



LIFE WITHOUT A CHILDHOOD

While children of solvent families get balanced diet, decent clothes and education, and grow under the care of loving parents, many others toil away in jute rope, balloon or kitchen utensil factories just for a living.

Most children working in small workshops or factories are deprived of environment suitable for their mental and physical growth.

Many have been taken out schools by their parents and set to work and earn for the family.

These working children have no childhood.

According to a Unicef report, around 3.7 million children are directly involved in hazardous labour in Bangladesh. Of them, a staggering 3.3 million are growing up in ghettos like Kamrangirchar and Keraniganj of Dhaka. They are considered the most vulnerable in terms of healthcare and education. The Unicef data show nearly half the country's population is children, aged below 18 years, and half of them live below poverty lines, which forces them to forget about or leave school and take up jobs.

Photo: ANISUR RAHMAN

