	0.29
Several times in a week	0.11	0.26	0.26	0.10
Daily	0.40	0.41	0.25	0.21
No scope	8.99	8.36	6.94	8.06
Not Reported	0.38	0.35	0.40	0.43
Urban	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Didn't get a chance	19.26	23.18	21.05	21.74
Never	68.20	62.40	58.31	66.30
Several times in last 3 months	0.38	2.86	9.42	1.16
Several times in a month	0.13	0.98	2.16	0.44
Several times in a week	0.06	0.48	0.41	0.20
Daily	0.21	0.43	0.26	0.26
No scope	11.41	9.34	8.11	9.59
Not Reported	0.35	0.32	0.29	0.31
Both gender				
National	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Didn't get a chance	19.63	17.66	17.65	17.81
Never	67.43	63.35	71.53	71.00
Several times in last 3 months	2.58	8.91	1.32	0.64

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Table 12: Percentage distribution of population aged 5 years and over by gender, place of residence and habit of visiting different places of educational interest in last three months, 2010

Frequency of visit	Library	Book stall	News stand	Comm. centre
Several times in a month	0.83	2.24	0.45	0.15
Several times in a week	0.36	0.36	0.19	0.08
Daily	0.43	0.26	0.27	0.34
No scope	8.42	6.86	8.21	9.59
Not Reported	0.31	0.36	0.37	0.39
Rural	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Didn't get a chance	18.59	16.71	16.49	17.34
Never	69.13	65.22	73.33	71.82
Several times in last 3 months	2.31	8.45	1.16	0.74
Several times in a month	0.76	2.14	0.39	0.16
Several times in a week	0.32	0.32	0.16	0.09
Daily	0.43	0.26	0.26	0.38
No scope	8.16	6.53	7.82	9.07
Not Reported	0.31	0.37	0.39	0.41
Urban	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Didn't get a chance	23.06	20.77	21.46	19.36
Never	61.84	57.23	65.59	68.29
Several times in last 3 months	3.45	10.40	1.85	0.30
Several times in a month	1.08	2.58	0.65	0.10
Several times in a week	0.51	0.52	0.30	0.06
Daily	0.45	0.26	0.32	0.23
No scope	9.30	7.94	9.50	11.31
Not Reported	0.32	0.31	0.32	0.35

Section VI

Use of Internet Facility

6.0 Internet Usage

Internet is an important media for gaining knowledge from different websites. Internet usage by the population 15 years and over has been presented in Table-13. Only 1.49% used internet at the national level, and the corresponding figures were 2.00% for males and 0.97% for females. In the rural areas, only 1.13% used internet (1.52% males and 0.73% females) compared to 2.61%, 3.50% and 1.72% for both gender, males and females in the urban areas.

Table 13: Percentage distribution of population aged 15 years and over by gender, place of residence and access to internet in the last 3 months, 2010

Access to internet	National			Rural			Urban		
	Both gender	Male	Female	Both gender	Male	Female	Both gender	Male	Female
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Used internet	1.49	2.00	0.97	1.13	1.52	0.73	2.61	3.50	1.72
Don't use	98.51	98.00	99.03	98.87	98.48	99.27	97.39	96.50	98.28

6.1 Mode of Using Internet

As regards mode of using internet 63.80% used internet at the national level through mobile phones 33.22% used computers, and 2.99% used both media.

There exists no significant variation in the use of internet by different modes among males and females. Among males, 63.90% used cell phone, 33.30% used computer and 2.80% used both technology for using internet compared to the corresponding figures of 63.57%, 33.05% and 3.38% among females.

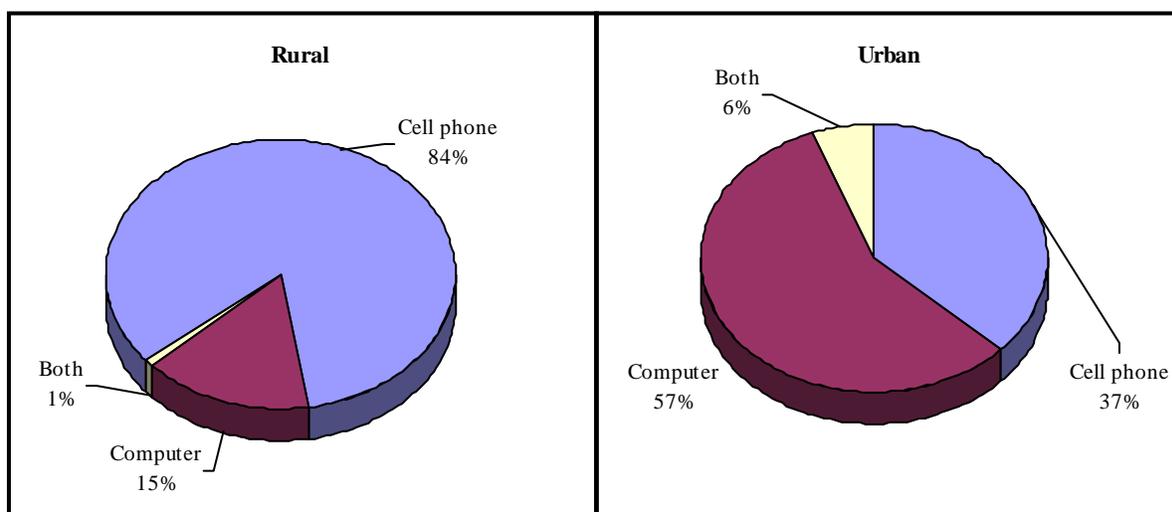
There exist significant urban-rural variations in the mode of use of internet in the rural and urban area. More than 80% rural people used internet through mobile phone compared to less than 50% for the urban people.

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Table 14: Percentage distribution of population aged 15 years and over by gender, place of residence and mode of internet use in the last three months, 2010

Mode of internet use	National			Rural			Urban		
	Both gender	Male	Female	Both gender	Male	Female	Both gender	Male	Female
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Cell phone	63.83	63.90	63.68	83.72	83.05	85.16	36.99	37.75	35.42
Computer	33.19	33.30	32.95	15.41	16.16	13.80	57.19	56.72	58.14
Both	2.98	2.80	3.37	0.87	0.80	1.04	5.83	5.53	6.44

Figure 4: Percentage distribution of population aged 15 years and over by place of residence and mode of internet use in last three months, 2010



6.2 Use of Internet by Level of Education

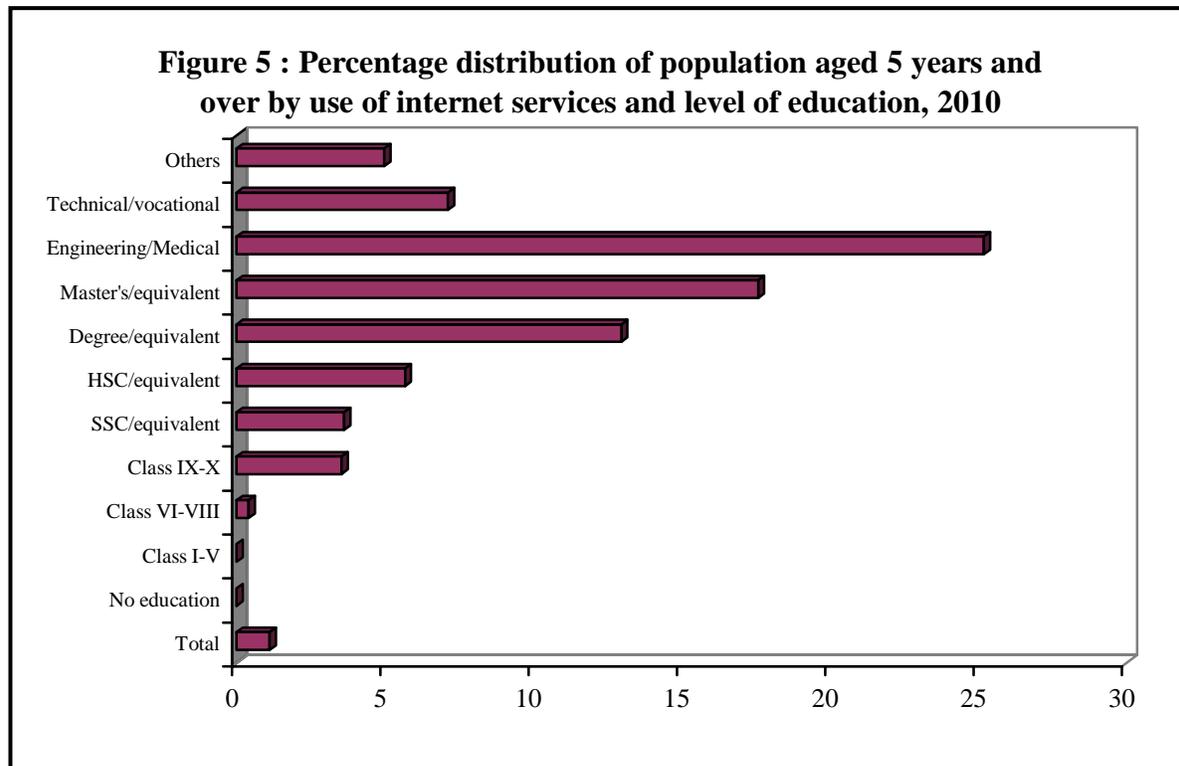
Use of internet by level of education has been presented in Table-15 and Figure 5. There exists positive correlation between use of internet and level of education. The higher the level of education, the higher is the use of internet facility. While only 0.47% having education level VI-VIII used internet, 18.21% among those having Master's degree and 26.39% having Engineering/Medical degree used internet. There exists gender variation in the use of internet where male used it at higher proportion than females in all educational levels.

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Table 15: Percentage distribution of population aged 5 years and over by gender, highest grade passed and access to internet in the last three months, 2010

Highest grade passed	Male			Female			Total		
	Access to internet		Total	Access to internet		Total	Access to internet		Total
	Used internet	Don't use		Used internet	Don't use		Used internet	Don't use	
Total	1.49	98.51	100	0.74	99.26	100	1.12	98.88	100
No education	0.00	100.00	100	0.00	100.00	100	0.00	100.00	100
Class I-V	0.00	100.00	100	0.00	100.00	100	0.00	100.00	100
Class VI-VIII	0.54	99.46	100	0.43	99.57	100	0.48	99.52	100
Class IX-X	4.25	95.75	100	2.95	97.05	100	3.60	96.40	100
SSC/equivalent	4.27	95.73	100	2.83	97.17	100	3.65	96.35	100
HSC/equivalent	6.74	93.26	100	4.62	95.38	100	5.95	94.05	100
Degree/equivalent	13.47	86.53	100	12.59	87.41	100	13.21	86.79	100
Master's/equivalent	18.19	81.81	100	16.57	83.43	100	17.76	82.24	100
Engineering/Medical	27.20	72.80	100	27.96	72.04	100	27.35	72.65	100
Technical/vocational*	8.05	91.95	100	7.84	94.16	100	8.00	92.00	100
Others	6.36	93.64	100	0.00	100.00	100	4.28	95.72	100

Notes: Technical/Vocational=Computer training, Motor driving/Motor mechanic, Welding, Electrical, etc,



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Section-VII

Conclusions

7.0 Conclusions

The 2010 literacy survey shows that 57.53% population (aged 7 years and over) of Bangladesh are literate and that they can read and write. The total removal of illiteracy from the country is still far ahead and we have to go a long way to reach the goal of 100% literacy. However, it is encouraging that the gap between males and females are narrowing down over the years. The highest literacy rate for the age group 15-19 suggests that attainment of literacy is a recent phenomenon, and if the present trend continues, the substantial improvement in literacy will happen in course of time.

Receiving some sort of skill training is only 5.0%, which is quite frustrating because in spite of formal education skill training is required for employment. The use of internet facility is also very low and only concentrated among the higher educated group, which is extremely low for achieving the target of switching over to a digital Bangladesh by 2021. This, therefore, needs special attention. Use of electronic media and use of public places for literacy skill are still very low. Use of literacy skill in everyday life through reading and writing habits are not encouraging, which indicates that even the literate persons do not use their skills for further improving their skill through day to day activities.

