IMPACT OF SMALL ENTERPRISE LOAN PROGRAMME OF PALLI DARIDRO BIMOCHON FOUNDATION ON THE BENEFICIARIES SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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DECEMBER, 2021

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SEMESTER: JULY-DECEMBER 2021

Certificate of Approval

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the dissertation entitled **"IMPACT OF SMALL ENTERPRISE LOAN PROGRAMME OF PALLI DARIDRO BIMOCHON FOUNDATION ON THE BENEFICIARIES SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT"** submitted to the Faculty of Agriculture, Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University, Dhaka, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of **DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION AND INFORMATION SYSTEM**, embodies the result of a piece of bonafide research work carried out by **MOHAMMAD RAFIQUL ISLAM, Registration No.18-09325** under my supervision and guidance. No part of the dissertation has been submitted for any other degree or diploma.

I further certify that such help or source of information, as has been availed of during the course of this investigation has duly been acknowledged.

Dated: December, 2022
Dhaka, Bangladesh

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DEDICATED

TO

MY FAMILY MEMBERS

DECLARATION

It is hereby declared that except otherwise stated, this Dissertation is entirely the own work of the present researcher under the guidance and supervision of the Advisory Committee and has not been submitted in any form to any other University for any degree.

The Researcher
December, 2022

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

The author was born on 10 December 1973 at Village- Fulbari, Upazilla-Dhanbari and District-Tangail, Bangladesh. He came from a reputed and enlightened Muslim family. His father's and mother's name is Mohammad Irfan Ali and Musammat Rahima begum respectively. He passed S.S.C. examination from Paiska High School, Dhanbari, Tangail in 1989 and H.S.C. examination from Ananda Mohan Govt. College, Mymensingh, in 1991 and obtained first division in both. He obtained B.Sc. A.H. (Hons.) in 1995 and M.S. (Dairy Science) degree in 1999 from Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh.

He started his service career as a Scientific Officer under the Agricultural Research Management Project of Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute (BLRI) in January, 2000 and continued to December, 2001. Then he worked as a Feed Mill Officer for 01 year and as a Parent Stock Officer up to September, 2003 in Renata Agro Industries Ltd. Later, he joined as a Training Officer (Livestock) in Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF) in October, 2003. Now he is working as Senior Assistant Director at PDBF Head Office, Mirpur-2, Dhaka-1216.

He has 16 national and international research publications. Mr. Islam has participated in some training, seminar, workshop and conference organized by various organizations. He conducted various types of training during his service period.

Mr. Rafique has prepared 10 development project proposals (DPP) as a member of the Policy and planning division of Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF). He has gained an opportunity to present DPP (Housing Construction Project for the Insolvent Freedom Fighters) before the Honourable Prime Minister as a DPP formulating team member of PDBF (January, 2020).

The author is married to Mrs. Musammat Farida Eyasmin, a college lecturer who and has blessed a son Ishtiaq Ahmed and a daughter Raisa Binte Rafique. The researcher has two brothers. His elder brother Colonel (retired) S.M. Abdur Rouf is currently serving as a UN official in South Sudan, and his younger brother, agriculturist Md. Iqramul Islam, is a banker of DBBL. He wishes blessings to all.

The Researcher

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The researcher owes a debt to Allah, the Almighty, by whose kindness he has been able to complete another episode of his life and submit the dissertation for the degree of DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PhD) in Agricultural Extension & Information System, Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University (SAU), Dhaka.

The author expresses his sincere and heartfelt gratitude, deep appreciation and regards to the Chairman of his Ph.D. Research Advisory Committee, Professor Dr. Md. Rafiquel Islam, Department of Agricultural Extension and Information System, Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University (SAU), Dhaka for his scholastic guidance, invaluable suggestions, untiring assistance and continuous inspiration and administrative help throughout the tenure of the study. His generous encouragement created a keen interest, which enabled him to tackle the various difficulties successfully during this research work.

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The researcher would like to express his sincere thanks to all officers and staff of PDBF head office and Rajbari sadar, Kaliakair, Dhanbari and Ramgati Upazila offices and the respondent beneficiaries of the study areas for their co-operation, patience and deliberation of information during data collection.

The author feels deeply indebted mother, brothers and wife Mussamat Farida Eyasmin, son Ishtiaq Ahmed and daughter Raisa Binte Rafique for their constant inspiration during the research work. Lastly, the author profoundly acknowledges dedication in to his departed father and mother-in-law.

In the end, the researcher owes his heartiest thanks to those who helped him in different ways and means to complete this research work.

The Researcher

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADBO	Assistant Daridro Bimochon Officer
ASA	Association for Social Advancement
BAU	Bangladesh Agricultural University
BBS	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics
BN	Billion
BRAC	Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee
BRDB	Bangladesh Rural Development Board
CFI	Constraint Faced Index
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CMSME	Cottage Micro Small and Medium Enterprises
CV	Co-efficient of Variation
CVDP	Comprehensive Village Development Programme
DAE	Department of Agricultural Extension
DYD	Department of Youth Development
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FO	Field Officer
GB	Grameen Bank
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GED	General Economic Division
GO	Government Organization
GTI	Graduate Training Institute
IDA	International Development Agency
IGAs	Income generating activities
IRDP	Integrated Rural Development Programme
LDC	Least Development Country
MBSS	Mohila Bittyaheen Shomobay Somittee
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MIS	Management Information System
MN	Million
MRA	Microcredit Regulatory Authority
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
NGO	Non Government Organization
NBFIs	Non-banking Financial Institutions

NID	National Identity Card
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OGM	Ordinary Group Member
PDBF	Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation
RBIP	Rural Bittyaheen Institutional Project
RBP	Rural Bittyaheen Programme
RD-12	Rural Development-12
RD-2	Rural Development-2
RDP	Rural Development Programme
SAU	Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University
SD	Standard Deviation
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SELP	Small Enterprise Loan Programme
SFDF	Small Farmer Development Foundation
SL	Society Leader
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
SMESPD	SME and Special Programme Department of Bangladesh Bank
SPFS	Special Programme for Food Security
UDBO	Upazila Daridro Bimochon Officer
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USD	United States Dollar
Fig.	Figure
K.cal	Kilocalories
Tk.	Taka

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IMPACT OF SMALL ENTERPRISE LOAN PROGRAMME OF PALLI DARIDRO BIMOCHON FOUNDATION ON THE BENEFICIARIES SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mohammad Rafiqul Islam

ABSTRACT

The purposes of the study were to assess the impact of Small Enterprise Loan Programme (SELP) of Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries and to explore the contribution of the selected characteristics of the SELP beneficiaries to the impact of SELP on their socio-economic development. The study was conducted in Rajbari sadar under Rajbari district, Kaliakair upazlia under Gazipur district, Dhanbari upazila under Tangail district and Ramgati upazila in Lakshmipur district in Bangladesh. A survey method was used to collect primary data during October 2021 to March 2022. A total of 838 SELP beneficiaries of four upazilas under 55 districts of PDBF constituted the population of the study. Face to face interview was conducted to collect relevant data from the proportionate randomly selected 271 respondents. Twelve selected characteristics of SELP beneficiaries were considered as the independent variables. Impact of SELP of PDBF was the dependent variable of the research. The survey revealed that majority (69.40 percent) of the respondents increased their socio-economic condition which was ranged from medium to high level compared to 30.60 percent of the respondents was at low level. Twelve independent variables combinedly explained 53.70% of the total variation on the socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF. Regression analysis indicated that education (0.391), satisfaction towards loan received condition (0.215), age (0.212), savings deposit (0.139), length of involvement (0.129) and attitude towards SELP of PDBF (0.107) had positive and significant influence on their socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF. Based on the Standardized Problem Faced Index (SPFI) among the problem items, ‘high rate of interest’ was ranked 1st, ‘inadequate loan amount as per demand’ was ranked 2nd and 3rd was ‘product duplication in the same business area’. Fist, 2nd and 3rd suggestions by the respondents were to ‘provide low interest rate’, ‘adequate credit volume’ and ‘arranging skill based training to small entrepreneurs’ respectively. The findings may contribute to improve SELP beneficiaries’ socio-economic condition through more effective policies.

Key words: Impact, small enterprise, PDBF, beneficiaries, socio-economic development

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

The opening chapter introduces the study by exploring the SME background on the global, Bangladesh and PDBF aspect. This chapter includes the research question, objectives, rationale and problem statement, scope, assumption, limitations of the study and with definition of related terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

1.1.1 Role of SMEs in socio-economic development

The role of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) is indispensable for overall economic development of a country particularly for developing countries like Bangladesh (SME Policy-2019). Since this sector is labour intensive with short gestation period, it is capable of increasing national income as well as rapid employment generation; achieving Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) especially eradication of extreme poverty and hunger, gender equality and women empowerment. SME sector has played a vital role in economic development of some prosperous countries of Asia. Our neighbouring countries have also given due importance on SME (SME Policy 2019).

Globally, SMEs are considered as the growth engine that accelerate the economy and create jobs. They have come to the forefront of the sustainable development agenda due to the recognition of their contribution to fostering economic growth, sustaining global economic recovery, generating employment and reducing poverty. SMEs directly contribute to employment for 7.8 million people and provide a livelihood for 31.2 million people in Bangladesh (OECD, 2017).

SMEs are significantly contributing to our economic achievement. The SME sector serves as a stimulus and boost to national income.

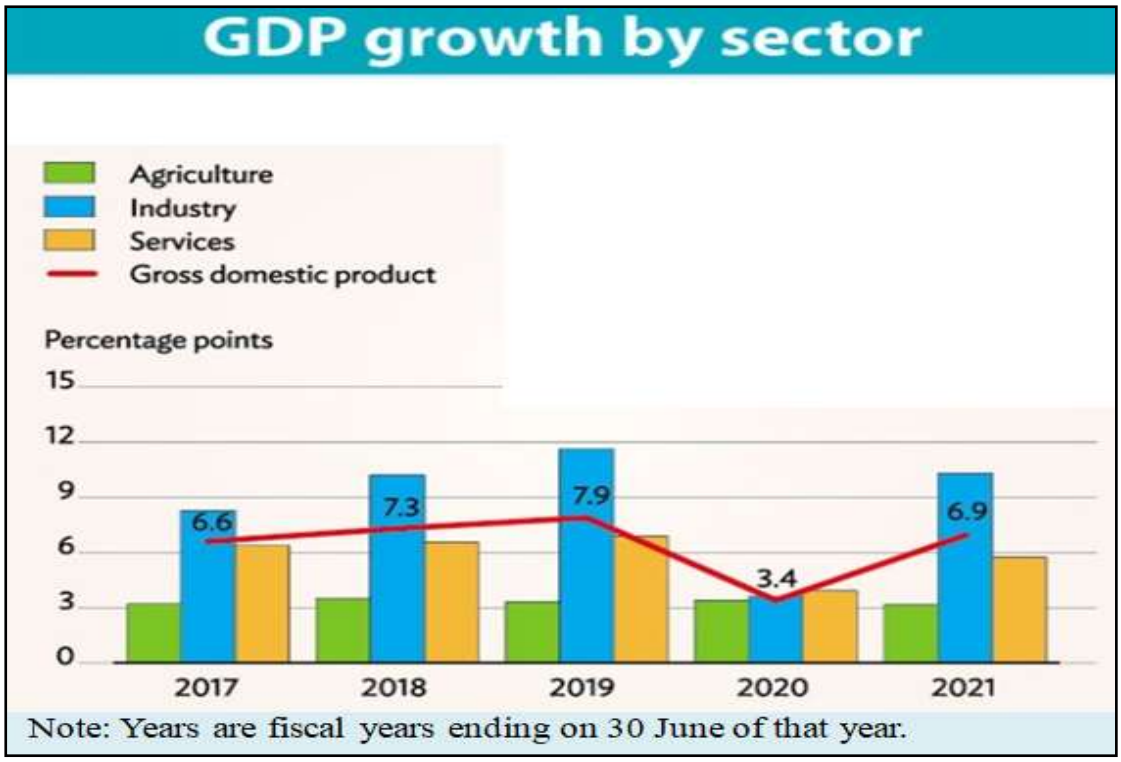


Fig. 1.1 Sector-wise GDP growth of Bangladesh; Source: BBS-2020-21

Employment in this sector is labour intensive and less time consuming. Production with low capital cost or low organization cost. Like other developing countries, Bangladesh has enormous potential for the development of the SME sector. The SME sector acts as a catalyst and plays a leading role in transforming Bangladesh into an industrial development country.

Table 1.1 Growth rate of GDP at current prices in the manufacturing sub-sector

Industrial sub-sector	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 (p)
Total (Manufacturing)	17.66	14.01	4.33	14.79	16.94
Large Industry	15.91	13.12	1.98	12.36	15.10
Small, Medium and Micro Industry	18.49	13.92	5.37	19.31	18.18
Cottage Industry	21.25	16.61	8.90	13.43	19.38

Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) are key drivers of the national economy in Bangladesh. Contributing 25 percent to the country's GDP, SMEs play a crucial role in income generation and resource utilization. According to the Economic Census and Enterprise Survey conducted in 2013, some 99 percent of all non-farm

enterprises fall into the micro and small enterprises categories, employing 20.3 million Bangladeshi workers.

Table 1.2 shows that disbursement of SME loans by banks and NBFIs in Bangladesh has gradually increased. It was 53543.93 crores in 2010, 115870.48 crores in 2015 and 215786.30 crores in 2021.

Table 1.2 Disbursement of SME credit by Banks and NBFIs (TK. in crores)

Period	Target	Actual Disbursement				Women Ent.	Achievement
		Trading	Manufacturing	Service	Total		(%)
2010	38858.12	35040.53	15147.72	3355.68	53543.93	1804.98	138
2011	56940.13	34382.64	15805.95	3530.85	53719.44	2048.45	95
2012	59012.78	44225.19	21897.33	3630.90	69753.42	2224.01	118
2013	74186.87	56703.72	24016.64	4602.89	85323.25	3351.17	115
2014	89030.95	62767.18	30246.20	7896.77	100910.15	3938.75	113
2015	104586.49	73551.78	30462.02	11856.68	115870.48	4226.99	112
2016	113503.43	90547.57	35168.63	16219.19	141935.39	5345.66	125
2017	133853.59	96934.79	42334.87	22507.66	161777.32	4772.99	121
2018	161031.89	66936.21	55739.61	36834.25	159510.07	5517.09	99.05
2019	176902.00	72522.37	58715.31	36723.99	167970.67	6108.99	94.95
2020	229153.21	83455.61	80843.34	42504.68	206803.63	8244.46	90.25
2021*	252760.64	87934.45	83007.29	44844.56	215786.30	8801.54	85.37

Source: Bangladesh Economic Review 2022, Bangladesh Bank. *Up to December 2021. A target-based lending to the cottage, micro, small and medium enterprises has been initiated since 2010. Until 2019, the lending target calculation process was disbursement based. From 2020, the lending target is being determined using net outstanding based calculation process which is initiated by SMESPD circular no. 02: dated September 05, 2019.

To make balanced development through economic, social and environmental protection of the country, the government announced the SME sector as the main pillar of industrial development in the National Industrial policy 2016. The development of the SME sector will play a significant role in achieving the targets enunciated in national and international policy and planning documents like National Industrial Policy 2016, Eighth Five-Year Plan, Vision 2021 and LDC graduation by 2024, SDG 2030 and Vision 2041. As Bangladesh has skilled human resources and intellectual capacities, the SME sector ushers ample opportunities to develop.

1.1.2 Contribution of SME in Bangladesh

SMEs have drawn much interest among policymakers, academics, businessmen and people in general. There is a broad consensus that a vibrant SME sector is one of the principal driving forces in the development of the economy of Bangladesh. SMEs stimulate private ownership and entrepreneurial skills and can adapt quickly to changing market situations, generate employment, help diversify economic activities and contribute significantly to exports and trade. Therefore, policies and initiatives to develop SMEs and to increase their competitiveness are a priority for Bangladesh. Liberalization of the economy along with rapid globalization has posed severe challenges to SMEs not only in the international market but also in the domestic economy. Since SMEs are based on a relatively small investment, their survival depends on a readily available market with easy access. In this context, access to finance, market development and expansion as well as the removal of other bottlenecks, are a challenging task, which requires coordinated efforts by individual business enterprises and the government.

Accelerating growth and reducing poverty, income inequality and regional disparity are the overarching goals of the current development paradigm in Bangladesh. The main strategies for achieving these goals include creating productive employment in the manufacturing and organized service sector and withdrawing of labour force out of the low-skilled and low-return agricultural sector and informal activities. The development of SMEs is envisaged as a key element in this development strategy. To achieve double-digit growth in manufacturing, matching the development of SMEs is considered critical. Enhanced small and medium enterprise activities in the rural and backward regions constitute a vital component of the strategy for rural development and reduction of poverty and regional disparity.

In Bangladesh, SMEs including micro-enterprises comprise over 99 percent of all industrial units, contributing over 85 per cent of industrial employment. Focusing on the 10+ units, small units constitute 87.4 percent, followed by medium and large units comprising 5.7 and 6.9 per cent, respectively.

The recently available estimates obtained from two major micro surveys, the International Consulting Group (ICG) study and South Asia Enterprise Development Facility (SEDF) survey suggest the SME contribution to manufacturing value added to be in the range of 20 to 25 percent.

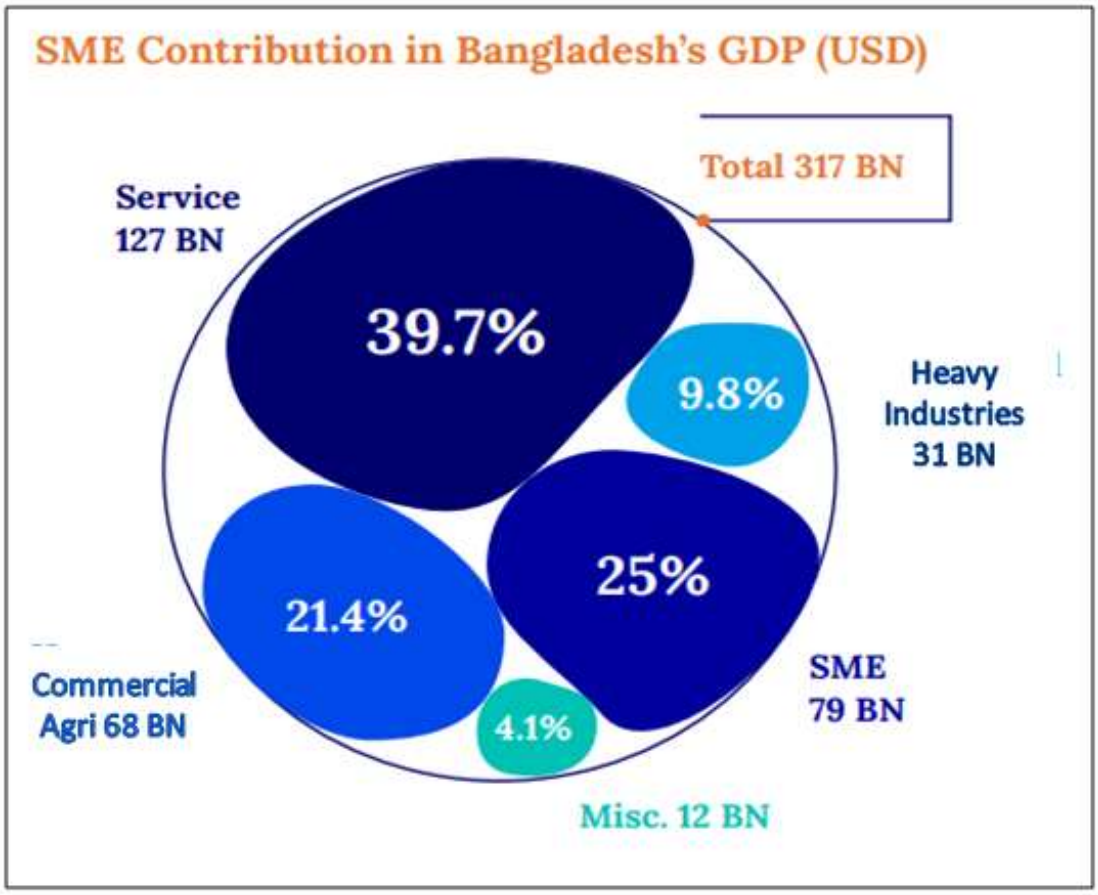


Fig. 1.2 SME Contribution in Bangladesh's GDP (USD)

The SMEs together employ a total of 31 million people, equivalent to about 40 percent of the population of Bangladesh, aged 15 years and above. More than three-quarters of the household income in both urban and rural areas are provided by SMEs.

1.1.3 Small enterprise loan in PDBF

Many small businessmen and entrepreneurs have not been able to collect the money needed to build a new business or expand a business. Because the amount of money they need goes beyond the micro credit. Again, because the bank loan is

a bit tricky, they are often unwilling to accept the loan from the bank. PDBF has been providing small entrepreneurial loan facility to generate more income and employment by providing technical benefits to these small businessmen and entrepreneurs. It plays an important role in bridging the gap between the loan program, microfinance and institutional lending. In addition, the risk of local/domestic businesses is lower than export-oriented businesses and production, marketing, management and financial transactions are much easier.

SELP is the abbreviated form of the Small Enterprise Loan Programme. It was defined as the amount of money received by the beneficiaries of PDBF for some specific purposes at a certain rate of interest generally repayable from one year to two years. From 50 thousand Tk. to 10 lakh Tk. are disbursed under the small enterprise loan programme (SELP) of PDBF for specific purposes. SELP was initiated in 2006 and women's entrepreneurial loan was initiated in 2018 by Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF). Currently, about 44320 small entrepreneurs and 39814 women entrepreneurs from rural and urban areas in Bangladesh are involved with PDBF.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Bangladesh, with a total population of almost 170 MN (8^{th} largest) in just 148,460 km^2, is one of the world's most densely populated countries. According to Human Development Index (HDI), Bangladesh ranked 139 out of 188 countries in the world in 2017 (UNDP, 2017), which was 140 out of 177 countries in the world in 2007 (UNDP, 2007). Per capita annual income was USD 1,466 in 2017 (Socio-Economic Indicator of Bangladesh Bureau of Statistic, 2017), which was USD 520 in 2006-07 (Socio-Economic Indicator of Bangladesh, 2007). About 31.5% of people live below the poverty line in Bangladesh (ADB, 2016) in 2016, which was about 40% in 2007 (BBS, 2007). Bangladesh's GDP has been growing at around 7% since the last few years, in which the SME sector plays a vital role.

Bangladesh Vision 2041 (Vision '41) is a national strategic plan to farther develop the socio-economic standing of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh formulated

by National Economic Council. As a part of four 5-year perspective plan to be undertaken between 2022 and 2041, Bangladesh is aiming to achieve high income status through industrialization. The initiative encourages expansion of manufacturing capacity and investment in human capital development to develop exports from Bangladesh (Encyclopedia, 2022).

According to 'Household Income and Expenditure Survey-2016' the poverty rate was 24.3 percent in 2016 whereas it was 56.7 percent in 1991. Despite all these positive changes in poverty declination, still one-fourth population of Bangladesh lives below the poverty line. It may not be possible to achieve the desired level of socio-economic development without setting this portion of population free from poverty. For this reason, today, poverty reduction is a major concern of the government in the policy and development issues of the country.

PDBF was established by the parliament of Bangladesh to eradicate poverty and gender equity. It is under the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives. Over the past 22 years PDBF has launched various activities for socio-economic development and gender equity such as microfinance, Small Enterprise Loan Programme (SELP), different kinds of saving products and provide necessary training and arranged a regular discussion on different social issues in 55 districts under 8 divisions through 357 upazilas of Bangladesh. Around 11.30 lakhs people directly and about 50 lakhs indirectly included with PDBF. As PDBF works with a targeted woman empowerment and socio-economic development programme, their impacts are expected to be beneficial.

It was very necessary to know the contribution through SELP of PDBF as perceived by the beneficiaries. In this context, to find out the extent of socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF in different areas of Bangladesh, this study aimed to find out the answer to following research questions:

i) What is the impact of the small enterprise loan programme (SELP) of Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF) on the socio-economic development as perceived by the beneficiaries?
ii) What are the selected characteristics of SELP beneficiaries of PDBF?
iii) What is the contribution of the selected characteristics of the SELP beneficiaries to the impact of SELP of PDBF on socio-economic development as perceived by beneficiaries?
iv) What are the problems faced by the beneficiaries and solutions thereof as perceived by the beneficiaries towards working with SELP of PDBF?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

In order to shape the research in a manageable and meaningful way, the following specific objectives were formulated:

i. To assess the impact of the small enterprise loan programme **(**SELP) of Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries;
ii. To describe some selected characteristics of SELP beneficiaries of PDBF;
iii. To explore the contribution of the selected characteristics of the SELP beneficiaries to the impact of SELP on their socio-economic development; and
iv. To identify the problems faced with the SELP of PDBF and their solutions.

1.4 Rationale of the Study

SMEs stimulate private ownership and entrepreneurial skills and can adapt quickly to changing market situation, generate employment, help diversified economic activities, and make a significant contribution to exports and trade.

This research is very important to the government, policy and decision makers, and researchers in the entrepreneurship development sector as a general study that would give a foundation for future and further business-related policy. The findings of the research also help explaining the theoretical background of entrepreneurship development in the country context.

Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF), as the largest public sector development agency, is strongly committed to contributing to attaining the objectives and targets of the VISION-2021, SDGs and other national and international agendas. The philosophy of PDBF is the socio-economic development of the rural people and the established of gender equality. PDBF has launched various activities such as small enterprise loans programme (SELP), micro-credit, savings, skill and social development trainings in 55 districts under eight divisions through 357 upazilas in Bangladesh.

A huge amount of credit provide by various government, private and non-government organizations each year for the socio-economic development of rural poor. In the context of getting loan, loan payment system and interest rate, public sectors organizations are preferable to rural clients. PDBF is one of the important public organizations that work for socioeconomic development of rural poor through providing credit. PDBF has been providing small enterprise loan to the rural clientele since long. But what extent the impact of their loan programme to the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries is not known. The factor responsible to influence the impact is also unknown. The researcher intended to take an attempt to know how the respondents developed their socio-economic condition due to their involvement with PDBF entrepreneurial loan programme.

This research seems to be important to the government, policy and decision makers, and researchers in the entrepreneurship development sector as a general study that would give a foundation for future and further business-related policy. The findings of the research would also help explaining the theoretical background of entrepreneurship development in the country context. Thus, the study is carried out to assess the impact of small enterprise loan programme of PDBF on socio-economic development of the beneficiaries in Bangladesh.

1.5 Scope of the Study

The present study was designed to explore the improvement of the socio-economic status of PDBF beneficiaries. This would also enable us to identify the factors

which affect the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries along with the small enterprise loan.

Besides these, this study helped to assess the impact of the small enterprise loan programme of Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries. However, the findings of the study would in particular be applicable to Rajbari sadar under Rajbari district, Kaliakair upazlia under Gazipur district, Dhanbari upazila under Tangail district and Ramgati upazila in Lakshmipur district where small enterprise loan programme of PDBF is available. Furthermore, the findings might also be applicable to other areas of Bangladesh where socio-cultural, psychological and economic situation do not differ much than those of the study area. This study would thus provide a scope to determine the extent of changes of socio-economic development by the difference between before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF situation. It also made a scope to review the emerging issues like socio-economic development of the PDBF beneficiaries and helped to come up with some recommendations for policy intervention for future activities.

1.6 Assumptions of the Study

An assumption is taken as a fact or believed to be true without proof. The researcher had the following assumptions in mind while undertaking this study:

1. The respondents selected for the study were competent enough to answer the queries made by the researcher.
2. The respondents included in the sample were capable of furnishing proper responses to the questions included in the interview schedule.
3. The views and opinions provided by the beneficiaries included in the sample were the representative views and opinions of all beneficiaries of the study area.
4. The items, questions and scales used for measuring the variables were reasonably adequate to reflect the respondents' real views and opinions.
5. The data for the study were valid and reliable.

6. The researcher who has acted as interviewer was well adjusted to the social and cultural environment of the study area. Hence, the data collected by him from the respondents furnished their correct opinions without any biases.
7. The information sought revealed the real situation to satisfy the objective of the study.
8. The sampling procedures followed for this study, the analysis of data and interpretations etc. were free from all biases.
9. The findings of the study have general application to other areas of the country where the physical, socio-economic, and cultural conditions are more or less similar.

1.7 Limitations of the Study

In order to make the study meaningful and manageable from the point of view of the researcher, it was necessary to impose some limitations as stated below:

1. Since the findings were based on the ability of the respondents to recall and on the verbal opinions expressed by them, the objectivity of the study was confined to their ability to recall, and also their sincerity and honesty in providing the needed information.
2. This study was conducted in selected areas of Bangladesh, not the whole country.
3. Characteristics of the respondents are many and varied. However, only few characteristics of the respondents were selected for the study.
4. There were many and vast areas of socio-economic development but only ten dimensions of changes forwards socio-economic development were considered in this study.
5. This study was conducted to assess the impact of socio-economic development by differentiating the situation before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF. Control group was absent in this study.

1.8 Definition of Terms

Specific terms used throughout the study are defined and interpreted below for clarity of understanding:

Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF)

Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF) was established in November 1999 by passing a law, law no. 23 of 1999, in the Parliament of Bangladesh (Bangladesh Gazette, 1999). The foundation was created as an independent, autonomous, sustainable and self-supporting microfinance institutions dedicated to the cause of alleviating rural poverty and promoting socio-economic advancement of the disadvantaged rural people. Since its inception, PDBF has achieved considerable success in fulfilling its mission of mobilizing the poor beneficiaries into activity groups, providing effective financial support and skill development training to empower them socially and economically.

SELP

SELP is the abbreviated of Small Enterprise Loan Programme. It was defined as the amount of money received by the beneficiaries of PDBF for some specific purposes at a certain rate of interest generally repayable from one year to two years. From 50 thousand Tk. to 10 lakh Tk. are disbursed under the small enterprise loan programme (SELP) of PDBF for specific purposes.

Impact of SELP

It referred to sustained desirable changes due to involvement with SELP of PDBF as perceived by the beneficiaries. The impact was conceptualized as the after-effect of those selected items in terms of the extent of desirable changes that occurred in 10 dimensions.

Loan

A loan is a debt incurred by an individual or other entity. The lender usually a corporation, financial institution, or government advances a sum of money to the borrower. In return, the borrower agrees to a certain set of terms including any finance charges, interest, repayment date, and other conditions.

Small and Medium Enterprise

Each country tends to derive its definition based on the role that small-scale industries are expected to play in the economy and the programme of assistance designed to achieve that goal. Varying definitions among countries may arise from differences in the industrial organization at different levels of economic development in parts of the same country (Anamekwe, 2001).

Various definitions of SMEs are also used by various organizations in Bangladesh. The definitions adopted by various agencies such as Bangladesh Bank, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics and Industrial Policy from time to time are considerably different. The differences in definitions used basically stem from considerations of policy making and operational needs by different users.

To remove ambiguity in definition, Bangladesh Bank issued a circular in 2008 defining SME under consultation with the National Board of Revenue (NBR), Board of Investment (BoI) & Ministry of Industries (MoI). According to the circular SME is defined as follows:

A) **Definition of Small Enterprise:** Small Enterprise refers to the firm/business which is not a public limited company and complies with the following criteria:

Sl. No.	Sector	Fixed Asset other than Land and Building (Tk.)	Employed Manpower (not above)
01.	Service	50,000-50,00,000	25
02.	Business	50,000-50,00,000	25
03.	Industrial	50,000-1,50,00,000	50

B) **Definition of Medium Enterprise:** Medium Enterprise refers to the establishment/firm which is not a public limited company and complies with the following criteria:

Sl. No.	Sector	Fixed Asset other than Land and Building (Tk.)	Employed Manpower (not above)
01.	Service	50,00,000-10,00,00,000	50
02.	Business	50,00,000-10,00,00,000	50
03.	Industrial	1,50,00,000-20,00,00,000	150

Age

Age of the respondents was measured in term of years at the time of interviewing. It was counted from the individual's first day of birth till the time of the interview.

Educational Qualification

Educational qualification refers to the number of completed years of schooling. Education is defined as the ability of an individual to read and write or as the formal education received up to a certain standard. The education of an individual was defined as the extent of formal education received by them from educational institutions.

Total Dependency Ratio

Dependency ratios are a measure of the age structure of a population. They relate the number of individuals that are likely to be economically "dependent" on the support of others. Total dependency ratios contrast the ratio of youths (ages 0-14) and the elderly (ages 65+) to the number of those in the working-age group (ages 15-65). Changes in the dependency ratio provide an indication of potential social support requirements resulting from changes in population age structures.

Training Exposure on Small Enterprise

Training exposure to small enterprise of a respondent referred to the total number of months that the respondent had undertaken different types of training on small enterprise in their entire life from different organizations. Training plays an important role in increasing the knowledge, skill and attitude of an individual in performing their job efficiency. Training also influences the perception behavior of an individual.

Length of Involvement with SELP of PDBF

Length of involvement with SELP of PDBF of a respondent referred to the total years that they had undertaken the participation with the organization as small enterprise loaned beneficiaries.

Savings Deposit

It referred to the amount of money ('000' Tk.) as saved by the respondents and the members of the respondents' families after joining with SELP of PDBF from different sources during the present and previous year.

Loan Availability

Loan availability of a respondent was defined as the percent to which their loan requirement was fulfilled by the amount of loan actually was received by them.

Loan availability was determined by using the following formula:

$$\textbf{Loan Availability (LA)} = \frac{\textbf{ALR1}}{\textbf{ALR2}} \textbf{ x 100}$$

Where,

ALR_1 = Amount of loan received

ALR_2= Amount of loan required

Loan Utilization

SELP loan of PDBF is distributed among the clients for certain specific purposes. Loan utilization was defined as the percentage of utilization of loan in assigned purposes by the PDBF beneficiaries. In this study the extent of loan utilization by the beneficiaries in assigned purposes was ascertained. Loan utilization was determined by using the following formula:

$$\textbf{Loan Utilization(LU)} = \frac{\textbf{AUDP}}{\textbf{ALR}} \textbf{x100}$$

Where,

AUDP = Amount used in desired purpose (Taka)

ALR = Amount of loan received (Taka)

Loan Repayment Behaviour

Loan repayment has link with savings behaviour and proper utilization of the loan. The repayment behaviour of the respondents was determined by using the following formula:

$$\textbf{Loan Repayment Behaviour (LRB)} = \frac{\textbf{ALR1}}{\textbf{ALR2}} \textbf{x100}$$

Where,

ALR_1 = Amount of loan repaid

ALR_2 = Amount of loan repayable

Acceptance of Loan Received Condition

The loan received condition means the rules which was introduced by PDBF for its beneficiaries to get a loan. The acceptance of loan received condition refers that how far these rules were accepted by the beneficiaries.

Decision Making Ability

Decision making ability of a respondent referred to the extent of ability to make decision with 3 different aspects, viz. 'decision made by own', 'decision made by family members', and 'decision made by others' involving five selected items of decisions.

Attitude

An attitude may be defined as a tendency to act toward some objects, person, situation or idea. In general it is feeling of like, dislike, attraction, repulsion, interest toward other persons, objects, situation or ideas. It is a learned pre disposition to react consistency is a given manner (either positive or negative) to certain persons, object of concepts. It is closely related to attention and interest. How one reacts to a given situation related to his attitude (Khan, 2004). In the present study, attitude towards SELP of PDBF referred to the extent of belief, feeling and action tendency of beneficiaries towards SELP of PDBF.

Change

It referred to the improvement or deterioration of the respondents in various aspects of SELP of PDBF beneficiaries.

Development

The term "development" indicates a quantitative growth in the social and economic areas, which ultimately should result in the process of a qualitative change reflecting improvement in the condition of living of the people. This implies that development was a process to which both social and economic elements would jointly and/or individually contribute. In this study development was used to mean the real conscious raising, learning and economic progress of beneficiaries after intervention with SELP of PDBF.

Socio-economic Development

This term had been synonymously used with the words social and economic development. According to the online encyclopedia, socio-economic development is the process of social and economic development in a society. Socio-economic development is measured with indicators, such as GDP, life expectancy, literacy and levels of employment. Changes in less-tangible factors are also considered, such as personal dignity, freedom of association, personal safety and freedom from fear of physical harm, and the extent of participation in civil society. The researcher used the term 'socio-economic development' to refer to improvements in the sources of food consumption, standards of living, health, saving, income, wealth possession and expansion of business.

Food consumption

It refers to the improvement or deterioration of a respondent in respect of his/her amount of food consumption after involvement. In this study ten items were considered to determine the food consumption behavior.

Dressing habit

Dressing habit means as usual dress used by the individuals in a society. In this study, before and after PDBF intervention, respondent change of their dressing habit was measured.

Sanitation condition

It referred to the healthy sanitation condition of a respondent to reduce water born and contaminated diseases.

Participation in health activities

Participation of health activities referred to the consciousness of PDBF beneficiaries on different preventive health care in relation to nutrition for children and pregnant mother, personal hygiene, immunization of children etc.

Drinking water sources

It referred to the availability of safe drinking water source of the respondent. It must be free from arsenic and germs of disease.

Treatment of diseases

It referred to the receive treatment of diseases of the respondent among five selected personnel like treatment by MBBS doctor, village doctor, kabiraj, village fakir/ojha etc.

Change in income

The change of income of the SELP respondent of PDBF was measured in Taka on the basis of his entrepreneurial annual income and other kinds of annual income.

Change in savings

The change of savings of the SELP respondent of PDBF was measured in Taka on the basis of his entrepreneurial and other kinds of annual savings.

Wealth possession

Wealth possession referred to the value of the assets the respondents possess which include land, cattle, goat, poultry, trees, radio/cassette, television, sewing machine, shallow machine, power tiller, rickshaw & van, other furniture, jewelry and utensils etc. It was expressed in Taka.

Expansion of business

Expansion of business is a stage where the business reaches the point for growth and seeks out for additional options to generate more profit. In this study the respondents were asked to response about their growth of business including five items before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Beneficiary

Beneficiaries are those who get SELP loan benefit from PDBF directly. Urban and rural people involved in different activities with small enterprise loan programme (SELP) of PDBF may be termed as PDBF beneficiaries.

Respondent

Respondent referred to the beneficiaries who participated with SELP of PDBF and were included in the sample.

Microcredit

It was defined as a small amount of money loaned to a client by a bank or other institution. Micro credit could be offered often without collateral to an individual or through group lending.

Non-governmental organization (NGO)

A non-governmental organization (NGO) is the term commonly used for an organization that is neither a part of a government nor a conventional for-profit business.

Poverty

Poverty was defined as the income level below which even minimum standard of nutrition, shelter and personal amenities cannot be maintained.

Problem

Problem means any difficult situation which requires some action to minimize the gap between “what ought to be” and “what is”. In this study, problem means that respondents of the study areas were hindered to participate in SELP of PDBF and utilize the credit for the purpose of spending in the loan agreement.

1.9 Structure of the Thesis

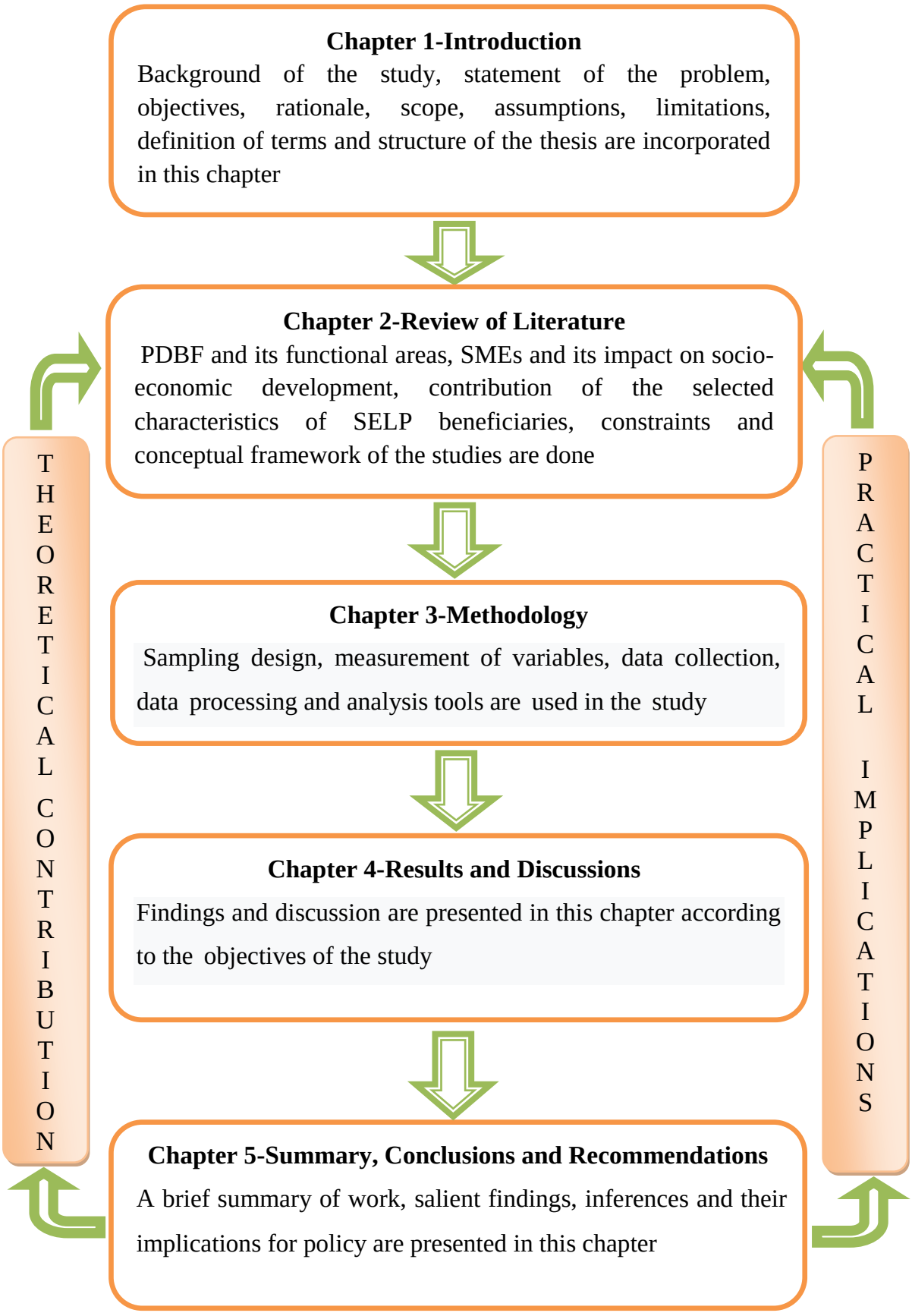


Fig. 1.3 The plan and structure of the thesis

CHAPTER 2

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The present study was mainly concerned with the impact of SELP of PDBF on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries as perceived by them. This was also concerned with determining the selected characteristics of the SELP beneficiaries of PDBF. This Chapter deals with the review of literature related to a different dimension of the present study. Various books, journals, reports, MS and PhD dissertations, web-based digital agricultural archives, etc. were the source of literature review. The researcher tried his best to collect needful information by searching relevant studies.

The Chapter has been presented in the following six sections:

2.1 Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF) and Its Functional Areas

2.2 SMEs and Their Impact on Socio-economic Development

2.3 Contribution of the Selected Characteristics of SELP Beneficiaries to Their Socio-economic Development

2.4 Reviews on Constraints Confrontation for Socio-economic Development

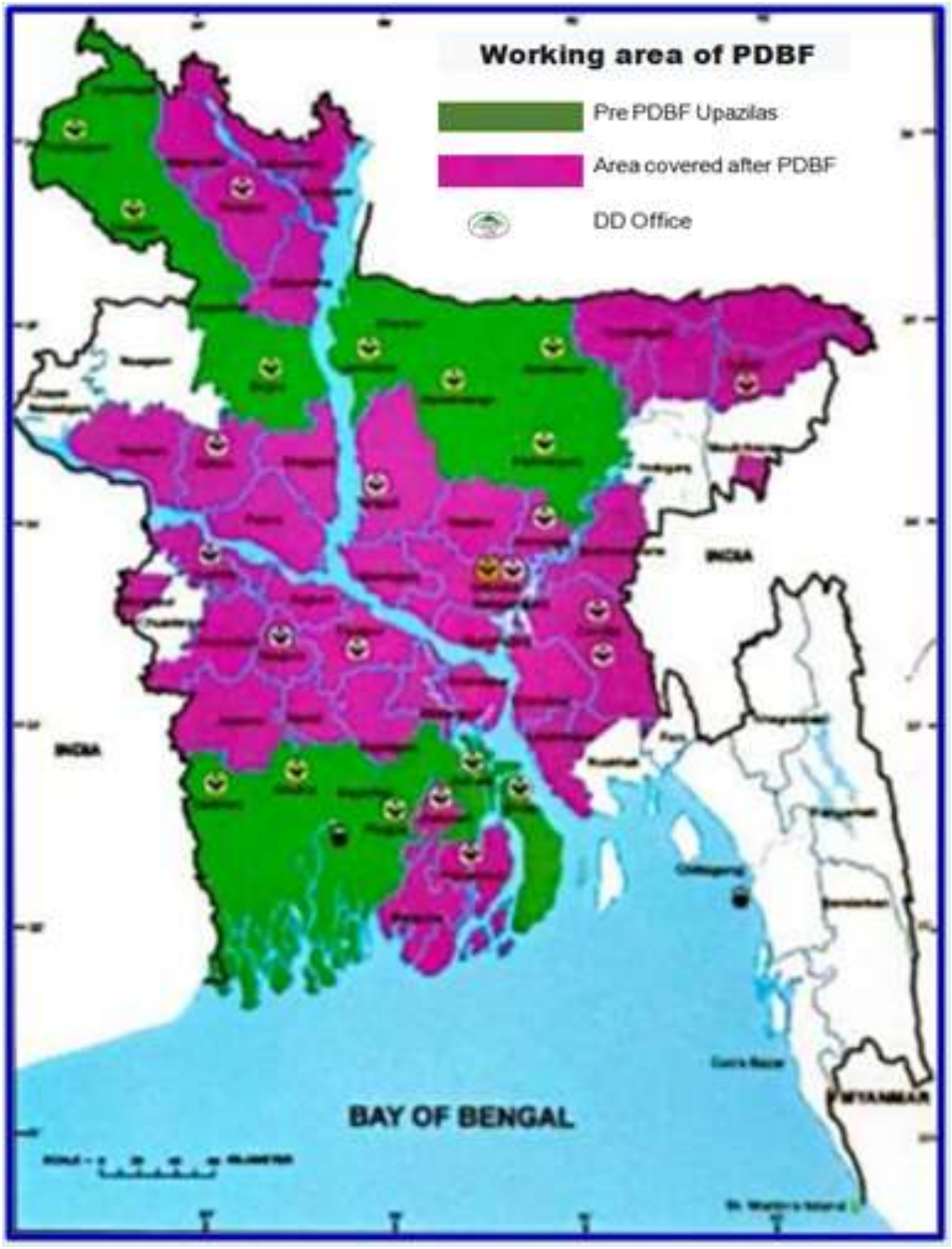
2.5 Research Gap of the Study

2.6 Conceptual Framework of the Study

2.1 Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF) and Its Functional Areas

PDBF is a unique organization born out of the unique effort of BRDB. The name of this unique indicator is the Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF) and its vision is: 'Improving the socio-economic status of the rural poor and disadvantaged people'. The Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB) adopted the Rural Poverty Program/Rural Development-2 (RPP/RD-2) in 1984 with the financial assistance of IDA, ODA, Canadian CIDA and UNDP, World Bank for the alleviation of poverty and socio-economic development of the rural people. Following the successful implementation of the RPP, the Rural Development Project-12 (RD-12) from 1986 and the Rural Bittyaheen Program/Rural Bittyaheen Institutional Project (RBIP) (RBP/RBIP) from 1996 to 1999 were successfully implemented with the sole financial and technical support

of Canadian CIDA. In continuation of this, as an organization of poverty alleviation named Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF) was established as a statutory body through Act no. 23 of the National Assembly on 7 November 1999.



Map 2.1 PDBF working areas in Bangladesh
(Source: www.pdbf.gov.bd)

The development of Bangladesh depends much on the socio-economic upliftment of poverty-stricken people. Nowadays, PDBF is the premier socio-economic development organization in the country. It has been trying to improve the well-being of the rural people through entrepreneurship development, micro credit, institution building, human resources development, transfer of technologies,

capital formation etc. PDBF has been conducting its activities through 403 offices in 357 upazilas of 55 districts in 8 divisions of the country. There are 4408 staffs to assist 11,56,000 micro beneficiaries, 84,134 small entrepreneurs and 14281 Covid-19 incentive loan beneficiaries are involved all over the country.

2.1.1 Vision of PDBF

Socio-Economic development of the rural poor and disadvantaged people by training, credit linkage and upliftment of women empowerment and gender equity.

2.1.2 Mission of PDBF

The mission of PDBF is to alleviate poverty and promote the socio-economic development of the poor and gender equity. To accomplish these objectives, PDBF is implementing the following programmes:

(i) Forming an association by organizing the poor and troubled people.
(ii) The development of savings habits, distribution of micro-loans to income generating activities and the economic development by ensuring the proper use of credit money.
(iii) Implementing Small Enterprise Loan Programme for making small entrepreneurs.
(iv) Raising awareness of education, health, civil rights, women's rights and awareness about the law and developing the economic conditions by blooming the leadership of beneficiaries.
(v) Provide skills development training in various income-generating activities.

2.1.3 Organizational structure of PDBF

The organizational structure of the Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF) is very simple as well as cost-effective. PDBF is governed by a strong Board of Governors comprising eleven members. The Managing Director is the Chief Executive Officer. The Honourable Secretary of the Rural Development and Cooperatives Department of the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives is the Ex-officio Chairman of the Board. The

Director General of the Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB) is its vice president. The Managing Director (MD) of the foundation serves as member-secretary and an officer as a member not below the rank of Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Finance. Apart from the four Ex-officio Members, the other seven include four members from among the beneficiaries of the foundation and three representing the private sector. The PDBF is managed under the overall supervision of the Board of Governors. The head office of PDBF is situated in Dhaka. There are mainly three layers in the basic concepts of PDBF that is the head office, district office and upazila office. The Deputy Director (DD) at the district level acts as the representative of the head office. Most of the operational and administrative responsibilities have also been decentralized to the field offices for quick as well as effective implementation of all the activities. Besides, the Deputy Director's office supervises the overall activities of the upazila office. Most of the operational and administrative responsibilities have also been decentralized to the upazila offices for quick as well as effective implementation of all the activities. PDBF's organogram is attached in Fig. 2.1 in order to present its formal structure.

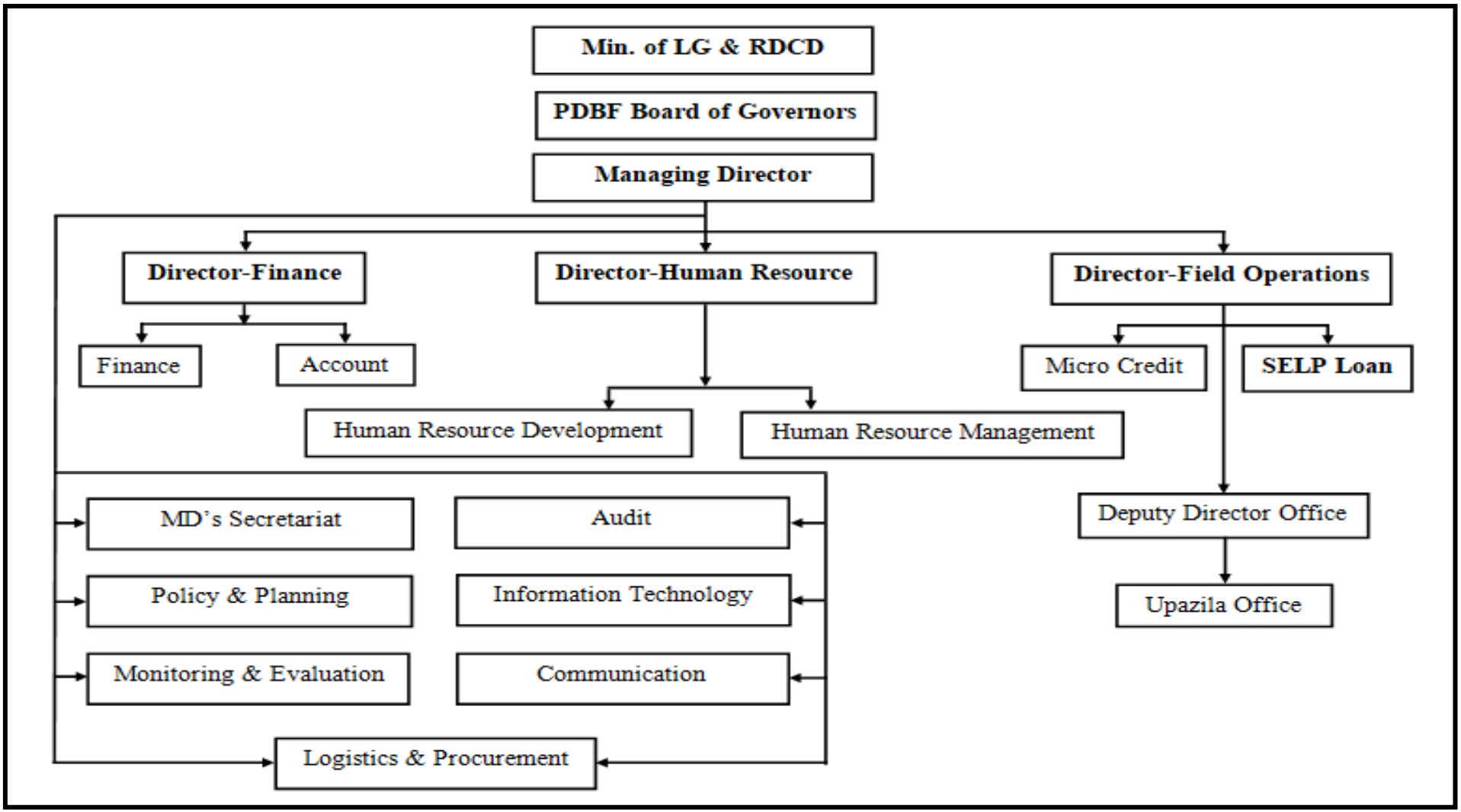


Fig. 2.1. PDBF Organogram (Source: www.pdbf.gov.bd)

2.2 SMEs and Their Impact on Socio-economic Development

The impact is a term that normally refers to sustained structural changes in well-being i.e. changes that have a lasting effect. Impact assessment involves the analysis of changes which have occurred due to small enterprise loan programme interventions and understanding the casual relationships or variables underlying such changes.

The study used ten indicators to determine the impact of SELP of PDBF on socio-economic development viz. (a) Changes in food consumption, (b) changes in the dressing habit, (c) changes in sanitation conditions, (d) changes in participation in health activities, (e) changes in drinking water sources, (f) changes in the treatment of diseases, (g) changes in income, (h) changes in savings deposit, (i) changes in wealth possession and (j) changes in the expansion of business. The study findings show the significantly positive impact of the small enterprise loan programme (SELP) of PDBF on the socio-economic development as perceived by the beneficiaries. However, most of the collected reviews are related to SMEs. These studies have assessed the role of the SMEs sector in light of various activities stimulating growth and development.

Abdul (2018) found that SMEs contribute immensely to the growth of a country's GDP, generation of employment and improvement in the standard of living.

Bello *et al.* (2018) reveal that small-scale businesses contribute positively towards economic prosperity of a country. Also, it is observed from the study that, in pursuance of economic growth, SMEs in the high- income economies generally help in the promotion of entrepreneurship activities, while in the less-developed economies they contribute in terms of job creation to the people.

Obi *et al.* (2018) identified that SMEs are important to the development of the local economy, especially in job creation, economic growth, and poverty alleviation. SMEs drive the economic development of a county.

Boadi *et al.* (2017) explored that SMEs are more labor intensive than larger firms, provide more than 55 percent of all jobs in developing countries like Ghana and contribute about 22 percent to the GDP.

Nagaya (2017) examines the impact of SMEs on economic growth using a dataset for India and found that SMEs activities are growth enhancing through various channels like employment and poverty reduction.

Ifekwem and Adedamola (2016) found that SMEs contribute to the Nigerian economy: mobilization of local resources, employment opportunities, equitable distribution of income, services of raw material, mitigation of rural-urban drift, generation and conservation of foreign exchange and distribution of industries. Despite the multiple challenges confronting SMEs, they contribute immensely to the economic development of Nigeria. Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are engines of social, economic transformation globally.

Madanchian *et al.* (2016) assessed that many developing economies share very similar experiences as well. For instance, the rapid economic growth of Malaysia is attributed to the enormous contribution of SMEs. Apart from offering job opportunities to Malaysians, SMEs contribute to developing large and multinational corporations.

Nalini *et al.* (2016) noted that SMEs are making significant role in promoting job opportunities and commodities for export in Pakistan. Availability of finance has been widely viewed as a problem to the growth and development of SMEs, particularly in developing countries.

Chinweuba and Sunday (2015) investigate the relationship between SMEs and the economic growth of Nigeria. Their findings reveal that SMEs activities are growth enhancing through expansion in output and other various means of survival.

Jibir (2015) have examined the role of finance in the development of SMEs and found that smooth financing has a strong link with the running and growth of SMEs and can boost their performance.

Afolabi (2013) evaluates the effect of SMEs financing on economic growth in Nigeria between 1980 and 2010. The study employed the ordinary least square (OLS) method to estimate multiple regression models. The study reveals that SMEs output proxy by wholesale and retail trade output as a component of gross domestic product and commercial banks' credit to SMEs exert a positive and significant impact on economic development.

Onakoya *et al.* (2013) examine the impact of financing small-scale enterprises on economic growth using quarterly time series data from 1992 to 2009 using OLS. The result shows that loans to small scale entrepreneurs have a positive impact on the economic performance. Also, the role of SMEs in employment generation has been acknowledged in the literature.

Vijayakumar (2013) found an insignificant nexus between SMEs and growth and development of the Sri Lankan economy using as time series data for Sri Lanka.

Kadiri (2012) examines the contributions of small and medium-scale enterprises (SMEs) to employment generation in Nigeria. The binomial logistic regression analysis was employed as tool for statistical analysis. The results show that SMEs has not impacted positively on economic growth partly due to poor financing and commitment from the government.

Taiwo *et al.* (2012) in their study of the role of SMEs in promoting economic growth in Nigeria have revealed that there is strong nexus between SMEs activities and economic performance in Nigeria. Moreover, the study found that SMEs in Nigeria are faced with several challenges including financial constraints, high level of corruption and lack of training and capacity building which have hindered their smooth activities.

Cravo *et al.* (2009) find that SMEs activities are negatively correlated with growth and development. They further assert that human capital embodied in SMEs may be more significant for promoting economic growth than SMEs.

Anthony and Arthur (2008) investigate the role of micro, small, and medium enterprises in the growth of per capita income in the United States, using a

database for firms in the formal manufacturing sector with fewer than 10, 20, 100, or 250 employees. Employing the regression model, the result of the study shows a positive relationship between economic growth and the prevalence of firms of medium size or smaller (250 employees or less). However, they find only a limited connection between growth and the prevalence of small or micro firms with fewer than 10, 20, or 100 employees.

Hasan and Islam (2008) identified that banks usually do not express interest on SME financing. The reason behind this conservativeness is higher operational cost, less return and high risk associated with SME financing. Due to the small loan size, the operational cost is higher and requires intensive monitoring and supervision. The main reason for the higher risk is that the small and medium entrepreneurs are highly unlikely to comply with the collateral requirements as, typically they do not have immovable properties. With the excuse of collateral, sometimes banks and non-bank financial institutions are reluctant to finance SMEs.

Sarker (2007) found that 52 percent of the respondent could improve their family asset possession on medium scale compared to 31 percent of them who could improve on low scale and 17 percent on higher scale.

Beck *et al.* (2005) estimate the standard growth regression including the relative size of the SMEs sector in terms of employment and find a positive but not robust impact on economic growth for a cross-section of countries.

Ayyagari *et al.* (2003) found that SMEs play an important role in the growth of national economies. For example, in developed economies such as Germany and the United Kingdom, small enterprises are recognized as the main engines of growth and development.

2.3 Contribution of the Selected Characteristics of SELP Beneficiaries to Their Socio-economic Development

Some characteristics of SELP beneficiaries were selected as independent variables of this study. The available literatures regarding contribution to their socio-economic development are presented below:

2.3.1 Age

Khalil (2011) conducted research on socio-economic and technological factors affecting the livelihood of the potato farmers. In this study, he attempted to find out the livelihood status of the potato growers and the socio-economic and technological factors affecting their livelihood. He found that the age of the respondent had no significant relationship to the livelihood of the potato farmers. He also found that the highest proportion (50.60 percent) of the potato farmers had middle-aged category followed by 34.20 percent young aged and 15.20 percent old aged.

Hossain (2009) surveyed an investigation to compare the situation of the project beneficiaries as assessed both before and after the intervention of the Special Programme for Food Security (SPFS) project implemented by the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE). He found that the age of the respondents and their change in food security status were insignificant. He also found that the highest proportion (53.7 percent) of the respondents was identified as middle-aged, compared to 31.1 percent in the young and 15.3 percent in the old aged category.

Kuhinur and Rokonuzzamam (2009) carried out a study on Grameen Bank (GB) which was one of the largest NGO working with the socio-economic upliftment of the poor section, especially women of the society. They found that the age of the respondent had a significant relationship with change in livelihood status. They showed that 42 percent of the respondent had young aged while 48 percent and 10 percent had middle-aged and old aged respectively.

Haque (2008) conducted research on the impact of the ASA micro-credit programme towards the socio-economic development of rural women at Monohordi Upazila of Narsinghdi district. He found that the age of the

respondents had no significant relationship to the effects of ASA micro credit programme on the socio-economic development of rural women. He also found that the highest proportion (47 percent) of the rural women were middle compared to 43 percent of the being young aged and 10 percent of the old. The top portion of the respondents was young to middle-aged.

Islam *et al.* (2008) conducted a study on the role of Rangpur Dinajpur Rural Service (RDRS) on poverty alleviation and women empowerment in Lalmonirhat district of Bangladesh. They found in their study that most of the respondents (41.67 percent) were in the age between 28-37 years.

Khan (2006) studied the impact of Dipshikha rural development activities as perceived by the participating women. He found that the age of the respondents under Dipshikha had significant relationship with their impact on participation of Dipshikha rural development activities.

Kristiansen *et al.* (2003) found a significant correlation between the age of the entrepreneur and the business success of internet cafe entrepreneurs in Indonesia. The older (>25 years old) entrepreneurs were more successful than the younger ones.

Quartey (2003) concluded the significant positive effect of firm age on the ability to access external finance. In addition, their investigation of the impact of firm and entrepreneurial characteristics on SME access to debt finance in South Africa.

Klapper *et al.* (2002) explored that younger enterprises (those established less than four years) are more reliant on informal financing and far less on bank financing.

Reynolds et al. (2000) found that individuals ranging from 25 to 44 years were the most entrepreneurially active.

2.3.2 Educational qualification

Islam (2016) in his study on the-Impact of sunflower cultivation on farmers livelihood found 2.8% contribution of the level of education on livelihood improvement.

Khalil (2011) conducted a research on socio-economic and technological factors affecting livelihood of the potato farmers. He found that schooling of the respondent had positive and significant contribution to livelihood of the potato farmers. He also found that 32 percent of the potato farmers had no schooling and only 2.60 percent of the potato farmers had higher secondary level schooling compared to 34.20 percent secondary level education and 29.9 percent primary level education and only 1.30 percent had above higher secondary level education.

Hossain (2009) found in his study that education of the respondents and their change in food security status had positive and significant. He also found that the majority 41.5 percent respondents had no formal schooling, 32.4 percent had primary level education, 20.9 percent with secondary and 5.2 percent had higher secondary and above level education.

Kuhinur and Rokonuzzamam (2009) observed in their study that education of the respondent had no significant relationship with change in livelihood status. They also found that majority 50 percent of the respondent had primary level of education, while the 27 percent had secondary, 12 percent had sign ability only, 9 percent had higher secondary and only 2 percent had illiterate.

Charney and Libecap (2000) found that entrepreneurship education produces self-sufficient enterprising individuals. Furthermore, they found that entrepreneurship education increases the formation of new ventures, the likelihood of self-employment, the likelihood of developing new products and the likelihood of self-employed graduates owning a high-technology business. Also, the study revealed that entrepreneurship education of employees increases the sales growth rates of emerging firms and graduates' assets.

2.3.3 Total dependency ratio

Total dependency ratio is the ratio of combined youth population (ages 0-14) and elderly population (ages 65+) per 100 people of working age (ages 15-64). A high total dependency ratio indicates that the working-age population and the overall

economy face a greater burden to support and provide social services for youth and elderly persons, who are often economically dependent (Encyclopedia).

In Bangladesh context, dependency ratios are as: total dependency ratio- 47.00, youth dependency ratio- 39.30, elderly dependency ratio-7.70 and potential support ratio- 13 (2020 est.) (The CIA World Fact book, 2020). This is a higher value than a global average of 40.1%. A high dependency ratio means those of working age, and the overall economy; face a greater burden in supporting the dependent population.
In this study, small entrepreneurs are the target people who are considered as the breadwinners in the family. Knowing their total dependency ratio is very important.

World Bank (2019) reported that Bangladesh's age dependency ratio for the dependent population was: 53%. This is a high value against a global average of 40.1%.

2.3.4 Training exposure on small enterprise

Barry *et al.* (2020) revealed that training is an essential part of what organizations do and is associated with increased employee productivity, greater innovation and higher organizational performance. Employees can benefit from higher skills and knowledge, better pay, and better career prospects and higher job satisfaction.

Aragon and Valle (2013) found that training is considered to be a key element in enhancing a firm's human capital capabilities and organizational knowledge, which in turn strengthens its competitive advantage.

Berry *et al.* (2002) argued that labour, labour markets and skills levels are the most important factors contributing to small enterprise growth.

Lumpkin and Dess (2001) examine that the concept of entrepreneurial orientation consists of five dimensions: autonomy, innovativeness, risk taking, pro activeness and competitive aggressiveness. Autonomy is defined as an independent action by

an individual or a team aimed at bringing forth a business concept or a vision and carrying it through to completion. Innovativeness refers to the willingness to support creativity and experimentation. Risk taking means a tendency to take bold actions, such as venturing into unknown new markets. Pro activeness is an opportunity-seeking and forward-looking perspective. The fifth dimension, competitive aggressiveness, reflects the intensity of a firm's efforts to outperform the industry rivals.

2.3.5 Length of involvement with SELP of PDBF

The length of the operation can be associated with a learning curve. Old players most probably have learned much from their experiences than have done by newcomers.

Fatoki and Asah (2011) observed that SMEs established more than five years have a far better chance of being successful in their credit applications compared with SMEs established for less than five years.

Kristiansen et al. (2003) examined the spread of Internet cafes in Indonesia. The main objectives were to identify characteristics of Internet cafe entrepreneurs and to enhance the understanding of preconditions for the provision of Internet access by small-scale private enterprises. He found that the length of the operation was significantly linked to business success.

2.3.6 Savings deposit

Mushtaq and Siddiqui (2017) studied the effect of interest rate on bank deposits in Islamic and Non-Islamic economies, by using panel ARDL (Auto-regressive Distributed Lag) method and considered 23 Non-Islamic and 23 Islamic countries data, for the period 1999-2014. They elaborated that, there is no effect of interest rate on bank deposit in Islamic countries, whereas there is a positive relation between interest rate and bank deposit in Non-Islamic countries.

Hassan and Makinde (2016) investigated the relationship between interest rate and bank deposit in Nigeria, by using Ordinary Least Square Method multiple

regression technique. They selected Commercial Bank Deposits (CBD) as dependent and interest rate & Gross Domestic Product (GDP), as explanatory variables. The result, showed a negative relationship between interest rate and commercial bank deposits that explained that, the commercial bank deposits do not affected by interest rate in Nigeria.

Boadi *et al.* (2015) studied the determinants of Bank Deposits in Ghana, with the reference of interest rate liberalization, by taking deposit function as dependent variable, whereas real treasury bill rate, real saving rate, exchange rate movement and gross domestic product as independent variables, by considering inflation as controlled factor with the help of ordinary least square (OLS) estimation, via E-views. The result revealed that, 78% bank deposit in Ghana, affected by interest rate liberalization and GDP and an adverse relation between saving rate and real Treasury bill rate.

Siaw *et al.* (2015) followed a co-integration approach and examined the determinants of bank deposits in long run and short run in Ghana. The result revealed that, bank deposit has adversely affected by inflation and growth in money supply in short run, whereas bank deposit has positively affected by growth in money supply and negatively affected by inflation and deposit interest rate in long run.

Nathanael and Eriemo (2014) discussed the macroeconomics determinants of bank deposit in Nigeria and concluded that, previous price level and interest rate have substantial favorable effect, with deposits in Nigerian Banks.

Ojeaga and Odejimi (2014) also selected Nigerian Banking Sector and elaborated the effect of interest rate on deposits of bank, by using quartile regression estimation method. The result showed a prominent positive association, between interest rate & bank deposits and a significant relationship between income & interest rate, was also noticed.

Onwumere *et al*. (2012) examined the impact of interest rate liberalization on savings and investment in Nigeria, for the period of 1976-1999, by a using simple regression technique, with the help of SPSS statistical software. The result showed that saving was adversely and lightly affected by interest rate liberalization, whereas strongly affected by the investment. They suggested that, a differentiation between loan & deposit and wholesale and retail transactions. Interest rates must be in contrast to lending and deposit rate.

Anthony (2012) studied the Bank savings and bank credits in Nigeria, with reference of determinants and impact on economic growth. The investigation determined that size of private domestic saving is significantly favorable, induced by GDP per capita, financial deepening and interest rate and adversely influenced by inflation rate and real interest rate. Result also revealed that, exchange rates lagged value of total private saving, interest rate spread, private sector credit; public sector credit and economic growth have positive effects. The study recommended that, government could play role to decrease unemployment rate and to improve saving, for the development of economic growth in Nigeria.

Nabar (2011) studied targets, interest rates, and household saving in urban China for the duration of 1996 to 2009 when there was a rising trend in saving rates. The result elaborated the inverse relationship between real interest rates and urban saving rates. It is suggested in the study that to increase domestic consumption it is required to lower household saving which is possible when the real deposit rate increases.

2.3.7 Loan availability

Kristiansen *et al.* (2003) examined the spread of Internet cafes in Indonesia. They found that financial flexibility was significantly correlated to business success. The SMEs that took advantage of family and third-party investment experienced higher level of success.

Islam and Miajee (2018) found that 50.53 percent of SMEs had no access to formal source of finance. Only 35.79 percent of SMEs enjoyed unrestricted access to the formal credit. The rest (13.68 percent) of them had restricted access to the formal credit. Bank credit was used by small percentage of entrepreneurs and provides financing of generally less than 20 percent of their total outlay. Majority of the SMEs (59.6 percent) were seeking finance for their working capital needs from banks, although only a half-of them got loan from banks.

Micro Industries Development Assistance and Services (2004) identified that sources of finance are mostly friends and family members in case of SMEs. Micro Industries Development Assistance and Services (MIDAS) identified fund sources of SMEs are: Informal sector 41%, Family members 20% (interest free) and 4% (with interest), NGO 17% and Bank 18%.

McMahon (2001) found that greater dependence upon external finance associated with better business growth.

2.3.8 Loan utilization

Mamun *et al.* (2011) examined a study on the micro credit received and the effect of micro credit utilization on household income and asset in Malaysia. They showed that 36.04 percent respondent used credit on trade or retail activities, 22.82 percent respondents used credit on agricultural or fishing activities, 11.41 percent respondents used credit on manufacturing activities and 7.8 percent respondents used credit on service activities.

Sultana *et al.* (2010) conducted a study on the impact of micro credit on rural womens empowerment in terms of increased income, ownership of assets, gender awareness and improvement of livelihood of the women. They found that 18 percent of the respondents used credit as multipurpose (weeding of daughter, buying livestock, poultry) and 14 percent were in buying agricultural goods.

Khan *et al.* (2009) conducted a study on economics of BRAC credit operation in Mymensingh district of Bangladesh. They observed that BRAC loanees in general were observed to have utilized more than 93 percent of the loaned money

purposively during the year while only about 7 percent of the same had been utilized for unreported purposes. They also found that average amount of credit received was Tk. 6122.33 percent whereas amount utilized was Tk. 5722.33. The amount utilized for tea stall was the highest (97.04 percent). The following figures were rickshaw pulling and grocery shop constituting 95.83 percent and 88.24 percent, respectively. They found that the loan utilization capacity of the BRAC borrowers in the study area was satisfactory.

Khan (2006) found in his study that utilization of credit by the respondents had significant positive relationship with their impact of participation of Dipshikha rural development activities.

Ali (2003) stated that two third (71.29 percent) respondents mentioned about insufficient amount of credit as per demand. Two third (67.32 percent) of the respondents opined that new loan was not issued until final repayment of installments and 65.34 percent respondents were deprived from getting credit at the time of need. The total amount of credit was not proper used due to shortage of grace period as by (64.36 percent) women. The misuse of credit for repaid (62.37 percent), the amount of loan for savings was inadequate (60.39 percent). The misuse of credit for buying food (56.43 percent), failure to proper use of the loan (44.55 percent), false propaganda of the fatuous (15.84 percent), religious prejudice (13.86 percent) and high rate of interest (11.88 percent) were the important problems faced by the beneficiaries.

Mazumder (2003) stated that a little over 25.45 percent of the respondents opined that the credit amount was inadequate by which ASA credit clients were affected mainly. The second (15.45 percent) most severe problem was lengthy processing in getting recommendation from committee members. Most of the credit clients (22.73 percent) faced two or more than two problems in repayment of their credit amount. Sudden sickness and other problems of earning family members were the problems reported by 16.36 percent of the respondents.

Ulla and Routray (2003) stated on their books NGOs and development alleviation rural poverty in Bangladesh that the difference between the purpose of taking loan

and using loan was significantly high, which indicated that the NGO beneficiaries used their loan for the purposes that were not expected by NGO.

Moniruzzaman (2002) in a study found that the Mohila Bittahin Samabaya Samity (MBSS) members under BRDB utilized 57 percent of loan for agricultural purposes while GB members were 39 percent. Thirty one percent of loan was utilized for non-agricultural purposes of which 17 percent was petty business and 14 percent was used for rickshaw and van purchasing for MBSS members. The members of Grameen Bank societies utilized 44 percent of loan for non-agricultural purpose of which 20 percent was for petty business and 24 percent was for rickshaw and van purchasing.

2.3.9 Loan repayment behavior

Kiros (2014) investigated the factors affecting loan repayment performance of the group owned MSEs taking borrower characteristics into consideration. Primary data was collected by distributing semi-structured questionnaire and interviewed 62 groups owned MSEs located in Mekelle city, Tigray Regional state of Ethiopia financed by DECSI by using census method, of which 13 group owned MSEs were found to be defaulters and the remaining, 49 MSEs were non-defaulters. An econometrics model (Binary Logistic Regression) was used to analyze the effect of the literature driven variables have on loan repayment (dependent variable). The binary logistic regression result showed that among the variables hypothesized to affect loan repayment, initiation and sector have statistically significant effect on loan repayment. Whereas like group 21 composition and group size had statistically insignificant effect on loan repayment. Therefore, to improve the loan repayment performance of the group owned MSEs and increase the potential contribution of MSEs to the economic growth of the country, all concerned stakeholders must to play their role.

Kiliswa and Bayat (2014) found that loan recovery is one of the key objectives of financial institutions as it enables them to refinance and to reach more people. To have a positive impact on the economy of a country, the institutions must be able to loan out funds and recover the same to remain relevant in the finance industry.

Afolabi (2010) analysed loan repayment among small scale farmers in Oyo State, Nigeria. He found that higher interest rate, however, increases the cost of loan and therefore deteriorates loan repayment performance.

Kohansal and Mansoori (2009) found that loan interest rate is the most important factor affecting on repayment of agricultural loans. Farming experience and total application costs are the next factors, respectively.

Roslan and Karim (2009) found that education, loan diversion, monitoring, marital status and income are significant factors that influence loan default. They also revealed that a positive association between loan size and repayment performance, suggesting that the bigger the loan size the better the loan repayment performance in Malaysia.

Cassar *et al.* (2007) argued that loanable funds are not without cost (i.e. interest) and the interest element of a loan is as important as other determinants of loan repayment. Borrowers who are able to repay their loans together with interest are those who are likely to be given preference in subsequent lending exercise.

Derban *et al.* (2005) found that lending small amount to businesses leads to higher loan losses, meaning there is a negative (positive) association between small (large) loans and repayment performance in the context of MFIs.

2.3.10 Satisfaction towards loan received condition

Ernesto and Hansen (2005) stated that to keep in pace with international competition, firms of all size are challenged to improve and innovate their products processes constantly. But in Bangladesh SMEs are still not relating the importance of satisfying and retaining customers by offering novel and desired benefits.

Bhuiyan (2018) observed that many SME entrepreneurs have no sufficient knowledge regarding the preparation of the required documents and sufficient idea about the necessary precautions in getting bank loans.

2.3.11 Decision making ability

Seline *et al. (*2014) mentioned that the Expected Utility Theory of Daniel Bernoulli predicts that the decision-maker chooses between risky and uncertain prospects by comparing the expected utility values of their outcomes to maximize profit.

Ali (2008) found that an overwhelming majority (87 percent) of the respondent farmers had low to medium decision making ability in selected ecological practices.

Lubowski *et al.* (2008) objectively mentioned that crop choice decisions are made by utility-maximizing individuals implying that economic factors that influence crop choice decisions are rooted in neoclassical economic theory of profit maximization. As such, factors that encourage increasing returns to farm investment will guide decisions of farming families, such that resource allocation is made toward achieving pecuniary goals. Farmers choose to maximize the present discounted value of the stream of expected net benefits from the land and base their expectations of future land-use profits on current and historic values of relevant variables, such as costs of land conversion.

Musemakweri (2007) argued that it is more reasonable to view 'decision making' as the final outcome of a long-lasting process with varying degrees of deliberateness and consciousness.

Leeuwis (2003) pointed out that 'decision making' in agricultural extension was the main concern among extension agents in the early years of extension research. With the persistent failure of farmers to make good decisions, there has been a shift in extension education from planning and decision making to learning approaches. Farmer to farmer training is one of the ways forwarded to those ends.

Wallace and Moss (2002) mentioned that as the basic farm decision-making unit, the farmer makes critical decisions in agricultural production, particularly on land

use and farm resource allocation. The nature and extent of such decisions are usually motivated by the goals, objectives, and values of the farming households. They are also guided by prevailing socio-economic and environmental constraints including those outside the farmers' control. The determinants of crop choice decision-making processes, particularly among smallholder farmers, have been examined in various empirical studies and can be broadly classified into economic, biophysical, psychological, technological, policy and institutional.

2.3.12 Attitude towards SELP of PDBF

Khalil (2011) found in his research that attitude towards improved potato production technologies of the respondent had positive and significant contribution to livelihood of the potato farmers. He also found that most of the potato farmers (71.40 percent) had moderately favorable attitude towards potato cultivation. On the other hand, more than one fifth of the potato farmers (17.70 percent) had unfavorable attitude regarding potato cultivation and a tiny proportion (10.80 percent) showed highly favorable attitude.

Wadud (2010) found in his study that there was a significant positive contribution between attitude towards flower cultivation and livelihood status of the commercial flower cultivators.

Hossain (2009) found in his study that attitude towards food security project of the respondents and their change in food security status had positive and significant. He also found that the more than half of the respondents (51.98 percent) had low organizational participation while 27.12 percent and 20.90 percent were medium and high participation, respectively. More than half of the respondents (50.80 percent) possessed moderately positive attitude compared to 40.70 percent with highly positive and 8.50 percent with partially positive attitude towards food security project.

Kuhinur and Rokonuzzamam (2009) observed in their study that attitude toward community of the respondents was not any significant relationship with change in livelihood status. They also found that majority 53 percent of the respondents had

medium (15-24), 42 percent had high (25 and above) and only 5 percent had low (up to 14) attitudes toward the community.

Haque (2008) found in his study that the attitude towards ASA micro-credit programme of the respondents had a significant relationship with the impact of ASA microcredit programme on the socio-economic development of rural women. He also found that more the half proportions (52 percent) of the respondents had moderately favorable attitudes toward ASA micro credit programme, while 38 percent had low favorable and 10 percent had favorable attitude toward ASA micro credit programme.

Torab (2007) found that there was no significant relationship between attitude toward change agents and the perception of the respondents towards livelihood status.

Ali (2003) found that the microcredit respondents having a favourable attitude toward BRAC activities were more likely to have the higher impact of micro-credit.

Zakaria (2000) stated that 60.83 percent of the respondents had moderately favorable attitude toward BRDB, 37.50 percent had highly favorable attitude toward BRDB credit and only 1.67 percent of the respondents had low favorable attitude towards BRDB.

2.4 Reviews on Constraints Conformation for Socio-economic Development

Akhtar *et al.* (2011) argued that SMEs failed to adopt human resources policy in employment procedure, generally purse traditional methods for selection. They further maintained that the SME sector of Pakistan is facing big challenges such as complications and fear of entrance into the global markets. Due to a lack of capabilities, SMEs are not able to participate competitively at the national as well as international level.

Ulla *et al.* (2011) argued that the lack of required entrepreneurial ability, education and characteristics are the big challenges to the success of enterprises. Moreover, they further argued that the lack of proper training, better education is the major causes of the failure of SMEs in Pakistan.

Arunkumar (2004) in his study reported that the problems faced by the members were lack of timely support from banks/other organization, an inadequate number of organizations linked up, unequal distribution of work among members, non-introduction of agriculture-based income generating activities (IGA), non-availability of information about IGA, and difficulty in getting external loans.

2.5 Research Gap of the Study

It is clear from the above section that there is a lot of research on SMEs. But there is very little research on this in Bangladesh. PDBF is a large government organization among the small enterprises of the country No study on the impact of small enterprises of this organization on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries being found yet. In depth studies on small enterprises and recommendations based on that study could help the policy makers to improve their socio-economic condition. This study is conducted to fill up the gap.

2.6 Conceptual Framework of the Study

In scientific research, the selection and measurement of variables constitute an important task. There are two types of variables in any impact or relationship study, viz. independent variable and dependent variable.

Independent variables were the factors that were manipulated by the researcher in his attempt to ascertain their relationships to an observed phenomenon, the value of independent variables were determined the value of independent variables. It would be therefore, assumed that the participation of socio-economic development activities of the SELP beneficiaries of PDBF towards the changes of the respondent might be influenced by their various characteristics, So the conceptual framework of the study was found out how the characteristics of the SELP beneficiaries contributed to the participation of socio-economic development activities. Twelve characteristics of the PDBF beneficiaries were considered as the independent variables for the study. Each of these selected characteristics of the PDBF beneficiaries might be contribution to socio-economic development after participation with SELP of PDBF.

The selected characteristics of the respondents were as age, educational qualification, total dependency ratio, training exposure on small enterprise, length of involvement, savings deposit, loan availability, loan utilization, loan repayment behaviour, satisfaction towards loan received condition, decision-making ability and attitude towards SELP of PDBF. Each of these selected characteristics of the PDBF beneficiaries might be contribution on socio-economic development after participation with SELP of PDBF. In the same way primarily, the impact of the small enterprise loan programme (SELP) of Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF) was as the only dependent variable of this study. The variables of the study were operationalized through direct questions, developing relevant scales by the researcher and adopting scales developed by others. Based on these considerations, conceptual framework of this study has been formulated as shown in Fig. 2.2.

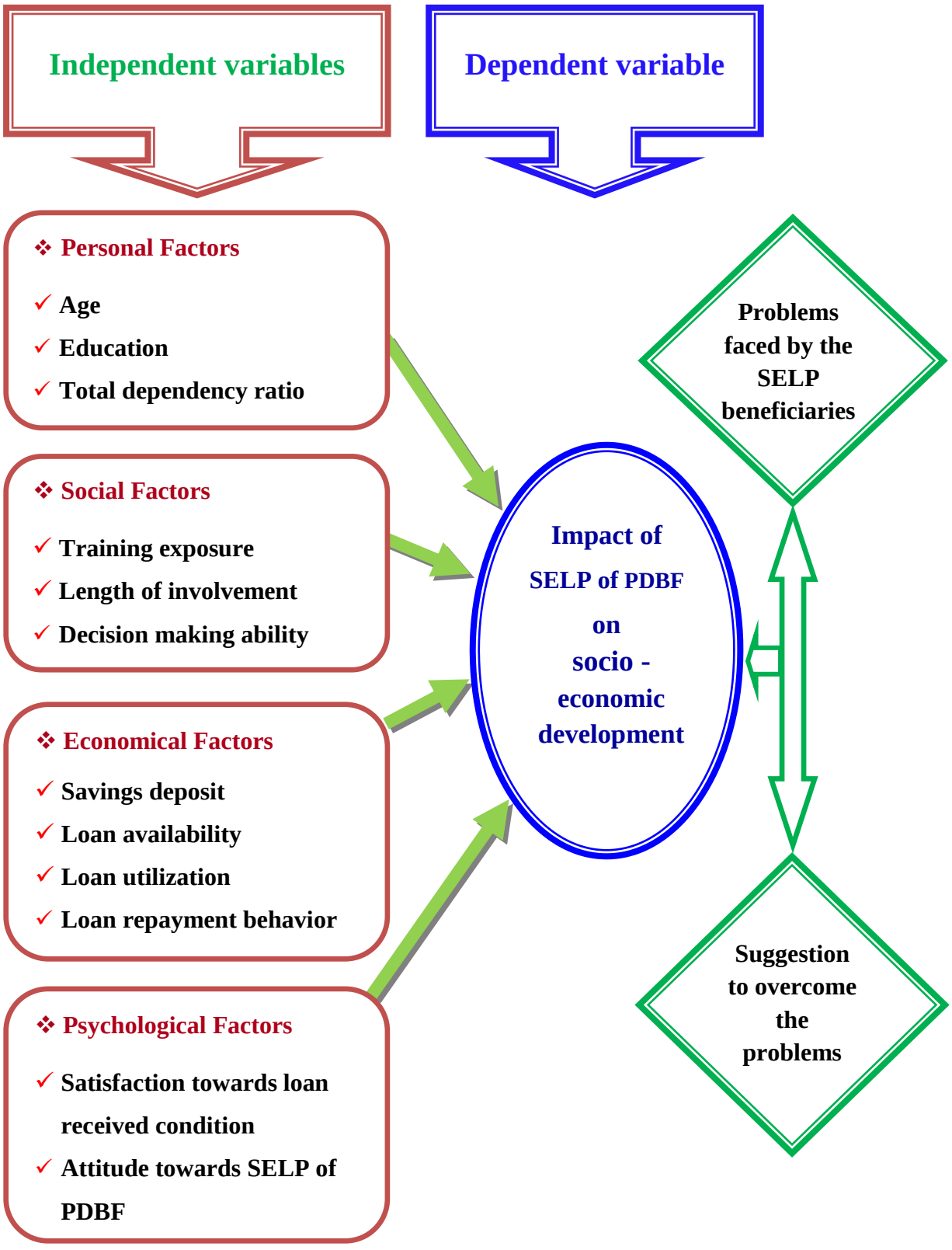


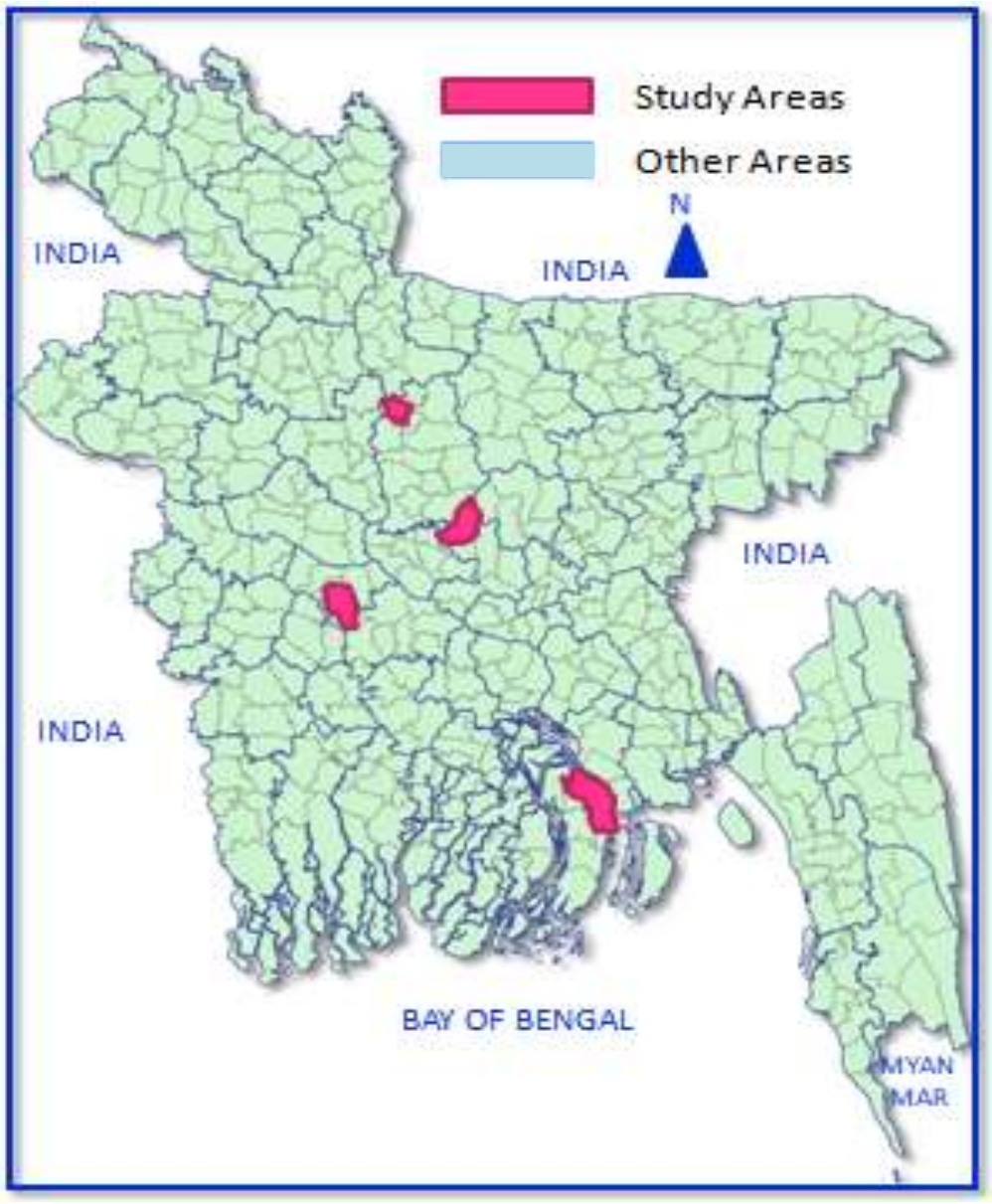
Fig. 2.2 Conceptual framework of the study

CHAPTER 3

METHODOLOGY

3.1 Study Area

There are 27 regions under Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF) jurisdiction covering 08 divisions and 55 districts through 357 upazilas of Bangladesh. Out of these 55 districts 4 districts were selected purposively. Then four upazilas considering one of each district were selected randomly as the locale of the study to objectively represent the entire working area of PDBF.



Map 3.1 Study areas (Rajbari sadar, Kaliakair, Dhanbari and Ramgati upazila) in Bangladesh

These four upazilas were Rajbari sadar under Rajbari district, Kaliakair upazlia under Gazipur district, Dhanbari upazila under Tangail district and Ramgati upazila in Lakshmipur district in Bangladesh. These districts were selected because they represent almost the north-south-east-west sequence of operations of PDBF across Bangladesh also. For clarity of understanding, one map of Bangladesh showing upazilas of the study areas has been presented in Fig. 3.1.

3.2 Population

All the SELP beneficiaries of four selected upazilas of PDBF were the population for this study. As per PDBF report (2021), beneficiaries from these four upazilas were 235, 198, 207 and 198 in Rajbari Sadar, Kaliakair, Dhanbari, and Ramgati upazilas respectively. Thus, a total number of 838 SELP beneficiaries under SELP of PDBF from four selected upazilas constituted the study population.

3.3 Sample Size and Sampling Procedure

The sample size was estimated to ensure the representation of all the indicators set for the study. Considering the time, financial resources and other constraints, data were collected from a sample rather than the entire population.

According to the Yamane formula, sample size was calculated. The given formula is stated as:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N * (e)^2}$$

Where,

n= sample size

N= population size

e=margin of error

A total number of 271 respondents were finally selected as a sample from the population size of 838 using the above formulae. A reserve list of 27 SELP beneficiaries (about 10 % of the sample) was prepared so that these beneficiaries could be used for an interview in case any beneficiaries included in the original sample was not available in spite of utmost effort during the collection of data.

Table 3.1 Distribution of population, sample and number of SELP beneficiaries in the reserve list

Sl. No.	Name of district	Name of upazila	Total population	Proportion of total	Selected as sample	Reserve list
1.	Rajbari	Rajbari Sadar	235	28.04%	76	8
2.	Gazipur	Kaliakair	198	23.63%	64	6
3.	Tangail	Dhanbari	207	24.70%	67	7
4.	Lakshmipur	Ramgati	198	23.63%	64	6
Total			**838**	**100.00%**	**271**	**27**

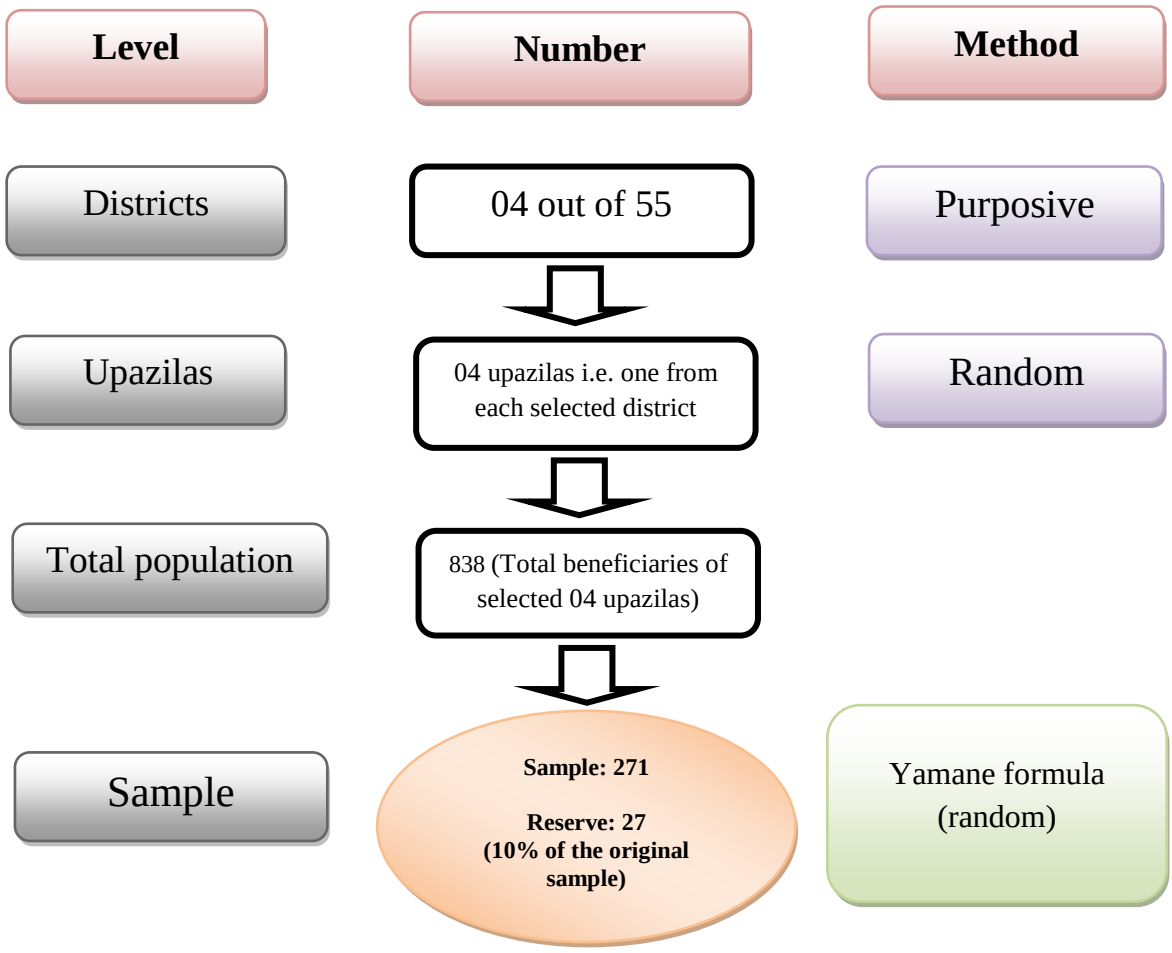


Fig 3.1 Layout of the sampling procedure

3.4 Methods/Instruments for Data Collection

A structured interview schedule containing an open and closed form of a question (English and Bengali version of the interview schedule is enclosed in Appendix I

and II) was prepared to collect necessary and relevant information in accordance with the objectives of the study. Simple and direct questions were included to ascertain the opinion of the beneficiaries regarding several aspects. The draft interview schedule was pre-tested in actual field situation before using the same for the final data collection. The interview schedule was pre-tested with 24 PDBF beneficiaries by taking 6 from each selected upazila before the final data collection. Based on the pre-test results, necessary corrections, additions and changes such as modification of measurement units, formulas, categorization of variables etc. were made in the interview schedule. The modified and corrected interview schedule was finalized for final data collection. The researcher made all possible efforts to establish rapport with the respondents so that they could feel free to respond to the questions and their answers were recorded sincerely.

3.5 Variables of the Study and Their Measurement

The variables of the study were selected after a systematic search of literature and discussion with the advisory committee members and relative experts. An organized research usually contains at least two identical elements viz. independent variable and dependent variable (Kerlinger, 1973). Considering study nature, location of study, time and other logistic support, the researchers selected twelve independent variables for the study. These were age, educational qualification, total total dependency ratio, training exposure on small enterprise, length of involvement with SELP of PDBF, amount of savings deposit, loan availability, loan utilization, loan repayment behavior, satisfaction towards loan received condition, decision-making ability and attitude towards SELP of PDBF. Each of these selected characteristics of SELP beneficiaries of PDBF may contribute on socio-economic development after participation in SELP of PDBF. In the same way primarily, the impact of small enterprise loan programme (SELP) of Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF) on socio-economic development as perceived by the beneficiaries was the only dependent variable considered combined changes in socio-economic status. The variables of the study were operationalized through direct questions, developing relevant scales by the researcher and adopting scales developed by others as shown in Table 3.2.

3.6 Measurement of the Independent Variables

Twelve independent variables were selected for the study through literature review. The variables are age, educational qualification, total dependency ratio, training exposure, length of involvement, saving deposit, loan availability, loan utilization, loan repayment behavior, satisfaction towards loan received condition, decision making ability and attitude towards SELP. The measuring procedures of the selected independent variables are described below:

3.6.1 Age

The age of the respondents was measured in terms of actual years from his/her birth to the time of interview. The respondents were asked to mention their age in terms of completed year. One score was given for one completed year of age.

3.6.2 Educational qualification

The educational qualification was measured based on completed years of schooling by a respondent in the educational institutions. One (1) score was assigned for one year of successful schooling in educational institutions. If a respondent did not knows reading and writing his score was assigned as zero. A score of zero (0) was assigned to illiterate respondents. A score of 0.5 was given to a respondent who only can sign his name only.

Categories	Schooling (score)
Illiterate person	0
Can sign only	0.5
Primary level	1-5
Secondary level	6-10
Higher secondary level	11-12
Bachelor level and above	> 12

3.6.3 Total dependency ratio

It was measured of the number of dependents aged zero to 14 and over the age of 64, compared with the total population aged 15 to 64 (Encyclopedia). Total dependency ratio of the respondents was determined by using the following formula:

$$\textbf{Total dependency ratio (TDR)} = \frac{(0-14)+>64}{15-64}\textbf{x100}$$

Where, (0-14) = Number of dependents aged 0 to 14

>64 = Number of over the age of 64

15-64 = Number of total population aged 15 to 64

In this study, if the TDR value of a respondent was 0-50%, then his/her total dependency ratio was considered as low, if it was 51-100%, then medium total dependency ratio and in case of >100%, was high total dependency ratio and weights were assigned to these respondents as 1, 2, 3 respectively. Thus, score of total dependency ratio for each respondent was ranged from '1' to '3', where '1' indicates low and '3' indicates high total dependency ratio.

Categories	**Ratio**
Low total dependency ratio	0-50
Medium total dependency ratio	51-100
High total dependency ratio	> 100

3.6.4 Training exposure

Training exposure was referred to participation level in training by the respondents in different small enterprise from different government and non government organizations. The training exposure was measured by the total number of months of training/experience received by the respondents.

On the basis of training exposure, the respondents were classified into the following four categories:

Categories	**Training (months)**
No training	0
Low training	1-6
Medium training	7-12
High training	> 12

3.6.5 Length of involvement

It was measured considering the period of involvement of the respondents with SELP of PDBF to the time of interview. It was calculated in terms of years on the basis of the respondent's response.

3.6.6 Savings deposit

It was measured by accounting the total savings of the respondents from different sources during a year. It was expressed in thousand taka and one score was assigned for 1000 taka saving.

3.6.7 Loan availability

Loan availability of a respondent was defined as the percent to which his/her loan requirement was fulfilled by the amount of loan actually was received by his/her. Loan availability was determined by using the following formula:

$$\textbf{Loan Availability (LA)} = \frac{\text{ALR1}}{\textbf{ALR2}} \textbf{ x 100}$$

Where,

ALR_1 = Amount of loan received

ALR_2= Amount of loan required

If the LA value of a respondent was 1-80 %, then his/her loan availability was considered as low, if it was 81-95%, then medium loan availability and in case of >95%, was high loan availability and weights were assigned to these respondents as 1, 2, 3 respectively. Thus, score of loan availability for each respondent was ranged from '1' to '3', where '1' indicates low and '3' indicates high loan availability.

Categories	**Loan availability (%)**
Low loan availability	up to 80
Medium loan availability	81-95
High loan availability	>95

3.6.8 Loan utilization

The respondents generally were used the loan for assigned purpose but sometimes they could use some portion or the full loan for other than assigned purposes. The utilization pattern of the loan was measured by using percent (%) of the amount used for the desired purpose.

Loan utilization was determined by using the following formula:

$$\textbf{Loan Utilization}(\textbf{LU}) = \frac{\textbf{AUDP}}{\textbf{ALR}}\textbf{x100}$$

Where,

AUDP = Amount used in desired purpose (Taka)

ALR = Amount of loan received (Taka)

If the LU value of a respondent was 1-80 %, then his/her loan utilization was considered as low, if it was 81-95%, then medium loan utilization and in case of >95%, was high loan utilization and weights were assigned to these respondents as 1, 2, 3 respectively. Thus, score of loan utilization for each respondent was ranged from '1' to '3', where '1' indicates low and '3' indicates high loan utilization.

Categories	**Loan utilization (%)**
Low loan utilization	up to 80
Medium loan utilization	81-95
High loan utilization	>95

3.6.9 Loan repayment behaviour

Loan repayment has a link with savings behaviour and proper utilization of the loan. So, loan repayment behaviour is very important for approving a new loan for new income-generating activities. The repayment behaviour of the respondents was determined by using the following formula:

$$\textbf{Loan Repayment Behaviour } (\textbf{LRB}) = \frac{\textbf{ALR1}}{\textbf{ALR2}}\textbf{x100}$$

Where,

ALR_1 = Amount of loan repaid

ALR_2 = Amount of loan repayable

If the LRB value of a respondent was 1-80 %, then his/her low loan repayment behavior was considered as low, if it was 81-95%, then medium loan repayment behavior and in case of >95%, was high loan repayment behavior and weights were assigned to these respondents as 1, 2, 3 respectively. Thus, score of loan repayment behavior for each respondent was ranged from '1' to '3', where '1' indicates low and '3' indicates high loan repayment behavior.

Categories	**Loan repayment behavior (%)**
Low loan repayment behavior	up to 80
Medium loan repayment behavior	81-95
High loan repayment behavior	>95

3.6.10 Satisfaction towards loan received condition

The loan received condition means the rules introduced by PDBF for its beneficiaries to get a loan and the satisfaction towards loan received condition referred to how far these rules were satisfied by the respondents. It was measured through the degree of perceived satisfaction of each condition introduced by PDBF. Twelve (12) conditions for obtaining SELP of PDBF loan are mentioned as collection from the PDBF office. A four-point scale was used to measure each respondent's satisfaction level, such as 'Highly Satisfied', 'Satisfied', 'Moderately Satisfied', and 'Not Satisfied' with the corresponding weight 3, 2, 1, and 0 respectively. So the score level was ranged from 0 to 36.

For better understanding the scale was shown below:

Sl. No.	**Loan received conditions**	**Level of satisfaction**			
		HS	**S**	**MS**	**NS**
		(3)	**(2)**	**(1)**	**(0)**
1.	Loan application and appraisal form				
2.	Guarantor with conditions				
3.	Photocopy of NID Card				
4.	Trade license				
5.	Loan application fee (100/-)				
6.	Loan appraisal fee (1% of total loan received)				
7.	Insurance Charge (.5% of total loan received)				
8.	At least 02 (two) cross checks issued by the entrepreneur				

Sl. No.	Loan received conditions	Level of satisfaction			
		HS	S	MS	NS
		(3)	(2)	(1)	(0)
10.	Rent/position agreement				
11.	Original/Baya dalil (If any)				
12.	Affidavit				

HS=Highly Satisfied, S=Satisfied, MS=Moderately Satisfied, NS=Not Satisfied

3.6.11 Decision making ability

Decision making ability of a respondent was measured by using a 3 point rating scale. Each respondent was asked to indicate the extent of his/her decision making ability in each of the five selected items by checking any one of the responses viz. 'decision made by own', 'decision made by family members' and 'decision made by outsiders of the family'. The weights were assigned to the responses as 3, 2 and 1 for the alternative responses respectively.

For better understanding the scale was shown below:

Sl. No.	Items of decision making	Extent of decision making		
		Decision made by own	Decision made by family members	Decision made by others
		(3)	(2)	(1)
1.	Who usually makes decisions in selecting income generating activities (IGA)?			
2.	Who usually makes decisions about making of family affairs?			
3.	Who usually makes decisions about making major household purchases?			
4.	Who usually makes decisions about making selling for major household items?			
5.	Who usually decides on social issues?			

Finally, the decision making ability of a respondent was computed by summing up all scores obtained by them from all the five (5) items of decision. Thus, the decision-making ability scores of the respondents could range from 5 to 15, where

‘5’ indicated the lowest decision making ability and ‘15’ indicated the highest decision making ability.

3.6.12 Attitude towards SELP of PDBF

In the present study, an attempt was made to develop an attitude scale for measuring the attitude of beneficiaries towards the SELP of PDBF activities. Attitude towards PDBF activities referred to the extent of knowledge, belief and action tendency towards PDBF activities. The attitude scale in the present study was a combination of the Thurston’s technique of equal appearing interval scale and Likert’s technique of summated ratings scale (Edwards, 1957) with slight modification.

The items of attitude towards SELP of PDBF activities scale were obtained by discussion with advisory committee members, social scientists, relative experts, and review of previous studies made in this connection. Initially 30 statements were collected. Then these statements were carefully examined in the light of 14 criteria suggested by Edwards (1957) for screening. Major related statements about the attitude towards SELP of PDBF were collected from the research study of Islam *et al.* (2014).

Finally, with the help of Likert’s technique of summated ratings, 16 statements were selected for the scale having t-values ≥1.75 based on pre-test data by administering 24 beneficiaries of the research population. The t-values of the statements were shown in Appendix-III. Accordingly, content validity was built in the process of constructing the scale.

The variable was measured by constructing an attitude scale consisting of sixteen statements including eight positive and eight negative statements. A statement was considered positive if it possessed an idea favorable towards SELP of PDBF activities. On the other hand, a statement was considered as negative if it was unfavorable towards SELP of PDBF activities.

For better understanding the scale was shown below:

Sl. No.	Statements	Extent of participation				
		SA	A	NO	D	SD
1 (+)	PDBF is contributing to the creation of small entrepreneurs					
2 (-)	PDBF has no role in creating small entrepreneurs					
3 (+)	SELP of PDBF help the entrepreneurs to improve their economic condition					
4 (-)	PDBF has an evil target behind assisting us. So, we should be aware before accepting their help					
5 (+)	SELP of PDBF help to create the employment for poverty reduction					
6 (-)	In fact, PDBF has no any activities to create the employment in our country					
7 (+)	Interest rate of PDBF loan is less than other organizations					
8 (-)	Interest rate of PDBF loan is higher than other organizations					
9 (+)	To get SELP loan of PDBF is more easy					
10 (-)	It is very complicated to get SELP loan of PDBF					
11 (+)	It is easier to get a loan from PDBF than a scheduled bank					
12 (-)	PDBF provides inadequate loan to rural people against their needs					
13 (+)	SELP of PDBF is very important for improving socio-economic development of the rural people					
14 (-)	PDBF is doing such things which are harmful to people and society					
15 (+)	It is better to receive loan from PDBF than village money lenders					
16 (-)	The total amount of loan could not be utilized properly due to shortage of grace period					

SA= Strongly agree, A = Agree, NO= No opinion, D= Disagree, SD= Strongly Disagree

The respondents were asked to indicate their attitude towards SELP of PDBF activities as ‘strongly agree’, ‘agree’, ‘no opinion’, ‘disagree’ and ‘strongly disagree’ and weights were assigned to these responses as 4, 3, 2, 1 and 0, respectively for the positive statements, reverse weights were assigned for the negative statements. Thus, score of attitude towards SELP of PDBF activities for each respondent could range from ‘0’ to ‘64’, where ‘0’ indicated as very high unfavorable attitude towards PDBF activities, ‘32’ indicated as neutral attitude and ‘64’ indicated as very high favorable attitude towards SELP of PDBF activities.

Table 3.2 Summarized operationalization of the variables of the study with measuring unit

Variables		Measuring Unit	Operationalization
Independent Variables			
Personal characteristics	Age	Actual years	Direct question
	Educational Qualification	Schooling Year(s)	Direct question
	Total dependency ratio	Percent	Used (TDR) formula
Social characteristics	Training exposure	No. of months (1 for 1 month)	Scale developed for this study
	Length of involvement	Score (1 for 1 year)	Direct question
	Decision-making ability	Score	Scale developed by Ali (2008) used for this study
Economical characteristics	Savings deposit	'000' Taka	Direct question
	Loan availability	Percent	Used (LA) formula
	Loan utilization	Percent	Used (LU) formula
	Loan repayment behaviour	Percent	Used (LRB) formula
Psychological characteristics	Satisfaction towards loan received condition	Score	Scale developed for this study
	Attitude towards SELP of PDBF	Score	Scale developed for this study with the help of Edwards (1957), Thurstone (1929). Likert (1932), Ali (2008) and Islam (2014)
Dependent Variable			
Impact of SELP of PDBF			
Dimensions of the dependent variable	Changes in food consumption	Score	Scale developed for this study
	Change in the dressing habit	Score	Scale developed by Islam (2014)
	Changes in sanitation condition	Score	Scale developed by Islam (2014)
	Changes in participation in health activities	Score	Scale developed by Islam (2014)

	Variables	Measuring Unit	Operationalization
Dimensions of the dependent variable	Changes in drinking water sources	Score	Scale developed by Islam (2014)
	Changes in treatment of diseases	Score	Scale developed by Islam (2014)
	Changes in income	Score	Scale developed for this study
	Changes in savings	Score	Scale developed for this study
	Changes in wealth possession	Score	Scale developed with slight modification of Islam (2014) for this study
	Changes in expansion of business	Score	Scale developed for this study

3.7 Measurement of Impact of SELP of PDBF on Socio-economic Development

The impact of small enterprise loan programme (SELP) of Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF) on socio-economic development as perceived by the beneficiaries was the dependent variable of this study. It was measured by the addition of the extent of changes that occurred in ten selected dimensions of SELP of PDBF activities for the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries. Change of each dimension was determined by the difference between before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF situation. Changes of the dimensions were determined in the following ways:

3.7.1 Changes in food consumption

It refers to the improvement or deterioration of a respondent in respect of her amount of food consumption after involvement.

Carbohydrates, proteins, and fats are the main types of macronutrients in food. They supply 90% of the dry weight of the diet and 100% of its energy. All three provide energy (measured in calories), but the amount of energy in 1 gram (1/28 ounce) differs, 4 calories in a gram of carbohydrate or protein and 9 calories in a gram of fat (msdmanuals.com).

In this study ten items were considered to determine the food consumption behavior as energy value. The method of determining food consumption involved two phases. Firstly, the consumption of rice, wheat, vegetables, fruits, pulses, edible oil, fish, meat, milk, and egg was determined by the amount of food consumed per day by a respondent was calculated in gram. Finally, calorie values of the amount of items were calculated on the basis of nutrient composition (Imai, 2003) which is shown in Table 3.3.

Table 3.3 Energy contents of some selected food items

Sl. No.	Food items	Energy (Kcal/Kg)
1.	Rice	3,490
2.	Wheat	3,410
3.	Vegetables	430
4.	Fruits	200
5.	Pulse	3,430
6.	Edible oil	9,000
7.	Fish	1,360
8.	Meat	1,090
9.	Milk	670
10.	Egg	1,730

Source: Imai (2003).

For better understanding the scale was shown below:

Sl. No.	Food items (gms/day)	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF	After involvement with SELP of PDBF
1.	Rice		
2.	Wheat/Flour		
3.	Vegetables		
4.	Fruits		
5.	Pulse		
6.	Edible oil		
7.	Fish		
8.	Meat		
9.	Milk		
10.	Egg		
	Total		

Thus, total energy was obtained by adding the energy from all the items. The change in food consumption as energy value was determined by computing the food consumption of the respondent following "before" and "after" situation with the involvement of SELP of PDBF.

The changes in food consumption were again weighted on the basis of the following way:

Change in food consumption	Basis (score)	Final weight
No change in food consumption	0	0
Low change in food consumption	<(Mean–SD)	1
Medium change in food consumption	(Mean ± SD)	2
High change in food consumption	>(Mean+SD)	3

Basis: Bhuiyan and Ali (2009)

Thus, the changes in food consumption could range from 0 to 3, when '0' indicates no change and '3' indicates highest change.

3.7.2 Changes in the dressing habit

Dressing habit means traditional dress used by the individuals in a society. The respondents were asked to respond against five selected items regarding dressing habits like single set of poor dress per person, two sets of poor dress per person, one poor and one good set of dress per person, triple good set of dress per person and more than triple good set of dress per person, for both before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF. Weights were assigned to these items as 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, respectively. Thus, the score of dressing habits of the respondents could be ranged from '1' to '5', where '1' indicates as very poor dress and '5' indicates as higher improved dressing habits.

For better understanding the scale was shown below:

Sl. No.	Items	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF	After involvement with SELP of PDBF
1.	Single set of poor dress per person		
2.	Two set of poor dress per person		
3.	One poor and one good set of dress per person		
4.	Triple good set of dress per person		
5.	More than triple good set of dress per person		

Basis: Islam (2014)

Finally, the change in dressing habits of the respondents was measured by the deduction of the score of dressing habits before involvement with SELP of PDBF from after involvement with SELP of PDBF. Thus, the possible range of score of change of dressing habits of the respondents could be ranged from '0' to '4', where '0' indicated as no change and '4' indicated as high change in dressing habits.

Change of dressing habits was again classified on the basis of the following way:

Categories	Basis of categorization (score)	Weight
No change	0	0
Low change	1-2	1
Medium change	3	2
High change	4	3

Thus, the changes in the dressing habit could range from 0 to 3, where '0' indicates no change and '3' indicates highest change.

3.7.3 Changes in sanitation condition

Use of toilet is an important determinant for standard of life and social improvement. In order to reduce water born and contaminated diseases, the sanitation condition of a family plays an important role. Respondents were asked to response against each of the items like use of pucca high rise base latrine, pucca normal base latrine, latrine with ring slab, kacha latrine/earthen pit and open/bushy place for sanitation for both before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF and weights were assigned to these responses as 5, 4, 3, 2 and 1, respectively. Thus, score of the respondents on sanitation condition for both before and after joining with SELP of PDBF could range from '1' to '5', where '1' indicated as very poor sanitation condition and '5' indicated as highest improved sanitary condition.

For better understanding the scale was shown below:

Sl. No.	Type of latrine	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF	After involvement with SELP of PDBF
1.	Open/bushy place (1)		
2.	Kacha latrine/Earthen pit (2)		
3.	Latrine with ring slab (3)		
4.	Pucca normal base latrine (4)		
5.	Pucca high rise base latrine (5)		

Finally, the change of sanitation condition of the respondent was measured by the deduction of the score before involvement with SELP of PDBF from after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Changes in sanitation condition for the respondents were again weighted on the basis of the following way:

Degree of changes	Basis (score)	Final weight
No change	0	0
Low change	1-2	1
Medium change	3	2
High change	4	3

Thus, the changes of sanitation condition could range from 0 to 3, where '0' indicated as no change and '3' indicated as the highest change for improved sanitation condition.

3.7.4 Changes in participation in health activities

The scale of fourteen items was considered to measure the participation of SELP of PDBF beneficiaries in health activities. The respondents were asked to respond against each of these items with four alternative responses in health activities as frequently, occasionally, seldom and no participation and weights were assigned to these responses as 3, 2, 1 and 0, respectively. Then changes in participation in health activities score were determined by adding up all the score obtained by the respondent against all the 14 items for both before and after involvement with PDBF of PDBF. Thus, participation of the respondents in health activities could be ranged from '0' to '42', where '0' indicated as no participation and '42' indicated as the highest participation in health activities.

For better understanding the scale was shown below:

Sl. No.	Change Items	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF				After involvement with SELP of PDBF			
		R	O	S	NP	R	O	S	NP
1.	Use of pure drinking water								
2.	Hand washing before eating and after use of toilet								
3.	Use of healthy toilet								
4.	Use of shoe/sandal at the time of using toilet								

Sl. No.	Change Items	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF				After involvement with SELP of PDBF			
		R	O	S	NP	R	O	S	NP
5.	Hand washing with soap/ash after using toilet								
6.	Cleaning of houses								
7.	Vaccination								
8.	Adoption of family planning								
9.	Preparation of oral saline								
10.	Using of iodized salt								
11.	Feeding of diet to the children								
12.	Caretaking of pregnant mother								
13.	Timely cleaning and cutting of nails								
14.	Washing of vegetables before cutting								

R= Regularly, O= Occasionally, S=Seldom and NP= No participation

Finally, the changes of participation in health activities were measured by the deduction of the score of health activities before involvement with SELP of PDBF from after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Changes of participation in health activities for the respondents were again weighted on the basis of the following way:

Degree of changes	Basis (score)	Final weight
No change	0	0
Low change	1-14	1
Medium change	15-28	2
High change	29-42	3

Thus, the changes of participation in health activities could range from 0 to 3, when ‘0’ indicated as no change and ‘3’ indicated as the highest change of participation in health activities of the respondents.

3.7.5 Changes in drinking water sources

Drinking water source refers to the means from where the beneficiaries get water supply to drink. The safe drinking water is an important element of our everyday food staff. The drinking water must be safe from arsenic and germs of disease.

Respondents were asked to respond what type of source they used for drinking water among some selected sources like arsenic free water of pucca floor tube well, water of pucca floor tube well, water of muddy floor tube well, water of muddy well and water of pond, canal, beel etc. for both before and after involved with SELP of PDBF. Weights were assigned to these alternative sources as 5, 4, 3, 2 and 1, respectively. Thus, score of drinking water sources of the respondent for both before and after joining with SELP of PDBF could range from '1' to '5', where '1' indicated as very poor and '5' indicated as highest improved drinking water sources.

For better understanding the scale was shown as below:

Sl. No.	Items of drinking water sources	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF	After involvement with SELP of PDBF
1.	Water of pond, canal, beel etc. (1)		
2.	Water of muddy well (2)		
3.	Water of muddy floor tube well (3)		
4.	Water of pucca floor tube well (4)		
5.	Arsenic free water of pucca floor tube well (5)		

Finally, the change of the score of drinking water sources was measured by the deduction of drinking water sources before involvement with SELP of PDBF from after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Change in drinking water sources of the beneficiaries was again weighted on the basis of the following way:

Degree of changes	Basis (score)	Final weight
No change	0	0
Low change	1-2	1
Medium change	3	2
High change	4	3

Thus, the changes of drinking water sources of the respondents could be ranged from 0 to 3, where '0' indicated as no change and '3' indicated as highest change for improved drinking water sources.

3.7.6 Changes in treatment of diseases

Treatment of diseases is another important factor of socio-economic development. The respondents were asked to response from which they received treatment of diseases among five selected personnel like treatment by MBBS doctor, village doctor, kabiraj, village fakir/ojha etc. and no treatment for both before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF. Weights were assigned to these alternative items as 4, 3, 2, 1 and 0, respectively. Thus, score of treatment of diseases of the respondents for both before and after joining with PDBF could be ranged from '0' to '4', where '0' indicated as no treatment and '4' indicated as highest treatment of diseases. For better understanding the scale was shown as below:

Sl. No.	Items of personnel for taking treatment	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF	After involvement with SELP of PDBF
1.	No treatment (0)		
2.	Treatment by village fakir/ojha etc. (1)		
3.	Treatment by homeopathy (2)		
4.	Treatment by village doctor (3)		
5.	Treatment by MBBS doctor (4)		

Finally, the change of the treatment of diseases of the respondent was measured by the deduction of score of diseases treatment before involvement with SELP of PDBF from after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Changes in the treatment of diseases of the beneficiaries were again weighted on the basis of the following way:

Degree of changes	Basis (score)	Final weight
No change	0	0
Low change	1-2	1
Medium change	3	2
High change	4	3

Thus, the changes in the treatment of diseases of the respondents could be ranged from 0 to 3, where '0' indicated as no change and '3' indicated as highest change in the treatment of diseases of the respondents.

3.7.7 Changes in income

The change of income of the SELP respondent of PDBF was measured in taka on the basis of his entrepreneurial annual income and other kinds of annual income as below. The total earnings in taka were converted into respondent income scores. A score of one was assigned for each one thousand taka. The changes in income were determined by computing income score of SELP respondents' between "before" and "after" receiving SELP loan of PDBF.

Sl. No.	Source of annual income	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF	After involvement with SELP of PDBF
1.	Income from business		
2.	Income from agriculture		
3.	Income from house rent		
4.	Income from savings		
5.	Income from other sources		
	Total		

The changes in income were again weighted on the basis of the following way:

Change in income	Basis (score)	Final weight
No change in income	0	0
Low change in income	<(Mean – SD)	1
Medium change in income	(Mean ± SD)	2
High change in income	>(Mean + SD)	3

Thus, the changes in income of the respondents could be ranged from 0 to 3, where '0' indicated as no change and '3' indicated as highest change in income of the respondents.

3.7.8 Changes in savings deposit

The change of savings deposit of the SELP respondent of PDBF was measured in taka on the basis of his entrepreneurial and other kinds of annual savings deposit as below. The total savings in taka were converted into respondent saving score. A score of one was assigned for each one thousand taka. The change in savings deposit was determined by computing saving score of SELP respondents' between "before" and "after" receiving SELP loan of PDBF.

Sl. No.	Annual savings	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF	After involvement with SELP of PDBF
1.	Savings in PDBF		
2.	Savings in Bank		
3.	Savings in NGO		
4.	Savings on hand cash		
5.	Savings in other way		
	Total		

The changes in savings deposit were categorized as below:

Change in savings	Basis (score)	Final weight
No change in savings deposit	0	0
Low change in savings deposit	<(Mean – SD)	1
Medium change in savings deposit	(Mean ± SD)	2
High change in savings deposit	>(Mean + SD)	3

Thus, the changes in savings deposit of the respondents could be ranged from 0 to 3, where '0' indicated as no change and '3' indicated as highest change in savings deposit of the respondents.

3.7.9 Changes in wealth possession

Wealth possession refers to the value of the assets of the respondents possess which included land, entrepreneur asset, radio/cassette, television, refrigerator, reading table, dining table, chair, khat, sofa set, alna, almirah, showcase, mobile phone, torch light, wall clock, aina, jewelry, bicycle, motorcycle, electric fan, sewing machine and others etc. It was expressed in the monitory unit as taka.

Then, one score was assigned as ('000' Tk.) for value of the asset. This was determined for both before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Finally, the change of wealth possession of the respondent was measured by the

Sl. No.	Items	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF			After involvement with SELP of PDBF		
		Number	Per unit Cost	Value (Tk.)	Number	Per unit Cost	Value (Tk.)
1.	Land (decimal)						
2.	Trade asset						
3.	Radio/ cassette						
4.	Television						
5.	Refrigerator						
6.	Reading table						
7.	Dining table						
8.	Chair						
9.	Khat						
10.	Sofa set						
11.	Alna						
12.	Almirah						
13.	Show case						
14.	Mobile Phone						
15.	Torchlight						
16.	Wall clock						
17.	Aina						
18.	Jewelry						
19.	Motor cycle						
20.	Bi cycle						
21.	Electric fan						
22.	Sewing machine						
23.	Others (if any)						
	Total						

deduction of the score of wealth possession before involvement with SELP of PDBF from after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Changes of wealth possession of SELP beneficiaries were again weighted on the basis of the following way:

Degree of changes	Basis (score)	Final weight
No change of wealth	0	0
Low change of wealth	<(Mean-SD)	1
Medium change of wealth	(Mean ± SD)	2
High change of wealth	>(Mean + SD)	3

Thus, the changes in wealth possession of the respondents could be ranged from 0 to 3, where '0' indicated as no change and '3' indicated as highest change in wealth possession of the respondents.

3.7.10 Changes in expansion of business

Expansion of business is a stage where the business reaches the point for growth and seeks out for additional options to generate more profit. Different forms of business expansion include opening in another location, adding sales employees,

Sl. No.	Questions	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF ('000' Tk.)	After involvement with SELP of PDBF ('000' Tk.)
1.	How much do you pay your employees each month?		
2.	How much do you sell per day?		
3.	What is the value of your business assets?		
4.	How much does your business area value?		
	Total		

increased marketing, adding franchisees, forming an alliance, offering new products or services, entering new markets, merging with or acquiring another business, expanding globally and expanding through the Internet. The respondents were asked to response about their expansion of business, such as: How much do you pay your employees each month? How much do you sell per day? What is the

value of your business assets?, How much does your business area value? It was expressed in Taka. Then, one score was assigned as 1000 taka for value of the asset. This was determined for both before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Finally, the change of expansion of business of the respondent was measured by the deduction of the total value ('000' Tk.) before involvement with SELP of PDBF from after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Changes of expansion of business of the SELP beneficiaries were again weighted on the basis of the following way:

Degree of changes	**Basis (score)**	**Final weight**
No change of expansion of business	0	0
Low change of expansion of business	<(Mean-SD)	1
Medium change of expansion of business	(Mean ± SD)	2
High change of expansion of business	>(Mean + SD)	3

Thus, the changes in expansion of business of the respondents could be ranged from 0 to 3, where '0' indicated as no change and '3' indicated as highest change in expansion of business of the respondents.

3.7.11 Overall Impact of SELP of PDBF on the Socio-economic Development as Perceived by the Beneficiaries

Measurement of overall socio-economic development of the beneficiaries through SELP of PDBF activities was determined by summing up the changes scores for all the ten selected dimensions. For the convenience of calculation and description, the following formula was used for determining the change of impact through SELP of PDBF on socio-economic development as perceived by the beneficiaries.

$$\mathbf{Y=Y_1+Y_2+Y_3+Y_4+Y_5+Y_6+Y_7+Y_8+Y_9+Y_{10}}$$

Where,

Y = Total change score of socio-economic impact of SELP of PDBF activities

Y_1= Changes in food consumption

Y_2= Changes in the dressing habit

Y_3= Changes in sanitation condition

Y_4= Changes in participation in health activities

Y_5= Changes in drinking water sources

Y_6= Changes in treatment of diseases

Y_7= Changes in income

Y_8= Changes in saving deposit

Y_9= Changes in wealth possession

Y_{10}=Changes in expansion of business

Thus, the possible range of the total change score of impact of socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF activities could range from 0 to 30 where, zero (0) indicated as no impact and 30 indicated as highest impact of socio-economic development.

3.7.12 Determination of Impact Index (II)

For comparing impact index among each dimension of socio-economic development was measured by using the following formula:

$$\mathbf{Impact\ Index\ (II) = f_h \times 3 + f_m \times 2 + f_l \times 1 + f_n \times 0}$$

Where,

II = Impact Index

f_h = Frequency of beneficiaries who had high change of impact

f_m = Frequency of beneficiaries who had medium change of impact

f_l = Frequency of beneficiaries who had low change of impact

f_n = Frequency of beneficiaries who had no change of impact

Thus, II of the impact items could range from 0-813. Standardized Impact Index (SII) was measured to compare the impact of the dimensions. Standardized Impact Index (SII) was measured for each impact item by using the following formula:

$$\textbf{Standardized Impact Index (SII)} = \frac{\textbf{Impact Index of the each dimension}}{\textbf{Highest possible II}} \textbf{x100}$$

Thus the SII of the items could range from 0-100, where '0' indicated no impact and '100' indicated the highest impact. Rank order was made based on the descending order of SII of the dimensions.

3.8 Measurement of Problems Faced by the Beneficiaries and Suggestions in Working with SELP of PDBF

It referred to the extent to which a respondent faced difficulties in performing various activities after the involvement with SELP of PDBF on socio-economic development. Four-point rating scale was used to determine problem faced on socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF.

The respondents were asked to put their opinion about the extent of problem they faced during their involvement with SELP of PDBF. An attempt was made to identify the major problems faced by the respondents. Fourteen (14) problems faced by the respondents were identified after through consultation with relevant experts, researchers and the help of PhD research (Islam, 2014). Respondents were asked to indicate the extent of the problem against any one of the four alternative responses for each problems viz. severe problem, moderate problem, less problem and no problem which were quantified by the scores 3, 2, 1 and 0 respectively. Question regarding this variable appears in the item no-14 in the interview schedule (App-I, II). Problem Faced Index (PFI) for each of the item was measured by using the following formula:

$$\textbf{Problem Faced Index (PFI)} = P_s\times 3 + P_m\times 2 + P_l\times 1 + P_n\times 0$$

Where,

PFI = Problem Faced Index

P_s = Number of respondents faced severe problem

P_m = Number of respondents faced moderate problem

P_l = Number of respondents faced less problem

P_n = Number of respondents faced no problem

Thus, PFI of the problem item could range from zero (0) to 813 (271×3). Standardized Problem Faced Index (SPFI) was measured to compare the problem of the items. SPFI was measured for each problem item by using the following formula:

$$\textbf{Standardized Problem Faced Index (SPFI)} = \frac{\textbf{PFI of the each item}}{\textbf{Highest possible PFI}}\textbf{x100}$$

The SPFI of each of the items of problem could range from zero (0) to 100, where zero (0) indicated no problem and '100' indicated the severe problem. Rank order was made based on the descending order of SPFI of the items.

The respondents were requested to mention the means to solve these problems. Then, the mentioned suggestions were ranked on the basis of number of citations.

3.9 Validity and Reliability of the Instruments

The validity and reliability of the instrument used in data collection are important in order to choose appropriate statistical analysis. So, a researcher needs to pay adequate attention to test the validity and reliability while developing as well as measuring an instrument. The validity of an instrument indicates the degree to which it measures what it is supposed to measure. A scale is reliable when it provides consistent results (Kothari, 2014). In this study, all possible care was taken to prepare data collecting instrument in general and the scales in particular. However, the validity and reliability of the scale used for attitude towards SELP of PDBF were examined.

3.9.1 Validity of attitude towards SELP of PDBF scale

Validity of attitude towards SELP of PDBF scale was measured by the relationships between the scores of individual items of attitude towards SELP of PDBF and the composite attitude towards SELP of PDBF from 24 beneficiaries. Six beneficiaries were taken from each of 4 upazilas of the study area from a portion of final sample. The coefficient of correlations between the score of 24 individual items of attitudes towards SELP of PDBF and the score of composite attitude towards SELP of PDBF of the scale were found to be 0.224, 0.472, 0.185, 0.186, 0.176, 0.216, 0.184, 0.186, 0.177, 0.184, 0.208, 0.180, 0.186, 0.183, 0.193 and 0.234 at 22 degree of freedom which were significant at 0.000 to 0.05 levels. On the basis of the procedure followed, it could be said that the attitude towards SELP of PDBF scale had content validity. Therefore, the scale may be taken as a valid instrument to measure the attitude towards SELP of PDBF of the beneficiaries.

3.9.2 Reliability of attitude towards SELP of PDBF scale

In this study, most of the variables were measured through standard scales developed and measured by different researchers and experts. So, the test scales used for the measurement were considered stable and reliable. The reliability of attitude towards SELP of PDBF scale was measured by split-half method. On the basis of a portion of final data of 24 beneficiaries, All 16 statements of attitude scale were divided into 2 equal halves. The scale had two sets of statements each having 8 statements, one with odd numbers and the other with even numbers. The co-efficient of correlation between the two sets of score was computed and the value was found to be strongly significant (0.493) at 0.000 levels with 22 degrees of freedom. The obtained reliability co-efficient indicated that the scales used in this study were highly stable and reliable for measurement of attitude towards SELP of PDBF.

3.10 Collection of Data

Data were collected by interviewing 271 respondents from the study areas by the researcher himself. A structured interview schedule containing open and closed form of question (English and Bengali version of the interview schedule is

enclosed in Appendix I and II) was prepared to collect necessary and relevant information in accordance with the objectives of the study. The researcher intensively searched literatures, Internet and consult with the relevant experts. Meetings of the supervisory of the concerned researcher were arranged to draft the pre-test schedule. The draft schedule was pre-tested among 24 respondents to test its suitability. Necessary corrections, additions and adjustments were made on the basis of pre-test experience. Finally a meeting of supervisory committee was arranged to finalize the data collecting instruments before going for final data collection. Appointments with the interviewees were made in advance with the help of PDBF officials. In case of failure due to their pre-occupation a revisit was made with prior appointment. The researcher was taken all possible efforts to establish desired rapport with the respondents so that the respondents did not feel any hesitation to furnish proper information. The information provided by the respondents was recorded directly in the interview schedule. Data were collected in local unit and these were subsequently converted into appropriate standard units.

The respondents were interviewed at their leisure time so that they could give accurate information in a cold mind. The researcher faced no serious problem in collecting data. Rather he obtained excellent co-operation from the SELP beneficiaries of PDBF, Upazila Daridro Bimochon Officer (UDBO), Assistant Daridro Bimochon Officer (SELP) and Field Officers (SELP) during collection of data. However, it was not possible to collect data from 12 respondent beneficiaries in the original sample due to their unavailability at the time of interview despite several attempts to contact them. Therefore, the researcher had to collect data from 12 beneficiaries of the reserve list. Data were collected for six months from October, 2021 to March, 2022.

3.11 Processing of Data

After completion of the field survey, the collected data were summarized to find out the errors and omission and to ensure that they were entered as complete as possible and well arranged to facilitate coding and tabulation. Appropriate scoring technique was followed to convert the qualitative data into quantitative data.

Finally the data obtained from the respondents were transferred into a master sheet. Then the same data were entered in the computer with the help of SPSS programme as well as analyzed in accordance with the objectives of the study. For describing the independent and dependent variables, the respondents were classified into different categories in respect of each variable. These categories were developed according to the score obtained by the respondents. However, the researcher was guided by the nature of data and prevailing social research system for categorization.

3.12 Analysis of Data

After collecting the data from the respondents, these were compiled, tabulated and analyzed in accordance with the objectives of the study. Software such as Excel and Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS 23) was used to analyze the data. Descriptive statistical measures such as frequency, range, mean, standard deviation, rank and percent were used to categorize the beneficiaries.

For hypothesis testing, paired t-test was employed for computing the differences between means with the assumption those population variances of the 'before' and 'after' involvement with PDBF based on socio-economic development activities.

Data checking tools like outliers checking and removing multicolinearity was employed. The predictive form of multi-variant linear equation was done based on the adequacy of R^2 of the fitted regression model. To find out the contribution of the independent variables on the socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF, linear regression analysis was used. The model used for this analysis can be explained as follows:

$$\mathbf{Y_i=a+b_1x_1+b_2x_2+b_3x_3+b_4x_4+b_5x_5+b_6x_6+b_7x_7+b_8x_8+b_9x_9+b_{10}x_{10}+b_{11}x_{11}+b_{12}x_{12}+e}$$

Where, Y_i= Combined contribution of the independent variables on the socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF; X_1 is age; X_2 is education; X_3 is total dependency ratio; X_4 is training exposure; X_5 is length of involvement; X_6 is saving deposit; X_7 is loan availability; X_8 is loan utilization; X_9 is loan repayment behavior; X_{10} is satisfaction towards loan received condition; X_{11} is decision making ability and X_{12} is attitude towards SELP of PDBF of the respondent

beneficiaries. b1, b2, b3, b4, b5, b6, b7, b8, b9, b10, b11, b12 are regression coefficients of the corresponding independent variables and ‘e’ is random error.

Path coefficient analysis was employed to determine the direct and indirect effects of an independent variable allowing other predictors upon the dependent one. At least 5 percent (P=0.05) level of probability was used as a basis for rejection of the null-hypotheses throughout the study. Rank order was also done in cases. Main results from the survey were presented in tables, graphs and narratives in the text.

3.13 Statement of Hypothesis

A hypothesis is a prediction of a possible outcome and describes what will happen. Hypotheses are also important because they help an investigator to locate information needed to resolve the research problem or sub-problems (Leedy and Ormrod, 2001). Hypotheses are two categories: Null hypothesis and Alternative hypothesis:

Null	H_0: The finding occurred by chance
Alternative	H_1: The finding did not occur by chance

A null hypothesis is a statistical hypothesis which is the original or default hypothesis while any other hypothesis other than the null is called an alternative hypothesis (Turney, 2022).

3.13.1 Research hypothesis

PDBF has been providing small enterprise loans to rural clientele for a long time. But what extent the impact of their loan programme to the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries is not known. The factors responsible to influence the impact are also unknown. The following research hypothesis was put forward to test contribution of the selected characteristics of the SELP beneficiaries on their socio-economic development. The research hypothesis as alternative was: “Twelve selected characteristics of the SELP beneficiaries have significant contribution on their socio-economic development as perceived by them”.

3.13.2 Null hypothesis

The aforesaid research hypothesis was converted into null hypothesis for testing the conceptual model of the study. The major hypothesis formulated for testing the conceptual model of the study is presented below:

"There is no contribution of the following selected characteristics of the SELP beneficiaries on their socio-economic development as perceived by them."

The selected characteristics of the respondent beneficiaries were age, educational qualification, total dependency ratio, training exposure, length of involvement, decision making ability, annual savings deposit, loan availability, loan utilization, loan repayment behavior, satisfaction towards loan received condition and attitude towards SELP of PDBF.

CHAPTER 4

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

This Chapter deals with the results of the study. The findings and discussions have been presented ac to the objectives of the study. Necessary explanations and interpretations have also been made showing the possible and logical basis of the finding whatever necessary. However, for convenience of the discussion the findings are systematically presented under the following headings:

4.1 Impact of SELP of PDBF on the Socio-economic Development as Perceived by the Beneficiaries

The impact of SELP of PDBF was the main focus i.e. the dependent variable of this study. It was measured by adding the extent of changes in ten selected dimensions of PDBF small enterprise loan programme activities for the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries. Change of each dimension was determined by the difference between before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF situation. Changes of the dimensions were determined in the following ways:

Respondents' participation in PDBF small enterprise loan programme played a vital role in changing their socio-economic condition. Initially ten dimensions of socio- economic development of the beneficiaries were determined at before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF. Paired t-test was run for better understanding about of the changes between before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF situation for all the selected dimensions of development. Findings revealed the significant positive changes which were occurred in all the ten selected dimensions of socio-economic development.

Then, overall socio-economic developments were determined by the addition of the extent of changes occurred in those ten selected dimensions of PDBF activities. Salient features such as possible ranges and observed ranges, mean, standard deviation (SD) of the dimensions of the socio-economic development of beneficiaries before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF situation have been presented in Table 4.1 with the value of 't' basis.

Table 4.1 Possible ranges, observed ranges, mean and standard deviation (SD) of the selected dimensions of socio-economic development before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF

Dimensions of socio- economic development	Possible ranges	Observed ranges		Mean		SD		t-values
		Before	After	Before	After	Before	After	
Food consumption	Unknown	1697-3381	1759-3772	2565.78	2970.20	380.57	427.91	40.91**
Dressing habit	1-5	1-5	1-5	2.76	4.20	1.07	0.82	23.87**
Sanitation condition	1-5	1-5	1-5	3.50	4.27	0.81	0.69	20.99**
Participation in health activities	0-42	12-40	20-42	31.24	39.08	5.30	3.42	25.26**
Drinking water sources	1-5	1-5	1-5	3.41	4.45	0.95	0.85	28.99**
Treatment of diseases	1-5	1-5	1-5	3.61	4.51	0.99	0.86	20.14**
Income	Unknown	5-270	10-335	52.58	74.09	47.84	61.21	21.15**
Savings deposit	Unknown	0-400	1-843	45.30	112.76	80.45	139.52	15.31**
Wealth possession	Unknown	386-21482	709-21623	3181.61	4044.65	3041.03	3371.44	18.30**
Expansion of business	Unknown	70-4042	120-5065	967.70	1352.59	742.65	991.65	19.52**

** significant at the 0.000 level

The changes in the ten dimensions were measured by the deduction of the score of socio-economic development before involvement with SELP of PDBF from after involvement with SELP of PDBF which was discussed in the methodology Chapter. Salient features of changes of these ten dimensions such as possible ranges and observed ranges, mean and standard deviation (SD) of the beneficiaries have been presented in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2 Possible ranges, observed ranges, mean and standard deviation (SD) of the changes in selected dimensions of socio-economic development

Dimensions of socio-economic development	Possible range	Observed range	Mean	SD
Changes in food consumption	Unknown	62-913	404.42	162.75
Changes in dressing habit	1-5	0-4	1.44	0.99
Changes in sanitation condition	1-5	0-3	0.76	0.60
Changes in participation in health activities	0-42	0-29	7.86	5.10
Changes in drinking water sources	1-5	0-3	1.02	0.55
Changes in treatment of Diseases	1-5	0-4	0.90	0.74
Changes in income	Unknown	1-80	21.44	16.80
Changes in savings deposit	Unknown	1-493	67.47	72.56
Changes in wealth possession	Unknown	40-5116	863.04	776.41
Changes in expansion of business	Unknown	9-1660	384.80	324.434

Each dimension of socio-economic impact with their changes was discussed in the following sub-sections.

4.1.1 Food consumption

There are various dimension of livelihood status change as well as poverty alleviation. Food consumption is one of them. The food consumption was converted into energy on the basis of their energy (Kcal) content value. Efforts had been made to measure calorie intake by the respondents both before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

The observed range of food consumption of the respondents was 1697-3381 for before and 1759-3772 after involvement with SELP of PDBF against the unknown possible range. The mean score was 2565.78 with a standard deviation 380.57 before involvement with SELP of PDBF while the mean was 2970.20 with a standard deviation of 427.91 after involvement with PDBF (Table 4.1).

Findings revealed that mean (2970.20) of food consumption after involvement with SELP of PDBF was higher than mean (2565.78) before involvement with SELP of

PDBF. Paired t-test value (t=40.91**) also revealed that there was significant differences in food consumption between before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF in a positive direction. It means that after involvement with SELP of PDBF, the beneficiaries had increased their food consumption with nutrition. Now the beneficiaries of PDBF were more conscious about food intake after involvement with SELP of PDBF than before involvement with SELP of PDBF (Table 4.1).

Respondents of PDBF beneficiaries were classified into the following three categories according to their food consumption before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF as presented in Table 4.3.

Table 4.3 Distribution of PDBF beneficiaries according to their food consumption before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF

Categories	Before involving with SELP of PDBF		After involving with SELP of PDBF	
	Frequency	**Percent**	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Low food consumption (<2375)	87	32.10	22	8.10
Medium food consumption (2375-2756)	95	35.10	67	24.70
High food consumption (>2756)	89	32.80	182	67.20
Total	**271**	**100.00**	**271**	**100.00**

Finding in Table 4.3 explores that 32.10 percent of the respondents food consumption (<2375) were low before involvement with SELP of PDBF but the overwhelming majority (91.90 percent) of the respondents food consumption was medium and high after involvement with SELP of PDBF. They might have utilized their knowledge in various income generating activities thus they could maintain better food consumption. Hossain (2009) found that intake of food increased 15.20 percent socioeconomic status under the food security project interventions.

The observed change scores in food consumption of the respondents ranged from 62-913 with an average change was 404.42 and standard deviation 162.75 due to involvement with SELP of PDBF. According to their change in food consumption respondents were classified into four categories as shown in Table 4.4.

Table 4.4 Distribution of respondents according to their changes in food consumption

Categories	Respondents	
	Frequency	Percent
No change (0)	0	0
Low change (<323)	85	31.40
Medium change (323-486)	112	41.30
High change (>486)	74	27.30
Total	**271**	**100.00**

Data expressed in Table 4.4 that the overwhelming majority (72.70 percent) of the respondent beneficiaries increased their food consumption which was ranged from low to medium level compared to 27.30 percent of the respondents was increased at high level and there was none respondents who had no change their food consumption. Medium and high level changed in food consumption was found 27.30 percent and 41.30 percent, respectively. Changed percent of respondents in food consumption was a sign of awareness building on food energy issue among the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF. Moreover, it indicates better livelihoods due to the involvement with SELP of PDBF interventions.

4.1.2 Dressing habit

Dressing habit means as usual dress used by the individuals in a society. Dressing habits of the beneficiaries measured five selected items like single set of poor dress per person, two sets of poor dress per person, one poor and one good set of dress per person, triple sets of dress per person and more than triple sets of dress per person for both before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

The observed range of dressing habits of the respondents was same for 1-5 for both before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF, against the possible range of 1-5. The mean score was 2.76 with a standard deviation 1.07 before involving with SELP of PDBF while, the mean was 4.20 with a standard deviation 0.82 after involvement with SELP of PDBF (Table 4.1).

Findings showed that mean (4.20) of dressing habits after involvement with SELP of PDBF was higher than mean (2.76) before involvement with SELP of PDBF. Paired t-test value (t=23.87**) also revealed that there was significant differences

in dressing habits between before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF in a positive direction. It means that with the help of PDBF activities the beneficiaries changed their dressing habit in positive direction after involvement with SELP of PDBF than before involvement with SELP of PDBF (Table 4.1).

Respondents of PDBF beneficiaries were classified into the following categories according to their dressing habits before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF as presented in Table 4.5.

Table 4.5 Distribution of PDBF beneficiaries according to their dressing habit before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF

Categories	Before involving with PDBF		After involving with PDBF	
	Frequency	**Percent**	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Poor dressing habit (up to 2)	105	38.70	11	4.06
Medium dressing habit (3 to 4)	155	57.20	156	57.56
High dressing habit (>4)	11	4.10	104	38.38
Total	**271**	**100.00**	**271**	**100.00**

The finding in Table 4.5 revealed that before involvement with SELP of PDBF 4.10 percent of respondents had high dressing habits and 38.70 percent respondents had poor dressing habits. But after involving with SELP of PDBF 38.38 percent respondents had high dressing habit and only 4.06 percent of respondents had poor dressing habit. Table 4.5 exposed that high dressing habit was increased by 34.28 percent after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Table 4.6 Distribution of PDBF beneficiaries according to their usage of dressing sets before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF

Categories	Before involving with SELP of PDBF		After involving with SELP of PDBF	
	Frequency	**Percent**	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Single set poor dress per person (1)	40	14.80	3	1.10
Two sets of poor dress per person (2)	65	24.00	8	3.00
One poor and one good set of dress per person (3)	97	35.80	27	10.00
Triple sets of dress per person (4)	58	21.40	128	47.20
More than triple sets of dress per person (5)	11	4.10	105	38.70
Total	**271**	**100.00**	**338**	**100.00**

On the other hand, findings in Table 4.6 revealed that before involvement with SELP of PDBF 14.80 percent of respondents had single set of poor dress per person and 24.00 percent respondents had double sets of poor dress per person. But after involving with SELP of PDBF only 1.10 percent respondents had only a single set of poor dress per person. Data in Table 4.6 exposed that the percent of triple sets of dress per person was increased from 21.40 to 47.20 percent after involvement with SELP of PDBF compared to before involvement with SELP of PDBF. More than triple sets of dress per person increased from 4.10 percent to 38.70 percent after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

The change scores in dressing habits of the respondents ranged from 0-4. The average change was 1.44 with a standard deviation 0.99 due to involvement with SELP of PDBF. Respondents were classified according to their change in dressing habits before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF into four categories as shown in Table 4.7.

Table 4.7 Distribution of respondents according to their changes in dressing habit

Categories	Respondents	
	Frequency	Percent
No change (0)	33	12.20
Low change (1)	191	70.50
Medium change (2)	38	14.00
High change (>2)	9	3.30
Total	**271**	**100.00**

Data from the Table 4.7 revealed that 12.20 percent of the respondent beneficiaries had no change in their dressing habit, but 84.50 percent of respondent beneficiaries had change their dressing habit which was range from low to medium level compared to only 3.30 percent of the respondents who had a high change of dressing habit. This means that after the PDBF intervention, the beneficiaries in the study area could change their dressing habit.

4.1.3 Sanitation condition

Sanitation is one of the basic human needs as it has significant implications on human health. Five point rating scales were considered to measure sanitation condition both before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF. The observed

range of sanitation condition of the respondents was 1-5 for both before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF against the possible range of 1-5. The mean score was 3.50 with a standard deviation 0.81 before involving with SELP of PDBF while the mean was 4.27 with a standard deviation 0.69 after involving with SELP of PDBF (Table 4.1).

Findings indicated that mean (4.27) of sanitation condition after involvement with SELP of PDBF was higher than mean (3.50) before involvement with SELP of PDBF. Paired t-test value (t=20.99**) also revealed that there was significant differences in sanitation condition between before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF in positive direction. It means that beneficiaries of PDBF were happy and enjoying a health environment. Now the beneficiaries of PDBF were more conscious of preventative health measures after involvement with SELP of PDBF than before involvement with PDBF (Table 4.1).

Respondents of PDBF beneficiaries were classified into following categories according to their uses of sanitation condition before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF as presented in Table 4.8.

Table 4.8 Distribution of PDBF beneficiaries according to their sanitation condition before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF

Categories	Before involving with SELP of PDBF		After involving with SELP of PDBF	
	Frequency	**Percent**	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Poor sanitation condition (up to 2)	25	9.20	6	2.20
Medium sanitation condition (3 to 4)	233	86.00	168	62.00
High sanitation condition (>4)	13	4.80	97	35.80
Total	**271**	**100.00**	**271**	**100.00**

Finding in Table 4.8 revealed that almost all (95.20 percent) of the respondents had very poor and medium sanitation condition before involvement with SELP of PDBF but the overwhelming majority (97.80 percent) of the respondents had medium and high sanitation conditions after involvement with SELP of PDBF. The overall achievement of PDBF could be asserted from reducing the tendency of very poor and medium sanitation conditions.

Table 4.9 revealed that the overwhelming majority (42.40 percent) of the respondent beneficiaries used open/ brushy places, Kacha/earthen pit and latrine with ring slab for toileting purpose, compared to 57.60 percent used pucca normal and pucca high rise base toilet before involvement with SELP of PDBF but the overwhelming majority (94.50 percent) of the respondent beneficiaries used pucca normal and pucca high rise base toilet. Only 2.50 percent of the respondents used open/ brushy places, Kacha/earthen pit. The detailed number and percentage distribution of the beneficiaries were presented in Table 4.9 based on their use of different toilets.

Table 4.9 Distribution of the beneficiaries based on their uses of different toilets before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF

Categories	Before involving with SELP of PDBF		After involving with SELP of PDBF	
	Frequency	**Percent**	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Open/bushy place (1)	8	3.00	3	1.10
Kacha latrine/earthen pit (2)	17	6.20	4	1.40
Latrine with ring slab (3)	90	33.20	8	3.00
Pucca normal base toilet (4)	143	52.80	159	58.70
Pucca high rise base toilet (5)	13	4.80	97	35.80
Total	**271**	**100.00**	**271**	**100.00**

The change scores in sanitation condition of the respondents were ranged from 0-3 against the possible range of 1-5. The average change was 0.76 with a standard deviation 0.60 due to involvement with PDBF. Respondents were classified according to their change in sanitation condition due to involvement with SELP of PDBF into four categories as shown in Table 4.10 with their number and percentage.

Table 4.10 Distribution of respondents according to their changes in sanitation condition

Categories	Respondents	
	Frequency	Percent
No change (0)	84	31.10
Low change (1-2)	167	61.60
Medium change (3)	18	6.60
High change (>3)	2	0.70
Total	**271**	**100.00**

Data in Table 4.10 revealed that the overwhelming majority (68.20 percent) of the respondents increased their sanitation condition which was ranged from low to medium level compared to 0.70 percent of the respondents increased at high level and 31.10 percent of the respondents had no change their sanitation condition. Medium and high level increased in sanitation conditions was found to be 6.60 percent and 0.70 percent respectively. It means that the increased of sanitation condition was higher before involvement with SELP of PDBF. PDBF was trying to contribute to implementing national plan of sanitation through motivating people in its all working areas.

4.1.4 Participation in health activities

Fourteen item scales were considered to measure the participation of the PDBF beneficiaries in health activities. The observed range of participation in health activities of the respondents was 12-40 and 20-42 for both before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF respectively, against the possible range of 0-42. The mean score was 31.24 with a standard deviation .30 before involving with SELP of PDBF while the mean was 39.08 with a standard deviation 3.42 after involving with SELP of PDBF (Table 4.1).

Findings expressed that mean (39.08) of participation in health activities after involvement with SELP of PDBF was higher than mean (31.24) before involvement with SELP of PDBF. Paired t-test value (t=25.26**) also revealed that there was significant differences in participation of health activities between before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF in a positive direction. It means

that beneficiaries of PDBF were more participated in health activities after involvement with SELP of PDBF than before involvement with SELP of PDBF (Table 4.1).

Respondents of PDBF beneficiaries were classified into following categories according to their participation in health activities before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF as presented in Table 4.11.

Table 4.11 Distribution of PDBF beneficiaries according to their participation in health activities before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF

Categories	Before involving with SELP of PDBF		After involving with SELP of PDBF	
	Frequency	**Percent**	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Low participation in health activities (<29)	62	22.90	8	3.00
Medium participation in health activities (29-34)	144	53.10	14	5.20
High participation in health activities (>34)	65	24.00	249	91.80
Total	**271**	**100.00**	**271**	**100.00**

Findings in Table 4.11 revealed that 76.00 percent of the respondents had low to medium participation in health activities before involvement with SELP of PDBF. On the other hand 97.00 percent of the respondents had medium to high participation in health activities after involvement with SELP of PDBF. The overall achievement of PDBF could be ensured by reducing the tendency of no participation and low participation in health activities.

The change scores in participation in health activities of the respondents were ranged from 0-29 against the possible range of 0-42. The average change was 7.86 with a standard deviation 5.10 due to involvement with SELP of PDBF. Respondents were classified according to their change in participation in health activities due to involvement with SELP of PDBF into four categories as shown in Table 4.12 with their number and percentage.

Table 4.12 Distribution of respondents according to their changes in participation in health activities

Categories	Respondents	
	Frequency	Percent
No change (0)	11	4.10
Low change (<5)	47	17.30
Medium change (5-10)	158	58.30
High change (>10)	55	20.30
Total	**271**	**100.00**

Data in Table 4.12 showed that the overwhelming majority (75.60 percent) of the respondents had low to medium participation increased compared to 20.30 percent of the respondents was increased at high level participation in health activities. It means that PDBF played a vital role to increasing life expectancy and day-to-day participation of the clients was found to be increased satisfactory (Table 4.33).

4.1.5 Drinking water sources

Drinking water source referred to the means from which the beneficiaries get water supply for drink. Five point rating scales were considered to measure drinking water source for both before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF. The observed range of drinking water source of the respondents was 1-5 for both before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF against the possible range 1-5. The mean score was 3.41 with a standard deviation 0.95 before involvement with SELP of PDBF while the mean was 4.45 with a standard deviation of 0.85 after involvement with PDBF (Table 4.1).

Findings revealed that mean (4.45) of drinking water source after involvement was higher than mean (3.41) before involvement. Paired t-test value (t=28.99**) also revealed that there was significant differences of drinking water source between before and after involvement. It means that after involvement the beneficiaries had increased their awareness to maintain their health. The beneficiaries of PDBF were more conscious about using safe tube well water for consumption after involvement than before involvement with PDBF (Table 4.1).

Respondents of PDBF beneficiaries were classified into following categories according to their uses of drinking water sources before and after involvement as presented in Table 4.13.

Table 4.13 Distribution of PDBF beneficiaries according to their drinking water source before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF

Categories	Before involving with SELP of PDBF		Before involving with SELP of PDBF	
	Frequency	**Percent**	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Poor drinking water sources (up to 2)	27	10.00	16	5.90
Medium improved drinking water sources (3 to 4)	223	82.30	91	33.60
High improved drinking water sources (>4)	21	7.70	164	60.50
Total	**271**	**100.00**	**271**	**100.00**

Finding in Table 4.13 explored that 92.30 percent of the respondents were poor and medium improved drinking water sources before involvement with SELP of PDBF but the overwhelming majority (94.10 percent) of the respondents was medium and high drinking water sources after involvement with SELP of PDBF. The overall achievement of PDBF could be asserted from reducing tendency of very poor and medium drinking water sources.

The detailed number and percentage distribution of the beneficiaries as presented in Table 4.14 based on their use of different sources of drinking water. Data in Table 4.14 showed that the majority (47.70 percent) of the SELP beneficiaries of PDBF used water from pond, canal, beel etc., and muddy well compared to the rest 52.30 percent used pucca floor and arsenic free puuca floor tube well water. But after involvement with SELP of PDBF majority (91.10 percent) of the respondent beneficiaries used pucca floor and arsenic free puuca floor tube well water. Only 5.90 percent of the respondents used water from pond, canal, beel etc. and muddy well for drinking purpose after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Table 4.14 Distribution of the beneficiaries based on their uses of different drinking water sources before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF

Categories	Before involving with SELP of PDBF		Before involving with SELP of PDBF	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Water of pond, canal, beel etc. (1)	19	7.10	3	1.10
Water of muddy well (2)	9	3.30	13	4.80
Water of muddy floor tube well (3)	101	37.30	8	3.00
Water of pucca floor tube well (4)	121	44.60	83	30.60
Arsenic free water of pucca floor tube well (5)	21	7.70	164	60.50
Total	**271**	**100.00**	**271**	**100.00**

The observed change scores in drinking water sources of the respondents were ranged from 0-3 against the possible range of 1-5. The average change was 1.02 with a standard deviation 0.55 due to involvement with SELP of PDBF. Respondents were classified according to their change in drinking water sources due to involvement with SELP of PDBF into four categories as shown in Table 4.15 with their number and percentage.

Table 4.15 Distribution of respondents according to their changes in drinking water sources

Categories	Respondents	
	Frequency	Percent
No change (0)	36	13.30
Low change (1)	194	71.60
Medium change (2)	36	13.30
High change (>2)	5	1.80
Total	**271**	**100.00**

Data expressed from the Table 4.15 that the overwhelming majority (84.90 percent) of the respondent beneficiaries increased their drinking water sources which were ranged from low to medium level compared to 1.80 percent of the respondents was increased at high level and 13.30 percent of the respondents had no change their sources of drinking water. Medium and high level changed of in drinking water sources were found 13.30 percent and 1.80 percent respectively. It indicates better safe water for drinking due to the involvement with SELP of PDBF interventions.

4.1.6 Treatment of diseases

Treatment of diseases is another important factor of socio-economic development. Respondents of PDBF beneficiaries were received treatment for diseases among five selected personnel like treatment by MBBS doctor, village doctor, homeopath and treatment by village kabiraj, pir, ojha etc. and no treatment for both before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF. Five points rating scale were considered to measure the treatment of diseases for both before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF. The observed range for treatment of diseases of the respondents was 1-5 for both before and after involvement with PDBF against the possible range of 1-5. The mean score was 3.61 with a standard deviation 0.99 before involving while the mean was 4.51 with a standard deviation 0.86 after involvement (Table 4.1).

Findings indicated that mean (4.51) of treatment of diseases after involvement was higher than mean (3.61) before involvement. Paired t-test value (t=20.14**) also revealed that there was significant differences treatment of diseases between before and after involvement in a positive direction. It means that beneficiaries of PDBF were took treatment for human diseases after involvement with SELP of PDBF than before involvement (Table 4.1).

Respondents of PDBF beneficiaries were classified into following categories according to their treatment of diseases before and after involvement with PDBF as presented in Table 4.16.

Table 4.16 Distribution of PDBF beneficiaries according to their treatment of diseases before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF

Categories	Before involving with SELP of PDBF		Before involving with SELP of PDBF	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
No treatment (0)	13	4.80	4	1.50
Poor treatment of diseases (1)	27	10.00	10	3.70
Medium treatment of diseases (2-3)	197	72.70	75	27.60
High treatment of diseases (>3)	34	12.50	182	67.20
Total	**271**	**100.00**	**271**	**100.00**

Findings in Table 4.16 revealed that about 87.50 percent of the respondents had received no, very poor and medium improved treatments of diseases before involvement with SELP of PDBF but overwhelming majority (94.80 percent) of

the respondents had received medium and high treatment of diseases after involvement with SELP of PDBF. The overall achievement of PDBF could be asserted from reducing tendency of no and very poor treatment of diseases.

Before involvement with SELP of PDBF majority (42.10 percent) of the respondents took treatments by a homeopath, village kabiraj, pir and ojha or did not take any treatment for healing diseases, compared to 55.40 percent by village doctors and 12.50 percent by MBBS doctors. But after involvement with SELP of PDBF, 90.80 percent of the beneficiaries took treatments by either MBBS doctors or village doctors for human diseases. Only 3.60 percent of the respondents took treatment by village kabiraj, pir, ojha etc. The detailed number and percentage distribution of the beneficiaries as presented in Table 4.17 before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Table 4.17 Distribution of the beneficiaries based on their treatment of disease before and after involving with SELP of PDBF

Categories	Before involving with SELP of PDBF		After involving with SELP of PDBF	
	Frequency	**Percent**	**Frequency**	**Percent**
No treatment (0)	13	4.80	4	1.50
Treatment by village kabiraj, pir, ojha etc. (1)	27	10.00	10	3.60
Treatment by homeopath (2)	47	17.30	11	4.10
Treatment by village doctor (3)	150	55.40	64	23.60
Treatment by MBBS doctor (4)	34	12.50	182	67.20
Total	**271**	**100.00**	**271**	**100.00**

The observed change scores in the treatment of diseases of the respondents were ranged from 0 to 4. The mean was 0.90 with a standard deviation 0.74 due to involvement with SELP of PDBF as shown in Table 4.2. Respondents were classified according to their changes in the treatment of diseases due to involvement with SELP of PDBF into four categories as shown in Table 4.18 with their number and percentage.

Table 4.18 Distribution of respondents according to their changes in the treatment of diseases

Categories	Respondents	
	Frequency	Percent
No change (0)	76	28.00
Low change (1)	155	57.20
Medium change (2)	32	11.80
High change (>2)	8	3.00
Total	**271**	**100.00**

Table 4.18 showed that majority (69.00 percent) of the respondent beneficiaries increased their treatments of diseases ranging from low to medium level compared to 3.00 percent of the respondent was increased at a high level and 28.00 percent of the respondent had no change in their treatment of diseases. Medium and high levels increased of treatment of diseases were found to be 11.80 percent and 3.00 percent, respectively. Data in Table 4.18 explored that, there was no change (28.00 percent) in their treatment of diseases and low changes (57.20 percent) were found in their treatment of diseases of the SELP of PDBF beneficiaries. Because, they had already done their treatment (67.90 percent) by the village doctors and MBBS doctors before involvement with SELP of PDBF. This may because the maximum small enterprise beneficiaries' households were situated at urban areas.

4.1.7 Income

Income is revenue that an individual or business earns in exchange for providing a good or service or through investing capital. Income can come from a variety of sources and may be taxed at different rates, depending on the source. Bangladesh's Annual Household Income per Capita reached 602.549 USD in Dec 2016, compared with the previous value of 439.888 USD in Dec 2010 (CEIC Data).

The observed range of income per month of the respondents was 5-270 thousands and 10-335 thousands for both before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF respectively. The mean score was 52.58 thousand with a standard deviation of

47.84 before involvement with SELP of PDBF while the mean was 74.09 with a standard deviation of 61.21 after involving with SELP of PDBF (Table 4.1).

Findings explored that mean (74.09) of income after involvement with SELP of PDBF was higher than mean (52.58) before involvement with SELP of PDBF. Paired t-test value (t=21.15**) also revealed that there was significant differences of income per month between before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF in a positive direction. It means that PDBF worked for small entrepreneur to increase their income as well as economics status after involvement with SELP of PDBF than before involvement with SELP of PDBF (Table 4.1).

Respondents of PDBF beneficiaries were classified into following categories according to their income before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF as presented in Table 4.19.

Table 4.19 Distribution of PDBF beneficiaries according to their income before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF

Categories	Before involving with SELP of PDBF		Before involving with SELP of PDBF	
	Frequency	**Percent**	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Low income (<29)	75	27.70	30	11.10
Medium income (29-77)	158	58.30	157	57.90
High income (>77)	38	14.00	84	31.00
Total	**271**	**100.00**	**271**	**100.00**

Table 4.19 revealed that 27.70 percent of the respondents were low income holder before involvement with SELP of PDBF but only 11.10 percent of the respondents were low income holder after involvement with SELP of PDBF. On the other hand overwhelming majority (88.90 percent) of the respondent was medium and large income holder after involvement with SELP of PDBF. The overall achievement of PDBF could be asserted from reducing tendency of small income.

The observed change scores in the income of the respondents were ranged from 1-80 thousand per month. The average change was 21.44 with a standard deviation 16.80 due to involvement with SELP of PDBF. Respondents were classified according to their change in income Table 4.20 with their number and percentage.

Table 4.20 Distribution of respondents according to their changes in income

Categories	Respondents	
	Frequency	Percent
No change (0)	0	0.00
Low change (13)	102	37.60
Medium change (13-30)	123	45.40
High change (>30)	46	17.00
Total	**271**	**100.00**

Data presented in Table 4.20 revealed that majority (45.40 percent) of the respondents were increased their income which was ranged from medium level compared to 37.60 percent of the respondents were increased at low level and 17.00 percent of the respondents were increased at a high level and there was none of the respondents who had no change of income. It means that increased of income was higher after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

4.1.8 Savings deposit

A savings deposit is an important task for creating capital in income generating activities. It is also an effective weapon against economic shocks. The observed range of annual savings deposit per year of the respondents was 0-400 thousands and 1-843 thousands for both before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF respectively. The mean score was 45.30 thousand with a standard deviation of 80.45 before involvement with SELP of PDBF while the mean was 112.76 with a standard deviation of 139.52 after involving with SELP of PDBF (Table 4.1).

Findings revealed that mean (112.76) of annual savings deposit after involvement with SELP of PDBF was higher than mean (45.30) before involvement with SELP of PDBF. Paired t-test value (t=15.31**) also revealed that there was significant differences of savings deposit per year between before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF in a positive direction. It means that PDBF worked for a small entrepreneur to increase their annual savings deposit as well as economic status after involvement with SELP of PDBF than before involvement with SELP of PDBF (Table 4.1).

Respondents of PDBF beneficiaries were classified into following categories according to their savings deposit before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF as presented in Table 4.21.

Table 4.21 Distribution of PDBF beneficiaries according to their savings deposit before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF

Categories	Before involving with SELP of PDBF		Before involving with SELP of PDBF	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Low savings deposit (<5)	87	32.10	10	3.70
Medium savings deposit (5-86)	145	53.50	152	56.10
High savings deposit (>86)	39	14.40	109	40.20
Total	**271**	**100.00**	**271**	**100.00**

Table 4.21 revealed that 32.10 percent of the respondents were low savings deposit holder before involvement with SELP of PDBF but only 3.70 percent of the respondents were low savings deposit holder after involvement with SELP of PDBF. On the other hand overwhelming majority (96.30 percent) of the respondents was medium to large savings deposit holder after involvement with SELP of PDBF. PDBF operates different types of savings schemes such as General Saving (GS), Sonali Sanchay Scheme (SSS), Lakho taka Sanchay Scheme (LSS) and Newborn Sanchay Scheme (NBSS). Beneficiaries get 6-10 percent interest on their different savings deposits, if no withdraws are made during the year or as contact with PDBF. The overall achievement of PDBF could be asserted by reducing tendency of low savings deposit of the beneficiaries of SELP of PDBF.

The observed change scores in savings deposit of the respondents were ranged from 1-493 thousand per year. The average change was 67.47 with a standard deviation 72.56 due to involvement with SELP of PDBF. Respondents were classified according to their change in savings deposit Table 4.22 with their number and percentage.

Table 4.22 Distribution of respondents according to their changes in savings deposit

Categories	Respondents	
	Frequency	Percent
No change (0)	0	0.00
Low change (<31)	108	39.90
Medium change (31-104)	107	39.50
High change (>104)	56	20.70
Total	**271**	**100.00**

Table 4.22 indicated that majority (39.90 percent) of the respondents were increased their savings deposit which was ranged from low level compared to 39.50 percent of the respondents were increased at medium level and 20.70 percent of the respondents were increased at a high level and there was none of the respondents who had no change of savings deposit. It means that the increased of savings deposit was higher after involvement with SELP of PDBF. With the blessing of PDBF intervention, the beneficiaries were leaned to save from their earnings to some extent for future use. The respondents like to share their savings for more investment in their enterprises.

4.1.9 Wealth possession

Wealth possession refers to the value of the assets what the respondents possess. The observed range of wealth possession of the respondents was 386-21482 and 709-21623 for both before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF respectively. The mean score was 3181.61 with a standard deviation of 3041.01 before involvement with SELP of PDBF while the mean was 4044.65 with a standard deviation of 3371.44 after involving with SELP of PDBF (Table 4.1).

Findings showed that mean (4044.65) of wealth possession after involvement with SELP of PDBF was higher than mean (3181.61) before involvement with SELP of PDBF. Paired t-test value (t=18.30**) also revealed that there was significant differences of wealth possession between before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF in a positive direction. It means that PDBF worked for a small entrepreneur to increase their wealth and assets as well as economic status after involvement with SELP of PDBF than before involvement with SELP of PDBF (Table 4.2).

Respondents of PDBF beneficiaries were classified into following categories according to their wealth possession before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF as presented in Table 4.23.

Table 4.23 Distribution of PDBF beneficiaries according to their wealth possession before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF

Categories	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF		After involvement with SELP of PDBF	
	Frequency	**Percent**	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Low wealth possession (<1561)	76	28.00	36	13.30
Medium wealth possession (1561-4802)	165	60.90	163	60.10
High wealth possession (>4802)	30	11.10	72	26.60
Total	**271**	**100.00**	**271**	**100.00**

Table 4.23 revealed that 28.00 percent of the respondents were low assets holders before involvement with SELP of PDBF but only 13.30 percent of the respondents were small assets holders after involvement with SELP of PDBF. On the other hand overwhelming majority (86.70 percent) of the respondent was medium and large assets holders after involvement with SELP of PDBF. The overall achievement of PDBF could be asserted from reducing tendency of small assets holder.

Data presented in Table 4.23 indicated that the percent of small and large asset holder increased to 86.70 percent after involving with SELP of PDBF compared to before involving with SELP of PDBF. The percent of low asset holder was reduced from 28.00 percent to 13.30 percent before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF respectively. The medium asset holder was decreased from 60.90 percent to 60.10 percent before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF respectively but the large asset holder was increased from 11.10 percent to 26.60 percent before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF respectively.

The observed change scores in wealth possession of the respondents were ranged from 40-5116. The average change was 863.04 with a standard deviation 776.41 due to involvement with SELP of PDBF. Respondents were classified according to their change in wealth possession due to involvement with SELP of PDBF into four categories as shown in Table 4.24 with their number and percentage.

Table 4.24 Distribution of respondents according to their changes in wealth possession

Categories	Respondents	
	Frequency	Percent
No change (0)	0	0.00
Low change (475)	107	39.50
Medium change (475-1251)	102	37.60
High change (>1251)	62	22.90
Total	**271**	**100.00**

Table 4.24 revealed that majority (39.50 percent) of the respondents were increased their wealth possession which was ranged from low level compared to 37.60 percent of the respondents were increased at medium level and 22.90 percent of the respondents were increased at a high level and there was none of the respondents who had no change of wealth possession. It means that the increase of wealth possession was higher after involvement with SELP of PDBF. Sarker (2007) in his study found that 52 percent of the respondent could improve their family asset possession on medium scale compared to 31 percent of them could enhance in low scale and 17 percent in higher scale.

4.1.10 Expansion of business

Business expansion is a stage where the business reaches the point for growth and seeks out for additional options to generate more profit. Different forms of business expansion include opening in another location, adding sales employees, increased marketing, and adding franchisees, forming an alliance, offering new products or services, entering new markets, merging with or acquiring another business, expanding globally and expanding through the internet. The observed range of expansion of business of the respondents was 70-4042 and 120-5065 for both before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF respectively. The mean score was 967.70 with a standard deviation 742.65 before involvement with SELP of PDBF while the mean was 1352.59 with a standard deviation of 991.65 after involving with SELP of PDBF (Table 4.1).

Findings revealed that mean (1352.59) of expansion of business after involvement with SELP of PDBF was higher than mean (967.70) before involvement with

SELP of PDBF. Paired t-test value (t=19.52**) also revealed that there was significant differences of expansion of business between before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF in a positive direction. It means that PDBF worked for small entrepreneur to expansion their business and assets as well as economic status after involvement with SELP of PDBF than before involvement with SELP of PDBF (Table 4.1).

Respondents of PDBF beneficiaries were classified into following categories according to their expansion of business before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF as presented in Table 4.25.

Table 4.25 Distribution of PDBF beneficiaries according to their expansion of business before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF

Categories	Before involving with SELP of PDBF		Before involving with SELP of PDBF	
	Frequency	**Percent**	**Frequency**	**Percent**
Low expansion of business (<596)	102	37.60	60	22.10
Medium expansion of business (596-1339)	107	39.50	108	39.90
High expansion of business (>1339)	62	22.90	103	38.00
Total	**271**	**100.00**	**271**	**100.00**

Table 4.25 revealed that 37.60 percent of the respondents' business was low expansion before involvement with SELP of PDBF but only 22.10 percent of the respondents' business was low expansion after involvement with SELP of PDBF. On the other hand majority (77.90 percent) of the respondents' business was medium and high expansion after involvement with SELP of PDBF. The main goal of PDBF small enterprise loan programme is to expand the business of small entrepreneurs. The data proves that PDBF has succeeded in this goal.

The observed change scores in expansion of business of the respondents were ranged from 9-1660. The average change was 384.80 with a standard deviation 324.43 due to involvement with SELP of PDBF. Respondents were classified according to their change in expansion of business due to involvement with SELP of PDBF into four categories as shown in Table 4.26 with their number and percentage.

Table 4.26 Distribution of respondents according to their changes in expansion of business

Categories	Respondents	
	Frequency	Percent
No change (0)	0	0.00
Low change (<223)	128	47.20
Medium change (223-547)	79	29.20
High change (>547)	64	23.60
Total	**271**	**100.00**

Table 4.26 revealed that majority (47.20 percent) of the respondents' business were expanded at low level compared to 29.20 percent of the respondents' business was expanded at medium level and 23.60 percent of the respondents' business was expanded at high level and there was none of the respondents who had no change of business expansion. It means that expansion of business was higher after involvement with SELP of PDBF. It is an excellent result of SELP of PDBF.

4.1.11 Overall Socio-economic Development by the SELP of PDBF

Overall socio-economic development were determined by the addition of the extent of changes occurred in ten selected dimensions like changes in food consumption, dressing habit, sanitation condition, participation in health activities, drinking water sources, drinking water sources, income, savings deposit, wealth possession and expansion of business. Salient features such as possible range, observed range, mean, standard deviation (SD) of the total change of ten dimensions have been presented in Table 4.27. Change in the socio-economic development of the respondents through SELP of PDBF was found to range from 10 to 22, mean was 14.90 with standard deviation of 2.34

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Data exposed from the Table 4.27 that only 30.60 percent of the respondents were under low change category. It means that the socio-economic development activities were low effective for 30.60 percent beneficiaries of PDBF. The largest proportions (47.20 percent) of the respondents were involved in socio-economic development activates after involvement with

PDBF. It indicated that the socio-economic development activities were medium effective for about 47.20 percent of respondents. Only 22.20 percent had high change in their socio-economic condition after involvement with PDBF. There were no respondents who did not change.

Table 4.27 Distribution of the respondents according to their total changes in socio-economic development

Categories	Respondents		Possible range	Observed range	Mean	SD
	Frequency	Percent				
No change: (0)	0	0				
Low change: (1-10)	83	30.60				
Medium change: (11-20)	128	47.20	0-30	10-22	14.90	2.34
High change: (21-30)	60	22.20				
Total	**271**	**100.00**				

Data in Table 4.27 revealed that majority (69.40 percent) of the respondents increased their socio-economic development which was ranged from medium to high level compared to 30.60 percent of the respondents was increased at low level socio-economic development. It means that PDBF was very active to their SELP beneficiaries on socio-economic development activities.

4.1.12 Item wise Comparative Impact Index of Each Dimension of Socio-economic Development by the SELP of PDBF

To ascertain the comparison among the impact items, the Impact Index (II) and Standardized Impact Index (SII) of each item of impact scale was measured by using the formula mentioned in Chapter 3 of this dissertation. The ranking of the items associated with the impact scores of the beneficiaries is shown in Table 4.28. Rank orders of the items were made based on the descending order of SII comparison among the item of dimensions of SELP of PDBF (Table 4.28).

Table 4.28 showed that on the basis of Standardized Impact Index (SII) among all the 10 impact items, ‘Food consumption’ ranked first followed by ‘Participation in health activities’. The next impact items in descending order were ‘wealth possession’, ‘savings deposit’, ‘income’, ‘expansion of business’, ‘dressing habit’, ‘drinking water sources’, ‘treatment of diseases’ and ‘sanitation condition’.

Table 4.28 Impact Index (II), Standardized Impact index (SII) and Rank order of item of impact

Sl. No.	Items of Impact	No of SELP beneficiaries					Impact Index II	Standardized Impact Index SII (%)	Rank order
		High change of impact	Medium change of impact	Low change of impact	No change of impact	Total			
1.	Food consumption	74	112	85	0	271	531	65.31	1
2.	Participation in health activities	55	158	47	11	271	528	64.94	2
3.	Wealth possession	62	102	107	0	271	497	61.13	3
4.	Savings deposit	56	107	108	0	271	490	60.27	4
5.	Income	46	123	102	0	271	486	59.78	5
6.	Expansion of business	64	79	128	0	271	478	58.79	6
7.	Dressing habit	9	38	191	33	271	294	36.16	7
8.	Drinking water sources	5	36	194	36	271	281	34.56	8
9.	Treatment of diseases	8	32	155	76	271	243	29.89	9
10.	Sanitation condition	2	18	167	84	271	209	25.71	10

It may be the cause that beneficiaries of PDBF were more conscious about food intake after involvement with SELP of PDBF than before involvement. On the other hand, due to the good sanitation system of the country, their changes were less visible.

4.2 Selected Characteristics of the SELP Beneficiaries of PDBF

Certain attributes or characteristics form an integral part of the development of human behavior. The purpose of this section is to describe the twelve selected characteristics of the respondent beneficiaries of SELP of PDBF as indicated in the objective of the study. The characteristics of the SELP beneficiaries were classified into suitable categories for description and interpretation about the impact of SELP of PDBF.

Some of the salient features such as measuring unit, possible range and observed range, mean, standard deviation (SD) of the selected characteristics of the beneficiaries have been presented in Table 4.29.

Table 4.29 Measuring unit, possible range and observed range, mean, standard deviation (SD) of the selected characteristics of the respondent beneficiaries

Characteristics	Measuring unit	Possible range	Observed range	Mean	SD
Personal					
Age	No. of years	Unknown	18-62	40.24	10.17
Education	Schooling years	Unknown	0.5-15	7.62	2.81
Dependency ratio	Score (percent)	Unknown	0-200	54.62	45.66
Social					
Training exposure	No. of months (1for 1 month)	Unknown	0-96	6.26	5.92
Length of involvement	Score (1 for 1 year)	Unknown	1-16	4.70	2.97
Decision making ability	Score	5-15	7-15	11.72	1.58
Economical					
Savings deposit	Score (1 for '000' Tk.)	Unknown	4-585	187.46	153.58
Loan availability	Score (percent)	0-100	40-100	87.98	14.29
Loan utilization	Score (percent)	0-100	7-100	89.95	13.41
Loan repayment behavior	Score (percent)	0-100	37-100	93.72	10.88
Psychological					
Satisfaction towards loan received condition	Score	0-36	6-36	11.72	1.58
Attitude towards SELP of PDBF	Score	0-64	7-62	45.65	13.41

For describing the characteristics of the beneficiaries, they were classified into suitable categories according to each of the characteristics. Category wise number and percentage mean and standard deviation (SD) were used to describe the characteristics (Table 4.30 to 4.33).

4.2.1 Personal Characteristics

A person may possess many personal characteristics. Three (3) personal characteristics of the respondent beneficiaries namely age, education, total dependency ratio were selected for the present study. Category wise number and percent distribution of these three (3) selected personal characteristics with mean and standard deviation (SD) have been presented in Table 4.30 and discussed below:

Table 4.30 Distribution of PDBF small enterprise loan programme beneficiaries according to their personal characteristics

Characteristics	Categories	Respondents		Mean	SD
		Number	percent		
Age (years)	Young aged (18- 35)	60	22.10	40.24	10.167
	Middle aged (36- 55)	201	74.20		
	Old aged (>55)	10	3.70		
	Total	**271**	**100.00**		
Education (schooling years)	Can sing only (0.5)	6	2.20	7.63	2.812
	Primary level (1-5)	27	10.00		
	Secondary level (6-10)	160	59.00		
	Higher secondary level (11-12)	56	20.70		
	Bachelor level (>12)	22	8.10		
	Total	**271**	**100.00**		
Total dependency ratio (percent)	Low total dependency ratio (0-50)	172	63.50	54.62	45.66
	Medium total dependency ratio (51-100)	78	28.80		
	High total dependency ratio (> 100)	21	7.70		
	Total	**271**	**100.00**		

4.2.1.1 Age

Age of the respondents' beneficiaries was determined by the number of years from their birth to the time of interview. The age of the respondents ranged from 18 years to 62 years, the mean was 40.24 with a standard deviation (SD) 10.167 (Table 4.30). This indicates that the study group was moderately heterogeneous in terms of age level. On the basis of age, the respondents were classified into three categories as done by Nancy (2002). These were young aged (18-35 years), middle aged (36-55 years) and old aged (above 55 years).

Data presented in Table 4.30 indicated that near about three fourth (74.20 percent) of the respondents were as middle aged compared to young aged (22.10 percent) and old aged (3.70 percent). Almost similar finding was also observed in the study of Hossain (2009) where he found that the highest proportion (53.7 percent) of the respondents was identified as middle aged, compared to 31.1 percent in the young and 15.3 percent in the old aged category.

Findings indicated that a large proportion (96.30 percent) of the beneficiaries was middle and young aged. Beneficiaries of middle and young aged were more

interested to SELP of PDBF. Their age ranged from 18 years to 55 years. With the increase of age, a man increases his experience and knowledge which might help to utilize SELP loan more effective way to increase their socio-economic condition. The findings had similarity with the studies of Islam *et. al.* (2014) and Basu *et. a.l* (2020). They participated in PDBF to increase their income for betterment of their livings. With properly trained, motivated and guided the middle and young aged beneficiaries will be able to light against the poverty.

4.2.1.2 Educational qualification

The educational qualification of the beneficiaries was an important factor which determined their socio-economic development. The education level of the respondents ranged from 0.50 to 15 years of schooling and the mean was 7.63 with a standard deviation (SD) 2.81 (Table 4.30). On the basis of their level of educational scores, the respondents were classified into five categories such as can sign only, primary level, secondary level, higher secondary level and bachelor level and above.

Data presented in Table 4.30 indicated that majority (59.00 percent) of the respondents were secondary level, compared to primary level (10.00 percent) and higher secondary level education (20.70 percent). Very negligible proportion (2.20 percent) of them could able to sign and the rest portion was bachelor level of education. Similar findings were observed by Kabir et.al. (2018) and also Mazumder and Kabir (2022), who mentioned that education is an important factor to uplift socio-economic condition of the rural farmers through the use of smart adaptation strategies. Charney and Libecap (2000) found almost similar findings that entrepreneurship education creates self-sufficient entrepreneurial individuals.

The background of education is an essential element for success of business. Education may help the beneficiaries to broaden their outlook towards utilizing of SELP loan. PDBF can play a big role to educate its SELP beneficiaries in future.

4.2.1.3 Total dependency ratio

Total dependency ratio is the ratio of combined youth population (ages 0-14) and elderly population (ages 65^{+}) per 100 people of working age (ages 15-64). A high total dependency ratio indicates that the working-age population and the overall economy face a greater burden to support and provide social services for youth and elderly persons, who are often economically dependent.

Data presented in Table 4.30 showed that more than three fifth (63.50 percent) of the SELP respondents were included in low total dependency ratio. Slightly more than one fourth (28.80 percent) of the SELP respondents were included in medium total dependency ratio and very less portion (7.70 percent) were included in high total dependency ratio. An overwhelming majority (92.30 percent) of the SELP of PDBF respondents were included in low and total medium dependency ratio.

A low total dependency ratio means that there are sufficient people working who can support the dependent population. A lower ratio could allow for better pensions and better health care for citizens. In Bangladesh context, dependency ratios are as: total dependency ratio- 47% (CIA World Fact book, 2020) and 53% reported World Bank, 2019. Data revealed that, SELP respondents of PDBF were included in a better position in case of total dependency ratio.

4.2.2 Social Characteristics

An individual respondent may have many social characteristics. Three (3) social characteristics of the respondent beneficiaries were selected for the present study. These include- training exposure, length of involvement and decision making ability. Categories, number and percent distribution of these three (3) selected social characteristics with mean and standard deviation (SD) have been presented in Table 4.31 and discussed below:

4.2.2.1 Training exposure

The training exposure score of the respondents was ranged from 0 to 24 months. The average was 6.26 months with standard deviation of 5.92 (Table 4.31). On the basis of training exposure, the respondents were classified into four categories

such as no training (0), low training (1-6 months), medium training (7-12 months) and high training (above 12 months).

Table 4.31 Distribution of PDBF small enterprise loan programme beneficiaries according to their social characteristics

Characteristics	Categories	Respondents		Mean	SD
		Number	percent		
Training exposure (months)	No training (0)	42	15.50	6.26	5.91
	Low training (1-6)	138	50.90		
	Medium training (7-12)	58	21.40		
	High training (>12)	33	12.20		
	Total	**271**	**100.00**		
Length of involvement (years)	Low involvement (Up to 2)	64	23.60	[4.70	3.00
	Medium involvement (3 - 5)	125	46.10		
	High involvement (>5)	82	30.30		
	Total	**271**	**100.00**		
Decision making ability (score)	Low decision making ability (up to 8)	3	1.10	11.72	1.58
	Medium decision making ability (9-12)	187	69.00		
	High decision making ability (>12)	81	29.90		
	Total	**271**	**100.00**		

Data presented in Table 4.31 revealed that the highest proportion (50.90 percent) of the respondents received low training whereas 21.40 percent of them received medium training and only 12.20 percent received high training. Besides this, 15.50 percent of the respondents received no training. Note that, the high standard deviation indicates that the training was not equally distributed among the respondents.

Finding indicated that PDBF should organize more training for the beneficiaries of SELP of PDBF. Entrepreneurs need to have technical and basic training. Aragon and Valle (2013) found that training is considered to be a key element in enhancing a firm's human capital capabilities and organizational knowledge, which in turn strengthens its competitive advantage.

The absence or low training experiences of the PDBF beneficiaries revealed that there was existed a big scope to train the beneficiaries about leadership and social development to increase their knowledge and changed their attitude towards participation in training.

4.2.2.2 Length of involvement with SELP of PDBF

Length of involvement with SELP of PDBF of the respondents ranged from 1-16 years, the mean was 4.70 with a standard deviation (SD) 3.00 (Table 4.31). According to the length of involvement with SELP of PDBF the respondents' beneficiaries were classified three categories as low involvement (up to 2 years), medium involvement (3-5 years) and high involvement (above 5 years).

Data presented in Table 4.31 indicated that near about half (46.10 percent) of the respondents were as medium involvement with SELP of PDBF compared to high involvement with SELP of PDBF (30.30 percent) and low involvement with SELP of PDBF (23.60 percent) category. Almost similar findings was also found in the study of Fatoki and Asah (2011) where they observed that SMEs established more than five years have a far better chance to be successful in their credit applications compared with SMEs established for less than five years.

Findings indicated that a large proportion (76.40 percent) of the beneficiaries' involvement with SELP of PDBF were medium and high categories level. The length of experience with SELP of PDBF has a positive and significant relationship with beneficiaries' socio-economic development. Satisfaction towards SELP of PDBF activities may have their long-term involvement with PDBF.

4.2.2.3 Decision making ability

Decision making ability scores of the respondents was ranged from 7 to 15 against the possible range of 5 to 15, the mean being 11.72, standard deviation of 1.58 and co-efficient of variation 13.48. Based on the decision making ability scores, the respondents were classified into three categories as low decision making ability, medium decision making ability and high decision making ability (Table 4.31). In this aspect, Musemakweri (2007) argued that it is more reasonable to view 'decision making' as the final outcome of a long-lasting process with varying degrees of deliberateness and consciousness.

Table 4.31 indicated that majority (69.00 percent) of the respondents had medium decision making ability, while 29.90 and 1.10 percent had high and low decision making ability respectively. The data also revealed that an overwhelming majority (98.90 percent) of the respondents had medium to high decision making ability. It may be that PDBF respondents are ahead of others in the society in terms of decision-making abilities that they have learned while doing business and through PDBF training.

4.2.3 Economical Characteristics

An individual respondent may have many economic characteristics. The present study deals with four (4) economic characteristics of the respondent beneficiaries namely savings deposit, loan availability, loan utilization and loan repayment behavior. Category wise number and percent distribution of these four (4) selected economical characteristics with mean and standard deviation (SD) have been presented in Table 4.32 and discussed below:

Table 4.32 Distribution of PDBF small enterprise loan programme beneficiaries according to their economical characteristics

Characteristics	Categories	Respondents		Mean	SD
		Number	percent		
Savings deposit (1 for '000' Tk.)	No savings deposit (0)	5	1.80	187.46	153.58
	Low savings deposit (up to 40)	122	45.00		
	Medium savings deposit (41-160)	89	32.80		
	High savings deposit (>160)	55	20.30		
	Total	**271**	**100.00**		
Loan availability (percent)	Low loan availability (up to 80 %)	62	22.90	87.98	14.29
	Medium loan availability (81 %-95 %)	84	31.00		
	High loan availability (>95 %)	125	46.10		
	Total	**271**	**100.00**		
Loan utilization (percent)	Low loan utilization (up to 50 %)	59	21.80	89.95	13.41
	Medium loan utilization (81 % - 95 %)	89	32.80		
	High loan utilization (>95 %)	123	45.40		
	Total	**271**	**100.00**		

Characteristics	Categories	Respondents		Mean	SD
		Number	percent		
Loan repayment behavior (percent)	Low loan repayment behavior (up to 80 %)	45	16.60	93.72	10.88
	Medium repayment behavior (81 % - 95 %)	52	19.20		
	High loan repayment behavior (>95 %)	174	64.20		
	Total	**271**	**100.00**		

4.2.3.1 Savings deposit

Savings deposit is an important task for creating capital in income generating activities. The savings deposit scores of the respondents were ranged from 4 thousand to 585 thousand Tk. The average savings deposit was 187.46 with a standard deviation (SD) 153.58 (Table 4.32). On the basis of savings accumulation of the respondents, they were classified into 4 categories as shown in Table 4.32.

Data furnished in the Table 4.32 indicated that majority (45.00 percent) of the respondents had low savings deposit, while 32.80 percent of them had medium and 20.30 percent have high savings deposit and only 1.80 percent of them had no savings deposit. Data revealed that (53.10 percent) of the respondents had medium to high savings deposit. With the blessing of PDBF intervention, the beneficiaries were leaned to save from their earnings to some extent for future use. The respondents like to share their savings for more investment to their enterprises.

4.2.3.2 Loan availability

Loan availability of the last three (03) years of the respondents was ranged from 40 to 100. The mean was 87.98 with a standard deviation 14.29 (Table 4.32). Based on the loan availability, the respondents were classified into three categories as shown in Table 4.32.

Data furnished in the Table 4.32 revealed that the majority of the respondents (46.10 percent) were included in high loan availability category; whereas 22.90 percent of the respondents were included in low loan availability category and 31.00 percent of them were included in medium loan availability category. The findings revealed that high portion (52.40 percent) respondent beneficiaries were satisfied towards loan received condition of PDBF (Table 4.33). McMahon

(2001) found that greater dependence upon external finance associated with better business growth.

It showed that the respondents were highly heterogeneous in term of loan availability. They also demanded for more loan availability. They invested more loans in their self employment opportunities and got more return from those. So, their income was changed significantly.

4.2.3.3 Loan utilization

Proper utilization of loan was a prerequisite to attain aim and target of both loan disbursement and receipt as well as for growth of income. Loan utilization of the respondents was ranged from 7 to 100. The average mean was 89.95 with a standard deviation (SD) 13.41 (Table 4.32). Based on the loan utilization, the respondents were classified into three categories as shown in Table 4.32.

Data furnished in Table 4.32 indicated that about 45.40 percent of the respondents had high loan utilization while 32.80 percent of them had medium loan utilization and only 21.80 percent of them had low loan utilization behavior. A total of 78.20 percent respondents had utilized their loan in highly productive and partially productive purposes. None of all respondents was spent their amount on unproductive purposes. Long duration regarding attaching the programme may help the beneficiaries to utilize the loan properly. A diversion of loan, where it was occurred, was mostly channeled into income producing activities. This finding was similar to Khan (2006). He found in his study that utilization of credit by the respondents had significant positive relationship with their impact of participation of Dipshikha rural development activities.

4.2.3.4 Loan repayment behavior

Repayment capacity is one of the crucial aspects of loan analysis. It is mostly related to the effective utilization. Use of loan for unproductive purposes very often results in overdue of loans and weakens the financial viability of the financial institutions (Mian and Kasem, 2006). The success of loan related institutions, therefore, depends mostly on the extent of proper utilization of loan supplied to the borrowers. The mode of SELP of PDBF loan repayment was on

monthly basis and the total amount of loan along with interest was to be repaid in 12-24 installments. Loan repayment behaviour of the respondents was ranged from 37-100 percent. The average was 89.95 with a standard deviation of 13.41 (Table 4.32). Based on the loan repayment behaviour the respondents were classified into following three categories as shown in Table 4.32.

Data furnished in the Table 4.32 indicated that about 45.40 percent of the respondents had high loan repayment behaviour, while 21.80 percent of them had low loan repayment behaviour and 32.80 percent of them had medium loan repayment behaviour. Data expressed that 78.20 percent respondents had medium to high loan repayment behaviour. It showed that small enterprise loan programme of PDBF had excellent repayment performance.

4.2.4 Psychological Characteristics

An individual respondent may possess many psychological characteristics. Two (2) psychological characteristics of the respondent beneficiaries were selected for the present study. These include - satisfaction towards loan received condition and attitude towards SELP of PDBF. Categories, number and percent distribution of these two selected psychological characteristics with mean and standard deviation (SD) have been presented in Table 4.33 and discussed below:

Table 4.33 Distribution of PDBF small enterprise loan programme beneficiaries according to their psychological characteristics

Characteristics	Categories	Respondents		Mean	SD
		Number	percent		
Satisfaction towards loan received condition (score)	Low satisfaction (up to 12)	38	14.00	23.55	8.00
	Medium satisfaction (13-24)	91	33.60		
	High satisfaction (>24)	142	52.40		
	Total	**271**	**100.00**		
Attitude towards SELP of PDBF (score)	Highly unfavorable attitude (0-16)	10	3.70	45.65	13.41
	Low unfavorable attitude (17-32)	10	3.70		
	Low favorable attitude (33-48)	78	28.80		
	Highly favorable attitude (49-64)	173	63.80		
	Total	**271**	**100.00**		

4.2.4.1 Satisfaction towards loan received condition

Satisfaction scores of the respondents towards SELP of PDBF were ranged from 6 to 36 with an average score being 23.55 and standard deviation 8.00. On the basis of Satisfaction score, the respondents were classified as shown in Table 4.33.

Data computed in Table 4.33 indicated that the majority of the respondents (52.40 percent) had highly satisfied towards SELP of PDBF and 33.60 percent of them had medium satisfaction level towards SELP of PDBF. Very less proportion of the respondents (14.00 percent) had lowest satisfaction level towards SELP of PDBF. It means that, the respondents had medium to highly favourable attitude towards SELP of PDBF. All of the respondents of SELP of PDBF were well benefited after involvement with SELP of PDBF on socio-economic development activities.

Most of the respondents were satisfied in different SELP of PDBF activities. So, they showed favourable satisfaction attitude towards SELP of PDBF. Existence of moderate and highly favourable satisfaction attitudes among larger proportion of the SELP of PDBF loan receivers indicated positive impact of SELP of PDBF activities on socio-economic development.

4.2.4.2 Attitude towards SELP of PDBF

Attitude scores of the respondents towards SELP of PDBF were ranged from 0 to 64 with an average score being 45.65 and standard deviation 13.41 and co-efficient of variation 29.38. On the basis of attitude score, the respondents were classified as shown in Table 4.33.

Data computed in Table 4.33 indicated that the majority of the respondents (63.80 percent) had highly favourable attitude towards SELP of PDBF and 28.80 percent of them had low favourable attitude towards SELP of PDBF. Very negligible proportion of the respondents (3.70 percent) was included in both highly and low unfavourable attitude towards SELP of PDBF. Almost similar finding was found by Zakaria (2000) where he stated that 60.83 percent of the respondents had moderately favorable attitude towards BRDB, 37.50 percent had highly favorable attitude towards BRDB credit and only 1.67 percent of the respondents had low favorable attitude towards BRDB.

Most of the respondents were satisfy in different SELP of PDBF activities. It may be concluded that existence of high favorable attitude towards PDBF by majority of the respondents indicates the recognition of SELP of PDBF activities on socio-economic development in the study areas.

4.3 Contribution of the Selected Characteristics of the SELP Beneficiaries to the Impact of SELP on Their Socio-economic Development

The purpose of this sub-section is to examine the contribution of selected characteristics of the beneficiaries on their socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF. Socio-economic development is a multivariate phenomenon involving interaction of many factors. Past studies on socio-economic development have brought to light a good number of characteristics of an individual that affect the development indicator.

Before determining the contributions of 12 selected characteristics of SELP beneficiaries on their socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF, Pearson Product Moment correlation was run to explore the relationships of the selected characteristics of the SELP beneficiaries with their socio-economic development.

Correlation analysis showed that out of 12 characteristics of the beneficiaries, six (6) characteristics were found positively and significantly related with their socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF. These significant characteristics were age, education, savings deposit, loan utilization, satisfaction towards loan received condition and attitude towards SELP of PDBF. Only one characteristic (loan availability) of the beneficiaries was found negatively and significantly related with socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF. This is because; the PDBF loan may be used for other purposes than those for which it was taken. Another five characteristics i.e. total dependency ratio, training exposure, length of involvement, loan repayment behavior and decision making ability of the SELP beneficiaries had no significant relationship with socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF.

Multi-collinearity refers to the selected predictor variables that were highly correlated with each other. This study showed the VIF correlation coefficient value of the variables ranged from 1.13 to 5.00, which is the best fit for further analysis (Hair et al., 2013). A value of VIF 1 indicates that there was no correlation between this independent variable and any others. VIFs between 1 and 5 suggest a moderate correlation. None of the variance proportions yielded the same result, and all were less than 0.9, indicating that there was no multi-collinearity problem or error in the study's chosen predictors (Hair et al., 2013).

Table 4.34 Correlation matrix within independent variables showing absence of multi-collinearity

	X_1	X_2	X_3	X_4	X_5	X_6	X_7	X_8	X_9	X_{10}	X_{11}	X_{12}
X_1	1											
X_2	.303**	1										
X_3	-.133*	-.127*	1									
X_4	.032	.083	.084	1								
X_5	-.004	-.230**	-.130*	.044	1							
X_6	.193**	.177**	-.136*	.066	-.013	1						
X_7	-.062	-.145*	-.068	.004	.146*	.021	1					
X_8	.033	.288**	.069	.092	-.093	.073	.042	1				
X_9	-.014	.128*	.006	-.040	-.067	.060	-.076	.202**	1			
X_{10}	.387**	.444**	-.105	.047	-.186**	.098	-.072	.036	.019	1		
X_{11}	.044	.101	-.115	-.029	-.123*	-.061	.017	.004	-.088	.104	1	
X_{12}	.302**	.385**	-.015	.022	-.148*	.057	-.049	.125*	.131*	.484**	.005	1
Y	.477**	.596**	-.121*	.044	-.033	.271**	-.170**	.137*	.055	.515**	.022	.417**

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level
*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level

X_1	Age	X_7	Loan availability
X_2	Education	X_8	Loan utilization
X_3	Total dependency ratio	X_9	Loan repayment behavior
X_4	Training Exposure	X_{10}	Satisfaction towards loan received condition
X_5	Length of Involvement	X_{11}	Decision making ability
X_6	Savings deposit	X_{12}	Attitude towards SELP of PDBF
Y	Impact of SELP of PDBF on socio -economic development		

Results of Pearson Product Moment correlation analysis among selected characteristics of the beneficiaries were shown in above correlation matrix (Table 4.34). Before running the regression analysis, multi-collinearity was checked among the independent variables and no collinearity found among them. Results of Pearson Product Moment correlation among all the independent variables and with the dependent variable was shown in Table 4.34.

The independent variables in isolation would not give a comprehensive picture of the contribution of independent variables to the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries through SELP of PDBF (Y). The different characteristics of the respondents may interact together to make a combined contribution to their socio--economic development of the beneficiaries through SELP of PDBF. Keeping this fact in view linear regression analysis was used to assess the contribution of the independent variables on the socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF.

In order to estimate the contribution of the selected characteristics of the SELP beneficiaries to their impact of SELP on the socio-economic development, the regression analysis was used which is shown in Table 4.35.

All the selected 12 independent variables were age (X_1), education (X_2), dependency ratio (X_3), training exposure (X_4), length of involvement (X_5), savings deposit (X_6), loan availability (X_7), loan utilization (X_8), loan repayment behavior (X_9), satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10}), decision making ability (X_{11}) and attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12})

Table 4.35 Regression analysis showing the contribution of 12 independent variables on the beneficiaries' socio-economic development

Dependent variable	Independent variable	β	ρ	R^2	Adj. R^2	F
Impact of SELP of PDBF on socio -economic development	(Constant)	-559.389				
	Age (X_1)	.212	.000**			
	Education (X_2)	.391	.000**			
	Dependency ratio (X_3)	.008	.861			
	Training exposure (X_4)	-.026	.552			
	Length of involvement (X_5)	.129	.005**			
	Savings deposit (X_6)	.139	.002**			
	Loan availability (X_7)	-.102	.020*			
	Loan utilization (X_8)	.009	.850	.537	.516	24.975
	Loan repayment behavior (X_9)	-.022	.614			
	Satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10})	.215	.000**			
	Decision making ability (X_{11})	-.025	.565			
	Attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12})	.107	.036*			

** Significant at p<0.01; * Significant at p<0.05

Data present in Table 4.35 indicated the R^2 and adjusted R^2 in the multiple regression analysis were 0.537 and 0.516 respectively and the corresponding F-ratio 24.975 was significant at 0.000 levels (Appendix-V). The regression equation so obtained is presented below:

$$\mathbf{Y = -559.389 + 0.212X_1 + 0.391X_2 + .008X_3 + (-.026\ 0)\ X_4 + .129X_5 + 0.139X_6 + (-\ 0.102)\ X_7 + .009X_8 + (-.022)\ X_9 + 0.215X_{10} + (-.025)\ X_{11} + 0.107X_{12}}$$

R^2 = 0.537
Adjusted R^2 = 0.516
F-ratio = 24.975
Constant = -559.389

This indicated that the 12 independent variables combined explained 53.70 percent of the total variation on socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF of the respondents.

Results of multiple regression analysis indicated that the education (X_2) of the SELP beneficiaries was so far the most important characteristic which strongly and positively influenced on their socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF. Satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10}), age (X_1), length of involvement (X_5), savings deposit (X_6) and attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12}) had a positive and significant influence on their socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF. Loan availability (X_7) had negative and significant influence on their socio-economic development. Though PDBF provided sufficient loans to the beneficiaries but it might be used for other purposes.

Table 4.35 indicated that in different combinations, standardized partial regression co-efficient of 6 independent variables were significant out of 12 independent variables on socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF as the dependent variable. Only one characteristic (loan availability) of the beneficiaries was found negatively and significantly related with socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF.

It was observed that regression co-efficient of these 7 independent variables of the beneficiaries through SELP of PDBF was significant different probability levels

(0.000 to 0.050). It could logically happen due to the existence of interrelationship within the different independent variables.

4.3.1 Direct and indirect effects of the selected characteristics of the beneficiaries

In the present study Pearson product moment correlation test, full model linear multiple regression were conducted. It was not possible to find out the direct effects and indirect effects separately by these tests. But, in path analysis, it was possible to get direct effects and indirect effects separately.

Path coefficient is standardized partial regression coefficient and as such measures the direct influence of one variable upon another and permits the separation of the correlation coefficient into components of direct and indirect effects (Dewey and Lu, 1959). This allows the direct effect of an independent variable and its indirect effect through other variables on the dependent variable (Sasmal and Chakrabarty, 1978).

Direct effect of an independent variable on the dependent variable is the standardized beta co-efficient (value of 'b' of regression analysis) of the respective independent variable. Whereas indirect effect of an independent variable through a channeled variable is measured by the following formula:

$$e = \sum b \times r$$

Where,

e = Total indirect effect of an independent variable

b = Direct effect of the variable through which indirect effect is channeled

r = Correlation co-efficient between respective independent variable and variables through which indirect effect is channeled.

Path coefficient analysis was employed in order to obtain clear understanding of the direct and indirect effects of selected independent variables. Path analysis was done involving the significant variables of full model of multiple regression analysis. Path coefficients showing the direct and indirect effects of significant 7 independent variables of full model multiple regression analysis on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries through SELP of PDBF are presented in Table 4.35 and the direct and indirect effect of the independent variables on socio-economic development is also presented in Fig. 4.13.

The variable education (X_2) had the highest (0.365) positive total indirect effect followed by satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10}), age (X_1), attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12}), savings deposit (X_6) and loan availability (X_7). Loan availability (X_7) had the negative total indirect effect (-0.056) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries through SELP of PDBF activities.

Table 4.36 Path coefficients showing the direct and indirect effects of selected independent variables on socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF

Independent variables	Variables through which substantial indirect effects were channeled	Indirect effect	Total indirect effect	Direct effect
Age (X_1)	Education (X_2)	0.064	0.237	0.212
	Length of involvement (X_5)	-0.001		
	Savings deposit (X_6)	0.041		
	Loan availability (X_7)	-0.013		
	Satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10})	0.082		
	Attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12})	0.064		
Education (X_2)	Age (X_1)	0.118	0.365	0.391
	Length of involvement (X_5)	-0.090		
	Savings deposit (X_6)	0.069		
	Loan availability (X_7)	-0.057		
	Satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10})	0.174		
	Attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12})	0.151		
Length of involvement (X_5)	Age (X_1)	-0.001	-0.056	0.129
	Education (X_2)	-0.030		
	Savings deposit (X_6)	-0.002		
	Loan availability (X_7)	0.019		
	Satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10})	-0.024		
	Attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12})	-0.019		
Savings deposit (X_6)	Age (X_1)	0.027	0.074	0.139
	Education (X_2)	0.025		
	Length of involvement (X_5)	-0.002		
	Loan availability (X_7)	0.003		
	Satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10})	0.014		
	Attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12})	0.008		

Independent variables	Variables through which substantial indirect effects were channeled	Indirect effect	Total indirect effect	Direct effect
Loan availability (X_7)	Age (X_1)	0.006	0.016	-0.102
	Education (X_2)	0.015		
	Length of involvement (X_5)	-0.015		
	Savings deposit (X_6)	-0.002		
	Satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10})	0.007		
	Attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12})	0.005		
Satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10})	Age (X_1)	0.083	0.248	0.215
	Education (X_2)	0.095		
	Length of involvement (X_5)	-0.040		
	Savings deposit (X_6)	0.021		
	Loan availability (X_7)	-0.015		
	Attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12})	0.104		
Attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12})	Age (X_1)	0.032	0.110	0.107
	Education (X_2)	0.041		
	Length of involvement (X_5)	-0.016		
	Savings deposit (X_6)	0.006		
	Loan availability (X_7)	-0.005		
	Satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10})	0.052		

On the basis of path analysis, the independent variables having indirect effects on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries through SELP of PDBF have been presented below in descending order.

Education (X_2)

Path analysis showed that education (X_2) had the highest (0.365) positive total indirect effect and a positive direct effect 0.391 (Table 4.36) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF activities. The indirect effect through education (X_2) was mostly channeled positively satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10}), age (X_1), attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12}), savings deposit (X_6). There was negative indirect effect of education (X_2) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF through length of involvement (X_5) and loan availability (X_7).

It may be inferred that education (X_2) had a positive and significant contributions to increase respondents' socio-economic condition.

Satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10})

Path analysis showed that satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10}) had the 2nd total indirect effect (0.248) and a positive direct effect 0.215 (Table 4.36) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF activities. The indirect effect of satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10}) was mostly channeled positively age (X_1), education (X_2), savings deposit (X_6) and attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12}) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF activities. On the other hand the indirect effect of satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10}) was mostly channeled negatively through length of involvement (X_5) and Loan availability (X_7) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF.

It may be inferred that other variables remaining constant, satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10}) had an influence on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF activities and was a determinant of the beneficiaries of selected socio-economic development activities.

Age (X_1)

Path analysis showed that age (X_1) had the 3rd total indirect effect (0.237) and a positive direct effect 0.212 (Table 4.36) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF activities. The indirect effect of age (X_1) was mostly channeled positively through education (X_2), savings deposit (X_6), satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10}) and attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12}) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF activities. There was indirect negative effect of age (X_1) was mostly channeled negatively through length of involvement (X_5) and loan availability (X_7) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF.

It may be revealed that age (X_1) had positive and significant contributions to increase respondents' socio-economic condition.

Attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12})

Path analysis showed that attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12}) had the 4th total indirect effect (0.110) and a positive direct effect 0.107 (Table 4.36) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF activities. The indirect effect of attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12}) was mostly channeled positively through age (X_1), education (X_2), savings deposit (X_6) and satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10}) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF activities. There was indirect negative effect of attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12}) was mostly channeled negatively through length of involvement (X_5) and loan availability (X_7) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF activities.

It may be indicated that attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12}) had a positive and significant contributions to increase respondents' socio-economic condition.

Savings deposit (X_6)

Path analysis showed that savings deposit (X_6) had the 5th total indirect effect (0.074) and a positive direct effect 0.139 (Table 4.36) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF activities. The indirect effect of savings deposit (X_6) was mostly channeled positively through age (X_1), education (X_2), loan availability (X_7) and satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10}). There was negative indirect effect of savings deposit (X6) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF through length of involvement (X_5) and loan availability (X_7).

It may be inferred that other variables remaining constant, savings deposit (X_6) had an influence on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF activities and was a determinant of the beneficiaries of selected socio-economic development activities.

Loan availability (X_7)

Path analysis showed that loan availability (X_7) had the 6th total indirect effect (0.016) and a negative direct effect -0.102 (Table 4.36) on the socio-economic

development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF activities. The indirect effect of loan availability (X_7) was mostly channeled positively through age (X_1), education (X_2), satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10}) and attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12}). There was negative indirect effect of loan availability (X_7) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF through length of involvement (X_5) and savings deposit (X_6).

It may be inferred that loan availability (X_7) had a negative influence on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF activities. Though PDBF provided sufficient loans to the beneficiaries but it might be used for other purposes.

Length of involvement (X_5)

Path analysis showed that length of involvement (X_5) had the only negative total indirect effect (-0.56) and a positive direct effect 0.129 (Table 4.36) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF activities. The indirect effect of length of involvement (X_5) was mostly channeled positively through only loan availability (X_7). There was negative indirect effect of length of involvement (X_5) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF through age (X_1), education (X_2), savings deposit (X_6), satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10}) and attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12}).

It may be inferred that other variables remaining constant, length of involvement (X_5) had an influence on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF activities and was a determinant of the beneficiaries of selected socio-economic development activities.

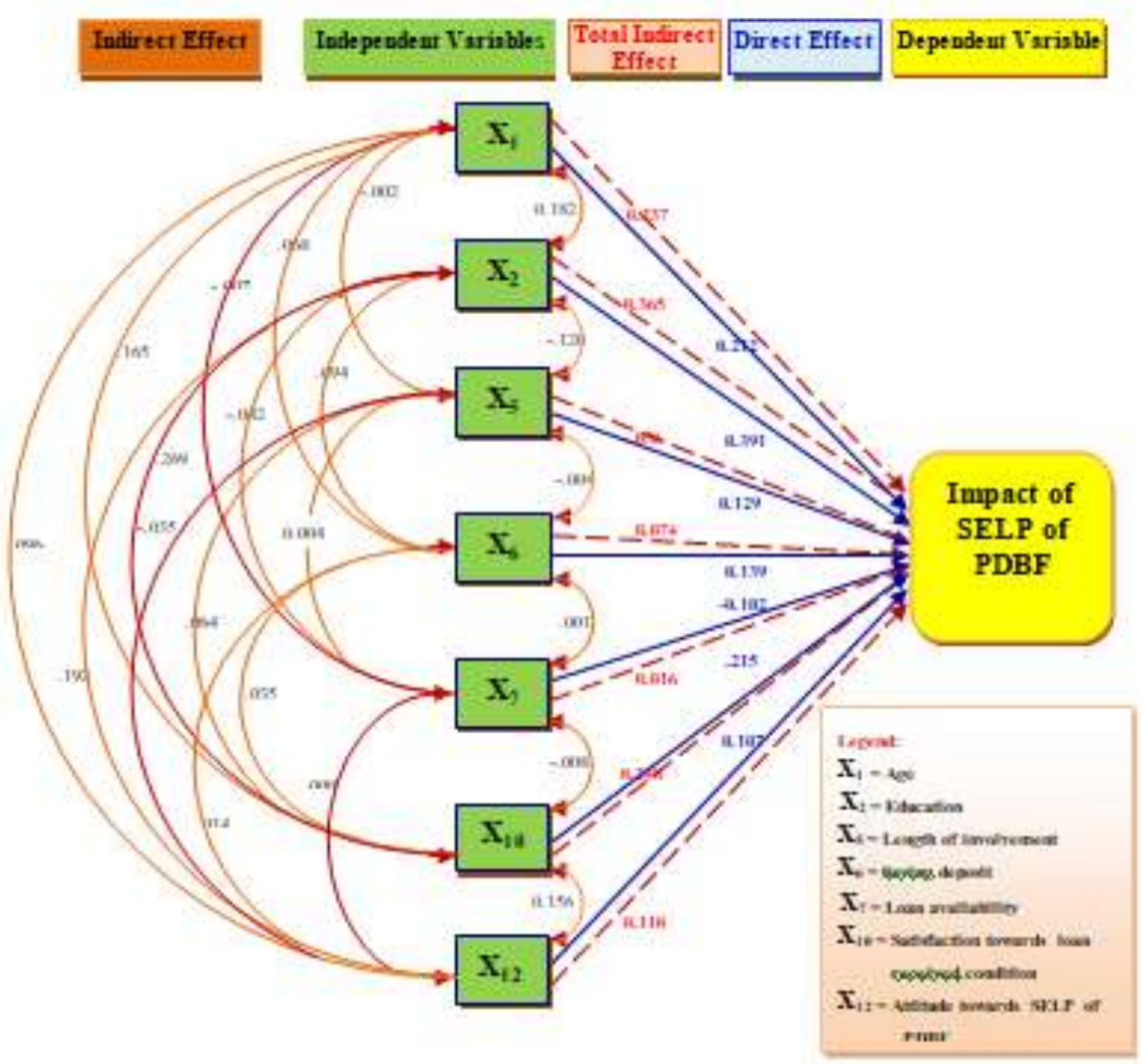

Fig. 4.1 Path modeling for computation of indirect effect of the independent variables on the dependent variables

4.4 Problems Faced by the Beneficiaries towards SELP of PDBF on Socio-economic Development Activities and Suggestions to Overcome the Constraints

The discussions have been made into two sub-sections. The first sub-section dealt with constraints faced by the beneficiaries towards working with SELP of PDBF on socio-economic development activities and the second sub-section dealt with the suggestions provided by them to overcome the constraints. The procedures about these sub-sections have already been discussed in Chapter 3.

4.4.1 Item wise comparative severity of the problems faced by the SELP beneficiaries of PDBF

The Problem Faced Index (PFI) score, Standardized Problem Faced Index (SPFI) and Rank order are shown in Table 4.37. The observed PFI scores of the items ranged from 53 to 387 against the possible range of 0-813. Table 4.37 showed that on the basis of Standardized Problem Faced Index (SPFI) among the 14 selected problem items, high rate of interest ranked first followed by inadequate loan amount as per demand, product duplication in the same business area, lack of training and input support for production and marketing, lack of properly use of loan due to shortage of recovery period, Inadequate loan due to savings, not getting a loan at the beginning of the business, poor road and network infrastructure, inability of proper using the loan, extra expenses for various religious festivals and social occasions, not new loan issued until final repayment of installments, delay in loan disbursement due to lengthy process, not getting loan at the time of need, hindered the business growth for PDBF corruption. For having a better understanding, attempt has been made to show the Standardized Problem Faced Index (SPFI) of each item with rank order in Table 4.37.

Table 4.37 showed that on the basis of Standardized Problem Faced Index (SPFI) among the 14 selected problem items 'high rate of interest' was ranked first (47.60%), 'inadequate loan amount as per demand' was ranked second (40.59%) and third (21.53%) was 'product duplication in the same business area'. The next five important problems in descending order were 'lack of training and other input support for production and marketing', 'lack of properly used of loan due to shortage of recovery period', 'inadequate loan due to savings' and 'poor road and network infrastructure' . However, other problems were relatively less important.

Table 4.37 Problems faced by the SELP beneficiaries of PDBF on socio-economic activities with rank order

Sl. No.	Item of Problems	Extent of problem faced					PFI scores	SPFI (%)	Rank order
		Severe Problem (3)	Moderate Problem (2)	Less Problem (1)	No Problem (0)	Total			
1.	Inadequate loan amount as per demand	2	131	62	76	271	330	40.59	2
2.	Delay in loan disbursement due to lengthy process	0	17	59	195	271	92	11.33	12
3.	Not getting loan at the time of need	0	17	28	226	271	62	7.63	13
4.	Not new loan issued until final repayment of installments	0	18	57	196	271	93	11.44	11
5.	Not getting a loan at the beginning of the business	8	27	51	185	271	129	15.87	7
6.	High rate of interest	61	84	36	90	271	387	47.60	1
7.	Inability of proper using the loan	0	25	61	185	271	111	13.65	9
8.	Lack of properly use of loan due to shortage of recovery period	18	26	51	176	271	157	19.31	5
9.	Lack of training and input support for production and marketing	3	35	89	144	271	168	20.66	4
10.	Inadequate loan due to savings	17	29	35	190	271	144	17.71	6
11.	Extra expenses for various religious festivals and social occasions	5	26	40	200	271	107	13.16	10
12.	Hindered the business growth for PDBF corruption	14	0	11	246	271	53	6.52	14
13.	Product duplication in the same business area	25	38	24	184	271	175	21.53	3
14.	Poor road and network infrastructure	0	47	24	200	271	118	14.51	8

4.4.2 Suggestion items to overcome the aforesaid problems with SELP of PDBF

The respondents were asked to put their suggestions regarding possible ways to overcome the obstacles they were facing currently. Many suggestions were provided by the respondents to overcome the constraints. These are presented in Table 4.38.

Table 4.38 Rank order of suggestions offered by the respondents to overcome the problems with SELP of PDBF

Suggestions	Frequency	Percent	Rank Order
Low interest rate	235	87	1
sufficient loan amount	220	81	2
Arranging skill based training for small entrepreneurs	205	76	3
Not depend of loan amount on savings	187	69	4
Simplified loan disbursed	165	61	5
Giving loans for starting a business	155	57	6
Increased grace period for the proper use of loan	137	51	7
less product duplication	125	46	8
Relaxation of installment due to sudden sickness and other serious problems	115	42	9
Not applicable in various religious festivals and social occasion	112	41	10
Taking project in rural areas by the Government to emphasize small and medium enterprise	105	39	11

It is evident from the data contained in Table 4.38 that loan should be provided at low interest rate was the foremost (87 percent) suggestion offered by the respondents. It means that low interest loans can bring more benefits to small businesses. The loan amount should be increased was the second most important (81percent) suggestion cited by the respondents. It is clear that large amount of credit is required to supply goods as per consumer demand. Arranging skill based training for small entrepreneurs and marketing assistance was another (76 percent) suggestion as cited by the respondents. The training programmes could enable the small entrepreneur to obtain the latest information and equip themselves with necessary knowledge and skills related to modern technology. The amount of loan should not be depended on savings was another (69 percent) suggestion cited by the respondents. Besides, suggestions were made by the respondents regarding easy access to loans, provision of loans for starting businesses, extension of grace period, only one dealership in an area, relaxation of installment due to sudden sickness and other problems, in various religious festivals and social occasion loan repayment should not applicable and government should take up project in rural areas to emphasize small and medium enterprise.

CHAPTER 5

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This Chapter summarized the introduction, objectives, methodology, results and discussions of the present study. Based on these findings, some logical conclusions, recommendations for policy implication and recommendations for future study were drawn. These were presented below:

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 Introduction

The role of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) is indispensable for the overall economic development of a country particularly for developing countries like Bangladesh. SMEs contribute to employment for 7.8 million people directly and provide livelihood for 31.2 million people in Bangladesh. The growth rate of GDP at current prices in manufacturing sub sector of Bangladesh in small, medium and micro industry is 18.18. Many small businessmen and entrepreneurs have not been able to collect the amount of money needed to build a new business or expand a business. Because the amount of money they need goes beyond the micro credit. Again, because the bank loan is a bit tricky, they are often unwilling to accept the loan from the bank. Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF) is the premier socio-economic development organization of the country. PDBF has been providing small entrepreneurial loan facility to generate more income and employment by providing technical benefits to these small businessmen and entrepreneurs. It plays an important role in bridging the gap between the loan program, microfinance and institutional lending.

The SELP of PDBF is providing loan to the rural clientele since long. But what extent the impact of their loan program to the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries is not known. The factors responsible to influence the impact are also unknown. The hypothesis for the study is that there is a positive impact of SELP on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries. Therefore, keeping this

hypothesis in mind, the study was undertaken considering the following objectives:

5.1.2 Objectives of the Study

The following specific objectives were formulated for this study:

i. To assess the impact of the small enterprise loan programme (SELP) of Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries;
ii. To describe some selected characteristics of SELP beneficiaries of PDBF;
iii. To explore the contribution of the selected characteristics of the SELP beneficiaries to the impact of SELP on their socio-economic development; and
iv. To identify the problems faced with the SELP of PDBF and their solutions.

5.1.3 Methodology

The present study was an ex-post factor investigation. Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation (PDBF) was working in 55 districts of Bangladesh. Out of 55 districts 4 districts namely Rajbari, Gazipur, Tangail and Lakshmipur were selected as purposive. Four upazilas considering one of each district were selected purposively. Rajbari sadar under Rajbari district, Kaliakair upazlia under Gazipur district, Dhanbari upazila under Tangail district and Ramgati upazila under Lakshmipur were selected as the locale of the study.

Total of 838 (235 in Rajbari sadar, 198 in Kaliakair upazila, 207 in Dhanbari upazila and 198 in Ramgati upazila in Lakshmipur district respectively) beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF of these four selected upazilas constituted the population of the study. A total number of 271 respondents were finally selected which constituted the sample of the study by using stratified random sampling technique.

After preparing the final interview schedule data were collected through face to face interview by the researcher himself. After collection of data, all the information contained in the interview schedule was edited. All the collected data

were then checked and cross checked, compiled, coded and entered into the computer for analysis and interpretation by using IBM SPSS Statistics 23. Statistical measures like number, range, mean and standard deviation were calculated in describing the selected characteristics of the respondent beneficiaries as well as their socio-economic developments. Parametric statistics such as co-efficient of correlation, path analysis, multiple regression analysis, t-test and F-test were used for exploring relationships of the independent variables with their changes in socio-economic development (dependent variable).

Socio-economic development of the beneficiaries through SELP of PDBF was considered as the only dependent variable of the study. While, the 12 selected characteristics of the beneficiaries such as age, educational qualification, total dependency ratio, training exposure, length of involvement, annual savings deposit, loan availability, loan utilization, loan repayment behaviour, satisfaction towards loan received condition, decision making ability and attitude towards SELP of PDBF were considered as independent variable of the study.

Dependent variable was measured by the addition of the extent of changes occurred in ten selected dimensions through SELP of PDBF for the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries. Change of each dimension was determined by the difference between before and after involvement with PDBF situations.

5.1.4 Statement of Hypotheses

The following null hypothesis formulated for testing the conceptual model of the study was: “There is no significant contribution of the selected twelve (12) characteristics of the SELP beneficiaries on their socio-economic development as perceived by the beneficiaries.”

5.1.5 Impact of SELP of PDBF on the Socio-economic Development as Perceived by the Beneficiaries

Food consumption: Data revealed that overwhelming majority (72.70 percent) of the respondent beneficiaries increased their food consumption which were ranged from low to medium level compared to 27.30 percent of the respondents was increased at high level and there was none respondents who had no change their food consumption.

Dressing habit: Data exposed that 84.50 percent respondent beneficiaries had change their dressing habit which was range from low to medium level compared to only 3.30 percent of the respondents who had high change of dressing habit.

Sanitation condition: Data indicated that majority (68.20 percent) of the respondents increased their sanitation condition which was ranged from low to medium level compared to 0.70 percent of the respondents increased at high level and 31.10 percent of the respondents had no change their sanitation condition.

Participation in health activities: Data showed that overwhelming majority (75.60 percent) of the respondents increased their participation in health activities which was ranged from low to medium level compared to 20.30 percent of the respondents was increased at high level participation in health activities.

Drinking water source: Data expressed that overwhelming majority (84.90 percent) of the respondent beneficiaries increased their drinking water sources which were ranged from low to medium level compared to 1.80 percent of the respondents was increased at high level and 13.30 percent of the respondents had no change their sources of drinking water.

Treatment of diseases: An overwhelming majority (94.80 percent) of the respondents had received medium to high treatment of diseases after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Income: Findings explored that majority (88.90 percent) of the respondent was medium and large income holder after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Savings deposit: An overwhelming majority (96.30 percent) of the respondents was medium to large savings deposit holder after involvement with SELP of PDBF. It means that PDBF has worked for small entrepreneurs to increase their annual savings deposit as well as to enhance their economic status.

Wealth possession: Data revealed that majority (86.70 percent) of the respondent was medium to large assets holders after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Expansion of business: Findings showed that Majority (77.90 percent) of the respondents' business was medium to high expansion after involvement with SELP of PDBF. The main goal of PDBF small enterprise loan programme is to expand the business of small entrepreneurs. The data proves that PDBF has succeeded in this goal.

5.1.6 Overall Socio-economic Development by the SELP of PDBF: Overall socio-economic impact was determined by summing the changes scores for all the ten dimensions. Data revealed that majority (69.40 percent) of the respondents increased their socio-economic development which was ranged from medium to high level compared to 30.60 percent of the respondents was increased at low level development. It means that PDBF was very active to involve their SELP beneficiaries for socio-economic development activities.

5.1.7 Item wise Comparative Impact Index of Each Dimension of Socio-economic Development by the SELP of PDBF: Data revealed that on the basis of Standardized Impact Index (SII) among all the 10 impact items, 'food consumption' ranked first followed by 'participation in health activities'. The next impact items in descending order were 'wealth possession', 'savings deposit', 'income', 'expansion of business', 'dressing habit', 'drinking water sources', 'treatment of diseases' and 'sanitation condition'.

5.1.8 Characteristics of the SELP Beneficiaries of PDBF

5.1.8.1 Personal Characteristics

Age: The highest proportions (74.20 percent) of the respondents were as middle aged compared to young aged (22.10 percent) and old aged (3.70 percent) category.

Educational qualification: The majority (59.00 percent) of the respondents were secondary level, compared to primary level (10.00 percent) and higher secondary level education (20.70 percent). Very negligible proportion (2.20 percent) of them could able to sign and the rest portion was bachelor level of education. The background of education is an essential element for success of business.

Dependency ratio: More than three fifth (63.50 percent) of the SELP respondents were included in low dependency ratio. Slightly more than one fourth (28.80 percent) of the SELP respondents were included in medium dependency ratio and very less portion (7.70 percent) were included in high dependency ratio. An overwhelming majority (92.30 percent) of the SELP of PDBF respondents were included in low and medium dependency ratio.

5.1.8.2 Social Characteristics

Training exposure: The highest proportion (50.90 percent) of the respondents received low training whereas 21.40 percent of them received medium training and only 12.20 percent received high training. Besides this, 15.50 percent of the respondents received no training. Note that, the high standard deviation indicates that the training was not equally distributed among the respondents.

Length of involvement: Near about half (46.10 percent) of the respondents were as medium involvement with SELP of PDBF compared to high involvement (30.30 percent) and low involvement with SELP of PDBF (23.60 percent) category.

Decision making ability: The majority (69.00 percent) of the respondents had medium decision making ability, while 29.90 and 1.10 percent had high and low decision making ability respectively. The data also revealed that an overwhelming majority (98.90 percent) of the respondents had medium to high decision making ability.

5.1.8.3 Economical Characteristics

Savings deposit: The majority (45.00 percent) of the respondents had low savings deposit, while 32.80 percent of them had medium and 20.30 percent have high savings deposit and only 1.80 percent of them had no savings deposit. Data revealed that (53.10 percent) of the respondents had medium to high savings deposit.

Loan availability: The majority of the respondents (46.10 percent) were included in high loan availability, whereas 22.90 percent of the respondents were included in low loan availability category and 31.00 percent of them were included in medium loan availability category.

Loan utilization: Findings revealed that about 45.40 percent of the respondents had high loan utilization while 32.80 percent of them had medium loan utilization and only 21.80 percent of them had low loan utilization behavior. A total of 78.20 percent respondents had utilized their loan in highly productive and partially productive purposes. None of all respondents was spent their amount on unproductive purposes.

Loan repayment behaviour: About 45.40 percent of the respondents had high loan repayment behaviour, while 21.80 percent of them had low loan repayment behaviour and 32.80 percent of them had medium loan repayment behaviour. Data expressed that 78.20 percent respondents had medium to high loan repayment behaviour. It showed that small enterprise loan programme of PDBF had excellent repayment performance.

5.1.8.4 Psychological Characteristics

Satisfaction towards loan received condition: Findings identified that the majority of the respondents (52.40 percent) had highly satisfied towards SELP of PDBF and 33.60 percent of them had medium satisfaction level towards SELP of PDBF. Very less proportion of the respondents (14.00 percent) had lowest satisfaction level towards SELP of PDBF. It means that, the respondents had low to highly favourable attitude towards SELP of PDBF.

Attitude towards SELP of PDBF: Findings showed that the majority of the respondents (63.80 percent) had highly favourable attitude towards SELP of PDBF and 28.80 percent of them had low favourable attitude towards SELP of PDBF. Very negligible proportion of the respondents (3.70 percent) was included in both highly and low unfavourable attitude towards SELP of PDBF. It means that, the respondents had low to highly favourable attitude towards SELP of PDBF. All of the respondents of SELP of PDBF were well benefited after involvement with SELP of PDBF on socio-economic development activities.

5.1.9 Contribution of the Selected Characteristics of the Beneficiaries to the Impact of SELP on Their Socio-economic Development

Before running the regression analysis, multicollinearity was checked among the independent variables and no high collinearity found among them. The regression of 12 independent variables combinedly explained 53.70 percent of the total variation on socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF. Regression analysis indicated that education (0.391), satisfaction towards loan received condition (0.215), age (0.212), savings deposit (0.139), length of involvement (0.129) and attitude towards SELP of PDBF (0.107) had positive and significant influence on their socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF. R^2 and adjusted R^2 in the regression analysis were 0.537 and 0.516 respectively and the corresponding F-ratio 24.975 was significant at 0.000 level.

5.1.9.1 Indirect effects of the selected characteristics of the beneficiaries

Path coefficients showed the direct and indirect effects of significant 7 independent variables of linear regression analysis on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries through SELP of PDBF.

Path analysis showed that education (X_2) had the highest (0.365) positive total indirect effect on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF activities. Satisfaction towards loan received condition (X_{10}) had the 2nd total indirect effect 0.248 on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF. Age (X_1) had the 3rd total indirect effect (0.237) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF. Attitude towards SELP of PDBF (X_{12}) had the 4th total indirect effect (0.110) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF. Saving deposit (X_6) had the 5th total indirect effect (0.074) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF. Loan availability (X_7) had the 6th total indirect effect (0.016) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF. Length of involvement (X_5) had the only negative total indirect effect (-0.56) on the socio-economic development of the beneficiaries with SELP of PDBF. Indirect effect of each of these seven (7) variables was channeled through other six (6) variables.

5.1.10 Problem Faced by the Beneficiaries towards SELP of PDBF on Socio-economic Development Activities

Fourteen problems faced by the respondents were identified after through consultation with relevant experts and researchers. The observed PFI scores of the items ranged from 53 to 387 against the possible range of 0-813. Data showed that on the basis of Standardized Problem Faced Index (SPFI) among the 14 selected problem items, “high rate of interest” ranked first followed by “inadequate loan amount as per demand”. The next five important problems in descending order were “Product duplication in the same area”, “lack of training and other input support for production and marketing”, “lack of properly use of

loan due to shortage of recovery period" and "inadequate loan due to savings". However, other problems were relatively less important.

5.1.11 Suggestions to Overcome the Aforesaid Problems

Eleven key suggestions regarding the involvement with SELP of PDBF were provided by the respondents. Fist, 2nd and 3rd suggestions of them were to 'provide low interest rate', 'adequate credit volume' and 'arranging skill based training to small entrepreneurs' respectively.

5.2 Conclusion and Recommendations

Findings	Conclusion	Recommendations
The majority (69.40 percent) of the respondents increased their socio-economic development which was ranged from medium to high level compared to 30.60 percent of the respondents was increased at low level	SELP of PDBF revealed a significant impact on socio-economic development of the beneficiaries. PDBF was very active to their SELP beneficiaries on socio-economic development activities	Small enterprise loan programme should be strengthened throughout the country
Standardized Impact Index (SII) among all the 10 impact items, food consumption ranked first followed by participation in health activities, wealth possession, savings deposit, income, expansion of business, dressing habit, drinking water sources, treatment of diseases and sanitation condition in descending order	Beneficiaries of PDBF had more increased their food consumption, participation in health activities and wealth possession. On the other hand, PDBF had the less impact on treatment of diseases and sanitation condition	PDBF need to address the impact of descending order items in future

Findings	Conclusion	Recommendations
Regression analysis of 12 independent variables combinedly explained 53.70 percent of the total variation on socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF	These six (6) factors had positive and significant contributions to increase respondents' socio-economic condition. Loan availability had negative influence on their socio-economic development	These (6) factors should get more emphasis in future small enterprise activities
Regression analysis indicated that six (6) variables namely education (0.391), satisfaction towards loan received condition (0.215), age (0.212), savings deposit (0.139), length of involvement (0.129) and attitude towards SELP of PDBF had positive and significant influence on their socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF. Loan availability (-0.102) had negative and significant influence on their socio-economic development		The PDBF authority should monitor and motivate more the beneficiaries who are young aged, lower educational background and lower length of involvement, less savings, dissatisfaction and unfavourable attitude towards SELP of PDBF
Path analysis revealed that education had the highest (0.365) positive total indirect effect followed by satisfaction towards loan received condition (0.248), age (0.237), attitude towards SELP of PDBF (0.110), saving deposit (0.074), loan availability (0.016) and length	These six independent variables had positive contributions to increase respondents' socio-economic condition. Length of involvement had negative influence on their socio-economic development	During small enterprise loan activities these factors should be taken into consideration

Findings	Conclusion	Recommendations
of involvement had the only negative total indirect effect (-0.560) on their socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF in descending order		
High rate of interest ranked first standardized problem faced index in followed by inadequate loan amount as per demand, product duplication in the same business area, lack of training and inputs support for production and marketing, lack of properly use of loan due to shortage of recovery period, inadequate loan due to savings, not getting a loan at the beginning of the business, poor road and network infrastructure, inability of proper using the loan, extra expenses for various religious festivals and social occasions, not new loan issued until final repayment of installments, delay in loan disbursement due to lengthy process, not getting loan at the time of need, hindered the business growth for PDBF corruption respectively	To strengthen small enterprise loan programme, the problems of the beneficiaries should be reduced	Low interest rate, sufficient loan amount, training to the small entrepreneurs, inputs support, less product duplication, well road and network infrastructure should be ensured

5.3 Recommendations for Future Study

On the basis of scope and limitations of the present study and the observations made by the researcher, the following recommendations are made for further study:

1. This study was conducted in four selected upazilas of four districts of Bangladesh. It was recommended that such studies should be conducted in other areas of Bangladesh.

2. Selected characteristic of the beneficiaries were many and varied but in the present study only 12 variables were taken into consideration. Obviously, there were other characteristics which cause variations on socio-economic development activities. Further research should be conducted involving other variables.

3. The extent of change on socio-economic development as perceived by the SELP beneficiaries was measured by ten selected dimensions of socio-economic development in this study. Further research should be undertaken to the extent of other dimensions of developmental issues.

4. This study was conducted to assess the impact of socio-economic development by differentiating the situation before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF. It was recommended that further research should be undertaken considering with control group.

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APPENDIX-I

Interview Schedule (English Version)

Department of Agricultural Extension & Information System

Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University, Dhaka-1207

Interview schedule for collecting data for PhD research on **"Impact of Small Enterprise Loan Programme of Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation on the Beneficiaries Socio-economic development"**

(This interview schedule is entitled for a Ph.D. research. Collected data will only be used for research purpose and will be published aggregately)

Serial No. Date:.....

Name of the respondent:	Name of upazila:
Business area:	Name of enterprise:
Member code:	Mobile no:

Please provide the following information. Your information will be kept restricted and will be used only for research purpose.

01. Age: ☐ Years

02. Educational qualification:

Please mention your educational level.

(a) Don't read and writing ☐
(b) Can sign only ☐
(c) Passed class ☐

03. Dependency ratio:

Please mention the number of your family members as years.

(a) 0 to 14 Years ☐
(b) 15 to 64 Years ☐
(c) Over the age of 64 ☐

$$\textbf{Dependency ratio (DR)} == \frac{(0-14)+>64}{15-64} \textbf{x100}$$

04. Training exposure on small enterprise

Did you have any training in this field before starting your business?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, please mention the source of training /business skills

Sl. No.	Source of training /business skills	Duration (Month)
1	Government institution	
2	Non-government institution	
Total		

05. Length of involvement with SELP of PDBF

How many years you are participated with SELP of PDBF?

☐ Years

06. Amount of savings deposit

Please, give the information relating to your total annual savings as per year.

Sl. No.	Type of savings	Amount ('000' Tk.)
1	Savings in PDBF	
2	Savings in NGO's	
3	Savings in Bank	
4	Savings in another ways	
Total		

07. Loan availability

Please give me the information about your loan required and received from PDBF in the last three loans.

Loan No.	Amount of loan required (Taka)	Amount of loan received (Taka)	Loan availability (%)
1			
2			
3			
Total			

$$\textbf{Loan availability (\%)} = \frac{\text{Amount of loan received}}{\text{Amount of loan required}} \times 100$$

08. Loan utilization

Please give the information about your last three loans received from PDBF.

Sl. No.	Purpose of received loan	Amount of loan received (Taka)	Amount used in desired purpose (Taka)	Loan utilization (%)
1				
2				
3				
Total				

$$\textbf{Loan utilization (\%)} = \frac{\text{Amount used in desired purpose}}{\text{Amount of loan received}} \times 100$$

09. Repayment behaviour

Please give the information about your loan repayment of existing loan.

Total loan received (Tk.)	Amount of loan repayable (Tk.)	Amount of loan repaid (Tk.)	Repayment behaviour (%)
( )	( )	( )	( )

$$\textbf{Repayment behaviour (\%)} = \frac{\text{Amount of loan repaid}}{\text{Amount of loan repayable}} \times 100$$

10. Satisfaction towards loan received condition

Please mention your satisfaction towards loan received condition for obtaining SELP of PDBF loan.

Sl. No.	**Loan received conditions**	**Extent of satisfaction**			
		HS (3)	**S (2)**	**MS (1)**	**NS (0)**
1	Loan application and appraisal form				
2	Guarantor with conditions				
3	Security deposit				
4	Photocopy of NID Card				
5	Trade license				
6	Loan application fee (100/-)				
7	Loan appraisal fee (1 % of total loan received)				
8	Insurance Charge (.5% of total loan received)				
9	At least 02 cross checks issued by the entrepreneur				
10	Rent / position agreement				
11	Original /Baya dalil (If any)				
12	Affidavit				
Total					

HS = Highly Satisfied, S = Satisfied, MS = Moderately Satisfied, NA = Not Satisfied

11. Decision making ability

Please mention the extent of your decision making ability by answering the following questions.

Sl. No.	Questions	Extent of decision making		
		Decision made by own (3)	**Decision made with family members (2)**	**Decision made by outsider of the family (1)**
1	Who usually makes decisions in selecting income generating activities (IGA)?			
2	Who usually makes decisions about making of family affairs?			
3	Who usually makes decisions about making major household purchases?			
4	Who usually makes decisions about making selling for major household items?			
5	Who usually decides on social issues?			
Total				

12. Attitude towards SELP of PDBF: Please mention your extent and nature in attitude towards SELP of PDBF.

Sl. No.	Statements	Extent of participation				
		SA	**A**	**NO**	**D**	**SD**
		(4/0)	**(3/1)**	**(2/2)**	**(1/3)**	**(0/4)**
1 (+)	PDBF is contributing to the creation of small entrepreneurs					
2 (-)	PDBF has no role in creating small entrepreneurs					
3 (+)	SELP of PDBF help the entrepreneurs to improve their economic condition					
4 (-)	PDBF has an evil target behind assisting us. So, we should be aware before accepting their help					
5 (+)	SELP of PDBF help to create the employment for poverty reduction					
6 (-)	In fact, PDBF has no any activities to create the employment in our country					
7 (+)	Interest rate of PDBF loan is less than other					

Sl. No.	Statements	Extent of participation				
		SA	A	NO	D	SD
		(4/0)	(3/1)	(2/2)	(1/3)	(0/4)
	organizations					
8 (-)	Interest rate of PDBF loan is higher than other organizations					
9 (+)	To get SELP loan of PDBF is more easy					
10 (-)	It is very complicated to get SELP loan of PDBF					
11 (+)	It is easier to get a loan from PDBF than a scheduled bank					
12 (-)	PDBF provides inadequate loan to rural people against their needs					
13 (+)	SELP of PDBF is very important for improving socio-economic development of the rural people					
14 (-)	PDBF is doing such things which are harmful to people and society					
15 (+)	It is better to receive loan from PDBF than village money lenders					
16 (-)	The total amount of loan could not be utilized properly due to shortage of grace period					

SA = Strongly agree, A = Agree, NO = No opinion, D=Disagree, SD= Strongly disagree

13. Impact of SELP of PDBF on socio-economic development as perceived by the beneficiaries

A. Changes in food consumption: Please answer the following questions regarding daily food intake (grams/day) before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Sl. No.	Food items (grams)	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF	After involvement with SELP of PDBF
1	Rice		
2	Wheat/Flour		
3	Vegetables		
4	Fruits		
5	Pulse		
6	Edible oil		
7	Fish		

Sl. No.	Food items (grams)	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF	After involvement with SELP of PDBF
8	Meat		
9	Milk		
10	Egg		
Total			

B. Changes in the dressing habit: Please provide information about your dressing habit before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Sl. No.	Items	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF	After involvement with SELP of PDBF
1	Single set of poor dress per person (1)		
2	Two set of poor dress per person (2)		
3	One poor and one good set of dress per person (3)		
4	Triple good set of dress per person (4)		
5	More than triple good set of dress per person (5)		
Total			

C. Changes in sanitation condition: Please answer the following questions about your sanitation condition before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Sl. No.	Type of latrine	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF	After involvement with SELP of PDBF
1	Open/bushy place (1)		
2	Kacha latrine/Earthen pit (2)		
3	Latrine with ring slab (3)		
4	Pucca normal base latrine (4)		
5	Pucca high rise base latrine (5)		
Total			

D. Changes in participation in health activities: Please provide information about your participation in health activities before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Sl. No.	Change Items	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF				After involvement with SELP of PDBF			
		R	O	S	NP	R	O	S	NP
		(4)	(3)	(1)	(0)	(4)	(3)	(1)	(0)
1	Use of pure drinking water								
2	Hand washing before eating and after use of toilet								
3	Use of healthy toilet								
4	Use of shoe/sandal at the time of using toilet								
5	Hand washing with soap/ash after using toilet								
6	Cleaning of houses								
7	Timely Vaccination								
8	Adoption of family planning								
9	Preparation of oral saline								
10	Using of iodize salt								
11	Feeding of diet to the children								
12	Caretaking of pregnant mother								
13	Timely cleaning and cutting of nails								
14	Washing of vegetable before cutting								
Total									

R= Regularly, O= Occasionally, S=Seldom and NP= No participation

E. Changes in drinking water sources: Please answer the following questions about your drinking water sources before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Sl. No.	Changes Items	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF	After involvement with SELP of PDBF
1	Water of pond, canal, beel etc. (1)		
2	Water of muddy well (2)		

Sl. No.	Changes Items	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF	After involvement with SELP of PDBF
3	Water of muddy floor tube well (3)		
4	Water of pucca floor tube well (4)		
5	Arsenic free water of pucca floor tube well (5)		
Total			

F. Changes in treatment of diseases: Please answer about your treatment of diseases before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Sl. No.	Changes Items	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF	After involvement with SELP of PDBF
1	No treatment (0)		
2	Treatment by village Pir/ kabiraj etc. (1)		
3	Treatment by Homeopathy (2)		
4	Treatment by village doctor (3)		
5	Treatment by MBBS doctor (4)		
Total			

G. Changes in income: Please answer the following questions regarding your annual income before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Sl. No.	Source of annual income	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF	After involvement with SELP of PDBF
		(‘000’ Tk.)	(‘000’ Tk.)
1	Income from business		
2	Income from agriculture		
3	Income from house rent		
4	Income from savings		
5	Income from other sources		
	Total		

H. Changes in savings: Please answer the following questions on savings before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Sl. No.	Annual savings	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF	After involvement with SELP of PDBF
		(‘000’ Tk.)	(‘000’ Tk.)
1.	Savings in PDBF		
2.	Savings in Bank		
3.	Savings in NGO		
4.	Savings on hand cash		
5.	Savings in other way		
	Total		

I. Changes in wealth possession: Please mention the amount and value of your assets before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Sl. No.	Items	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF			After involvement with SELP of PDBF		
		No. of Items	Unit Price	Total Price (Tk.)	No. of Items	Unit Price	Total Price (Tk.)
1	Land (decimal)						
2	Business asset						
3	Radio						
4	Television						
5	Refrigerator						
6	Reading Table						
7	Dining Table						
8	Chair						
9	Khat						
10	Sofa set						
11	Alna						
12	Almirah						
13	Show case						
14	Mobile phone						
15	Torch light						
16	Wall clock						
17	Aina						
18	Jewelry						
19	Bi cycle						
20	Motor cycle						
21	Electric fan						
22	Sewing machine						
23	Others (if any)						
Total							

J. Changes in expansion of business: Please answer the following questions about expansion your business before and after involvement with SELP of PDBF.

Sl. No.	Questions	Before involvement with SELP of PDBF ('000' Tk.)	After involvement with SELP of PDBF ('000' Tk.)
1	How much do you pay your employees each month?		
2	How much do you sell per day?		
3	What is the value of your business assets?		
4	How much does your business area value?		
Total			

14. Problems faced by the beneficiaries towards working with SELP of PDBF: Please indicate the extent of problem faced by you about the following questions with SELP of PDBF and give your suggestions to mitigate these problems.

Sl. No.	Problem Statements	Extent of problem faced					Suggestions to mitigate the problem
		SP	MP	NC	LP	NP	
		(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(0)	
1	Inadequate loan amount as per demand						
2	Delay in loan disbursement due to lengthy process						
3	Not getting loan at the time of need						
4	New loan is not issued until final repayment of installments						
5	Not getting a loan at the beginning of the business						
6	Interest rate is high						
7	Inability of using the loan properly						
8	The total amount of loan could not properly use due to shortage recovery period						

9	Lack of training, skilled manufacturer/worker and other input support for production and marketing						
10	Receiving a loan depends on savings, resulting in insufficient credit						
11	The problem of paying for extra expenses for various religious festivals and social occasions						
12	Corruption in the PDBF is hindering business expansion						
13	Product duplication in the same area has affected						
14	Poor road and network infrastructure is hampering business growth						
Total							

SP=Severe Problem, MP=Moderate Problem, NC=No Comments, LP=Less Problem, NP=No Problem

Signature of the Interviewer

Date:.....

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APPENDIX - II

এগ্রিকালচারাল এক্সটেনশন এন্ড ইনফরমেশন সিস্টেম

শেরে বাংলা কৃষি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, ঢাকা-১২১০

"পল্লী দারিদ্র্য বিমোচন ফাউন্ডেশন-এর সুফলভোগী সদস্যদের আর্থ-সামাজিক উন্নয়নের উপর ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ কর্মসূচির প্রভাব (Impact of Small Enterprise Loan Programme of Palli Daridro Bimochon Foundation on the beneficiaries socio-economic development)"

সংক্রান্ত গবেষণার জন্য তথ্য সংগ্রহের সাক্ষাৎকার অনুসূচি:

ক্রমিক নং- তারিখ:.....

উত্তরদাতার নাম:	উপজেলা:
ব্যবসায়িক এলাকা:	ব্যবসার নাম:
সদস্য কোড:	মোবাইল নম্বর:

দয়া করে নিম্নলিখিত তথ্য প্রদান করুন। আপনার তথ্য গোপন রাখা হবে এবং কেবল গবেষণার উদ্দেশ্যে ব্যবহৃত হবে।

০১. বয়স: আপনার বয়স কত? ☐ বছর

০২. শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা: অনুগ্রহ করে আপনার শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা উল্লেখ করুন।

(ক) লিখতে ও পড়তে জানি না ☐

(খ) শুধুমাত্র নাম স্বাক্ষর করতে পারি ☐

(গ) ☐ শ্রেণী পর্যন্ত পাশ করেছি

০৩. নির্ভরতা অনুপাত: দয়া করে বয়স অনুসারে আপনার পরিবারের সদস্যদের সংখ্যা উল্লেখ করুন।

(ক) ০ থেকে ১৪ বছর ☐

(খ) ১৫ থেকে ৬৪ বছর ☐

(গ) ৬৪ বছরের বেশি বয়সী ☐

$$\text{নির্ভরতা অনুপাত} = \frac{(০-১৪)+>৬৪}{১৫-৬৪} \text{ X } ১০০$$

০৪. ক্ষুদ্র ব্যবসা সংক্রান্ত প্রশিক্ষণ গ্রহণ: ব্যবসা শুরু করার আগে এ সংশ্লিষ্ট আপনার কোন প্রশিক্ষণ আছে?

হ্যাঁ ☐ না ☐

যদি হ্যাঁ হয়, অনুগ্রহ করে প্রশিক্ষণ/ব্যবসায়িক দক্ষতার উৎস উল্লেখ করুন।

ক্র. নং	**প্রশিক্ষণ/ব্যবসায়িক দক্ষতার উৎস**	**মেয়াদ (মাস)**
১	সরকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান	
২	বেসরকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান	
মোট		

০৫. পিডিবিএফ এর সেল্প কর্মসূচির সাথে অংশগহণের সময়: আপনি কত বছর যাবৎ পিডিবিএফ এর সেল্প কর্মসূচির সাথে জড়িত?

☐ বছর।

০৬.সঞ্চয় আমানতের পরিমান: অনুগহ পূর্বক আপনার বাৎসরিক সঞ্চয় আমানত সম্পর্কিত তথ্য দিন।

ক্র. নং	সঞ্চয়ের ধরণ	সঞ্চয়ের পরিমান (হাজার টাকা)
১	পিডিবিএফ-এ সঞ্চয়	
২	এনজিও-তে সঞ্চয়	
৩	ব্যাংকে সঞ্চয়	
৪	অন্য উপায়ে সঞ্চয়	
মোট		

০৭. ঋণের প্রাপ্যতা: মেহেরবানী করে পিডিবিএফ থেকে গৃহীত আপনার বিগত তিনটি ঋণের তথ্য প্রদান করুন।

ক্র. নং	প্রয়োজনীয় ঋণের পরিমান (টাকা)	ঋণ প্রাপ্তির পরিমান (টাকা)	প্রাপ্যতার প্রাপ্যতা (%)
১			
২			
৩			
মোট			

$$\text{ঋণের প্রাপ্যতা (\%)} = \frac{\text{ঋণ প্রাপ্তির পরিমান (টাকা)}}{\text{প্রয়োজনীয় ঋণের পরিমান (টাকা)}} \times ১০০$$

০৮. ঋণের ব্যবহার: দয়া করে পিডিবিএফ থেকে প্রাপ্ত আপনার বিগত তিনটি ঋণের ব্যবহার সম্পর্কে তথ্য প্রদান করুন।

ক্র. নং	ঋণ গ্রহণের উদ্দেশ্য	গ্রহণকৃত ঋণের পরিমান (টাকা)	উদ্দেশ্য অনুযায়ী ব্যবহৃত ঋণের পরিমান (টাকা)	ঋণের ব্যবহার (%)
১				
২				
৩				
মোট				

$$\text{ঋণের ব্যবহার (\%)} = \frac{\text{উদ্দেশ্য অনুযায়ী ব্যবহৃত ঋণের পরিমান}}{\text{গ্রহণকৃত ঋণের পরিমান}} \times ১০০$$

০৯. ঋণ পরিশোধের ধরণ: অনুগ্রহ করে আপনার বর্তমান/বিগত ঋণ পরিশোধের তথ্য প্রদান করুন।

মোট গ্রহণকৃত ঋণের পরিমান	পরিশোধযোগ্য ঋণের পরিমান (টাকা)	পরিশোধকৃত ঋণের পরিমান (টাকা)	ঋণ পরিশোধের ধরণ (%)
( )	( )	( )	( )

$$\text{ঋণ পরিশোধের ধরণ (\%)} = \frac{\text{পরিশোধকৃত ঋণের পরিমান}}{\text{পরিশোধযোগ্য ঋণের পরিমান}} \times ১০০$$

১০. ঋণ গ্রহণের শর্তাবলীর বিষয়ে গ্রহীতার সন্তুষ্টি: অনুগ্রহ পূর্বক পিডিবিএফ এর ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ গ্রহণের শর্তাবলীসমূহের প্রতি আপনার সন্তুষ্টির মাত্রা উল্লেখ করুন।

ক্র. নং	ঋণ প্রাপ্তির শর্তাবলীসমূহ	সন্তুষ্টির মাত্রা			
		খুবই সন্তুষ্ট	সন্তুষ্ট	মোটামোটি সন্তুষ্ট	সন্তুষ্ট নই
		(৩)	(২)	(১)	(০)
১	ঋণের আবেদন ও মূল্যায়ন ফরম				
২	জামিননামা				
৩	জামানতনামা				
৪	জাতীয় পরিচয় পত্রের ফটোকপি।				
৫	ট্রেড লাইসেন্স।				
৬	ঋণের আবেদন ফি-১০০/-টাকা				
৭	ঋণের এপ্রাইজাল ফি (গ্রহণকৃত মোট ঋণের ১% টাকা)				
৮	বীমা চার্জ (গ্রহণকৃত মোট ঋণের ০.৫০% টাকা)				
৯	উদ্যোক্তা কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত ক্রস চেক কমপক্ষে ০২টি				
১০	ভাড়ার/পজিশনের চুক্তিনামা				
১১	মূলদলিল/বায়াদলিল (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে)				
১২	এফিডেভিট				
মোট					

১১. সিদ্ধান্ত নেওয়ার ক্ষমতা: নীচে আপনার সিদ্ধান্ত নেওয়ার ক্ষমতা উল্লেখ করুন।

ক্র. নং	প্রশ্নাবলী	নিজেই সিদ্ধান্ত নেই	পরিবারের সদস্যদের নিয়ে সিদ্ধান্ত নেওয়া হয়	পরিবারের বাইরের লোকের মাধ্যমে সিদ্ধান্ত নেওয়া হয়
		(৩)	(২)	(১)
১	আয় উৎসারি কর্মকান্ড গ্রহণে কে সিদ্ধান্ত নেয়?			
২	পারিবারিক বিষয়ে সাধারণত কে সিদ্ধান্ত নেন?			
৩	গৃহস্থালীর জিনিস ক্রয়ের বিষয়ে প্রধানত: কে সিদ্ধান্ত নেয়?			
৪	গৃহস্থালীর জিনিস বিক্রয়ের বিষয়ে প্রধানত: কে সিদ্ধান্ত নেয়?			
৫	সামাজিক বিষয়ে সাধারণত কে সিদ্ধান্ত নেন?			
মোট				

১২.পিডিবিএফ এর ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ কর্মসূচি (সেল্প) সম্পর্কে মনোভাব: অনুগ্রহ পূর্বক আপনি পিডিবিএফ এর সেল্প কর্মসূচি (সেল্প) সম্পর্কে আপনার মনোভাব নিম্নোক্ত 'উক্তি' গুলোর প্রতি সমর্থনের মাত্রা দ্বারা প্রকাশ করুন।

ক্র. নং	উক্তি	মনোভাবের মাত্রা				
		সম্পূর্ণভাবে একমত	একমত	মতামত নেই	একমত নই	মোটেও একমত নই
		(৪/০)	(৩/১)	(২/২)	(১/৩)	(০/৪)
(+) ১	পিডিবিএফ ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা তৈরিতে অবদান রাখছে					
(-) ২	ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা তৈরিতে পিডিবিএফের কোনো ভূমিকা নেই					
(+) ৩	পিডিবিএফ এর ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ কর্মসূচি (সেল্প) উদ্যোক্তাদের অর্থনৈতিক উন্নয়নে সহায়তা করে					
(-) ৪	আমাদের সহযোগিতার পেছনে পিডিএিফের একটি অসৎ উদ্দেশ্য আছে। সুতরাং, তাদের সহায়তা গ্রহণের আগে আমাদের সচেতন হওয়া উচিত					
(+) ৫	পিডিবিএফ এরক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ কর্মসূচি দারিদ্র্য বিমোচনের জন্য কর্মসংস্থান তৈরিতে সহায়তা করে					
(-) ৬	প্রকৃতপক্ষে, কর্মসংস্থান সৃষ্টির জন্য পিডিবিএফ-এর কোন কার্যক্রম নেই					
(+) ৭	অন্যান্য সংস্থার তুলনায় পিডিবিএফ এর ঋণের সুদের হার কম					
(-) ৮	অন্যান্য সংস্থার তুলনায় পিডিবিএফ এর ঋণের সুদের হার অনেক বেশী					
(+) ৯	পিডিবিএফ এর ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ পাওয়া খুবই সহজ					
(-) ১০	পিডিবিএফ এর ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ পাওয়া খুবই জটিল					
(+) ১১	তফসিলি ব্যাংকের চেয়ে পিডিবিএফ থেকে ঋণ পাওয়া সহজ					
(-) ১২	পিডিবিএফ গ্রামীণ জনগণকে তাদের প্রয়োজনের বিপরীতে অপর্যাপ্ত ঋণ প্রদান করে					
(+) ১৩	গ্রামীণ জনগোষ্ঠীর আর্থ-সামাজিক উন্নয়নে ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ কর্মসূচি খুবই গুরুত্বপূর্ণ					
(-) ১৪	পিডিবিএফ এমন কাজ করছে যা মানুষ এবং সমাজের জন্য ক্ষতিকর					
(+) ১৫	গ্রামের মহাজনদের চেয়ে পিডিবিএফ থেকে ঋণ নেওয়া ভালো					
(-) ১৬	গ্রেস পিরিয়ড স্বল্পতার কারণে মোট ঋণের পরিমাণ সঠিকভাবে ব্যবহার করা যায়নি					

১৩. সুফলভোগীদের দ্বারা অনুভূত আর্থ-সামাজিক উন্নয়নের উপর পিডিবিএফ এর ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ কর্মসূচির প্রভাব:

ক. খাদ্য গ্রহণের পরিবর্তন: অনুগ্রহ করে পিডিবিএফ এর ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ কর্মসূচির সাথে যুক্ত হওয়ার আগে ও পরে দৈনিক নিম্নলিখিত খাদ্য গ্রহণ (গ্রাম/দিন) সম্পর্কিত প্রশ্নের জবাব দিন।

ক্র. নং	খাদ্য উপাদান (গ্রাম)	পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভুক্তির পূর্বে	পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভুক্তির পরে
১	চাউল		
২	গম/আটা		
৩	শাকসবজি		
৪	ফল		
৫	ডাল		
৬	ভোজ্য তেল		
৭	মাছ		
৮	মাংস		
৯	দুধ		
১০	ডিম		
মোট			

খ. পোষাক-পরিচ্ছদের পরিবর্তন: মেহেরবানী করে পিডিবিএফ এর ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ কর্মসূচির সাথে যুক্ত হওয়ার আগে ও পরে আপনার পোষাক-পরিচ্ছদের পরিবর্তন সম্পর্কে তথ্য দিন।

ক্র. নং	পরিবর্তনের ধরণ	পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভুক্তির পূর্বে	পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভুক্তির পরে
১	জন প্রতি এক সেট সাধারণ পোষাক (১)		
২	জন প্রতি দুই সেট সাধারণ পোষাক (২)		
৩	জন প্রতি এক সেট সাধারণ এবং এক সেট ভাল পোষাক (৩)		
৪	জন প্রতি তিন সেট ভাল পোষাক (৪)		
৫	জন প্রতি তিন সেটের উপরে ভাল পোষাক (৫)		
মোট			

গ. বাড়ীর পয়:ব্যবস্থার পরিবর্তন: মেহেরবানী করে পিডিবিএফ এর ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ কর্মসূচির সাথে যুক্ত হওয়ার আগে ও পরে আপনার বাড়ীর পয়: ব্যবস্থার পরিবর্তন সম্পর্কে নিম্নের প্রশ্নের জবাব দিন।

ক্র. নং	পয়: ব্যবস্থার ধরণ	পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভুক্তির পূর্বে	পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভুক্তির পরে
১	উন্মুক্ত স্থান (১)		
২	কাঁচা পায়খানা/মাটির তৈরী গর্ত (২)		
৩	রিংস্লাবসহ পায়খানা (৩)		
৪	পাকা সাধারণ বেজ ল্যাট্রিন (৪)		
৫	পাকা উঁচু বেজ ল্যাট্রিন (হাই কমড) (৫)		
মোট			

ঘ. স্বাস্থ্য কার্যক্রমে অংশগ্রণের পরিবর্তন:অনুগ্রহ করে পিডিবিএফ এর ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ কর্মসূচির সাথে যুক্ত হওয়ার আগে ও পরে স্বাস্থ্য কার্যক্রমে অংশগ্রহণ সর্ম্পকে তথ্য দিন।

ক্র. নং	পরিবর্তনের ধরণ	পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভুক্তির পূর্বে				পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভুক্তির পরে			
		নিয়মিত	মাঝে মধ্যে	কদাচিৎ	কখনই না	নিয়মিত	মাঝে মধ্যে	কদাচিৎ	কখনই না
		(৩)	(২)	(১)	(০)	(৩)	(২)	(১)	(০)
১	বিশুদ্ধ পানির ব্যবহার								
২	খাওয়ার আগে এবং পরে ভাল করে হাত ধোয়া								
৩	স্বাস্থ্য সম্মত পায়খানা ব্যবহার করা								
৪	পায়খানার পূর্বে জুতা/সেন্ডেল ব্যবহার করা								
৫	পায়খানার পরে ভাল করে সাবান/ছাই দিয়ে হাত পরিস্কার করা								
৬	ঘর-বাড়ী ভাল করে পরিস্কার করা								
৭	সময়মতো টিকা/ভ্যাকসিন নেয়া								

ক্র. নং	পরিবর্তনের ধরণ	পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভূক্তির পূর্বে				পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভূক্তির পরে			
		নিয়মিত	মাঝে মধ্যে	কদাচিৎ	কখনই না	নিয়মিত	মাঝে মধ্যে	কদাচিৎ	কখনই না
		(৩)	(২)	(১)	(০)	(৩)	(২)	(১)	(০)
৮	পরিবার পরিকল্পনা গ্রহন করা								
৯	খাবার স্যালাইন তৈরী করতে জানা								
১০	আয়োডিনযুক্ত লবন ব্যবহার করা								
১১	শিশুদেরকে সুষম পুষ্টিকর খাবার খাওয়ানো								
১২	গর্ভবতি মায়ের যথাযথ যত্ন নেয়া								
১৩	সময়মতো হাত ও পায়ের নখ কাটা								
১৪	শাক-সব্জি কাটার আগে ভাল করে ধৌত করা								
মোট									

ঙ. পানীয় জলের উৎসের পরিবর্তন: অনুগ্রহ করে পিডিবিএফ এর ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ কর্মসূচির সাথে যুক্ত হওয়ার আগে ও পরে আপনার পানীয় জলের উৎস সম্পর্কে নিম্নের প্রশ্নের জবাব দিন।

ক্র. নং	পরিবর্তনের ধরণ	পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভূক্তির পূর্বে	পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভূক্তির পরে
১	পুকুর, খাল, বিল ইত্যাদির পানি (১)		
২	কুয়ার পানি (২)		
৩	কাঁচা মেঝেযুক্ত নলকুপের পানি (৩)		
৪	পাকা মেঝেযুক্ত নলকুপের পানি (৪)		
৫	আর্সেনিক মুক্ত পাকা মেঝেযুক্ত নলকুপের পানি (৫)		

চ. রোগের চিকিৎসার ক্ষেত্রে পরিবর্তন: মেহেরবানী করে পিডিবিএফ এর ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ কর্মসূচির সাথে যুক্ত হওয়ার আগে ও পরে রোগের চিকিৎসার ক্ষেত্রে নিম্নের প্রশ্নের জবাব দিন।

ক্র. নং	পরিবর্তনের ধরণ	পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভূক্তির পূর্বে	পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভূক্তির পরে
১	কোন চিকিৎসা না করা (০)		
২	পীর, গ্রাম্য কবিরাজ ইত্যাদি দিয়ে চিকিৎসা (১)		
৩	হোমিওপ্যাথিক চিকিৎসা (২)		
৪	গ্রাম্য ডাক্তার দিয়ে চিকিৎসা (৩)		
৫	এমবিবিএস ডাক্তার দিয়ে চিকিৎসা (৪)		

ছ. আয়ের ক্ষেত্রে পরিবর্তন: মেহেরবানী করে পিডিবিএফ এর ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ কর্মসূচির সাথে যুক্ত হওয়ার আগে ও পরে বাৎসরিক আয়ের ক্ষেত্রে নিম্নের প্রশ্নের জবাব দিন।

ক্র. নং	পরিবর্তনের ধরণ	পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভুক্তির পূর্বে (হাজার টাকা)	পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভুক্তির পরে (হাজার টাকা)
১	ব্যবসা থেকে মাসে আয়		
২	কৃষি জমি-জমা থেকে বছরে আয়		
৩	ঘরভাড়া থেকে মাসে আয়		
৪	সঞ্চয় থেকে বছরে আয়		
৫	অন্যান্য উৎস থেকে মাসে আয়		
মোট			

জ. সঞ্চয়ের ক্ষেত্রে পরিবর্তন: মেহেরবানী করে পিডিবিএফ এর ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ কর্মসূচির সাথে যুক্ত হওয়ার আগে ও পরে সঞ্চয়ের ক্ষেত্রে নিম্নের প্রশ্নের জবাব দিন।

ক্র. নং	পরিবর্তনের ধরণ	পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভুক্তির পূর্বে (হাজার টাকা)	পিডিবিএফ এঅন্তর্ভুক্তির পরে (হাজার টাকা)
১	পিডিবিএফ এ সঞ্চয়		
২	ব্যাংকে সঞ্চয়		
৩	এনজিওতে সঞ্চয়		
৪	হাতে রক্ষিত সঞ্চয়		
৫	অন্য উপায়ে সঞ্চয়		
মোট			

ঝ. সম্পদের অধিকারের পরিবর্তন: অনুগ্রহ করে পিডিবিএফ এর ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ কর্মসূচিরসাথে যুক্ত হওয়ার আগেও পরে আপনার সম্পদের পরিমান ও মূল্য উল্লেখ করুন।

ক্র. নং	ধরণ	পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভুক্তির পূর্বে			পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভুক্তির পরে		
		সংখ্যা/ পরিমান	একক মূল্য	মোট মূল্য (টাকা)	সংখ্যা/ পরিমান	একক মূল্য	মোট মূল্য (টাকা)
১	জমি (শতক)						
২	ব্যবসায়িক সম্পদ						
৩	রেডিও						
৪	টেলিভিশন						
৫	রেফ্রিজারেটর						
৬	পড়ার টেবিল						
৭	ডাইনিং টেবিল						
৮	চেয়ার						
৯	খাট						
১০	সোফা সেট						
১১	আলনা						
১২	আলমিরা						
১৩	সো কেইজ						
১৪	মোবাইল ফোন						
১৫	টর্চ লাইট						

ক্র. নং	ধরণ	পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভুক্তির পূর্বে			পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভুক্তির পরে		
		সংখ্যা/ পরিমান	একক মূল্য	মোট মূল্য (টাকা)	সংখ্যা/ পরিমান	একক মূল্য	মোট মূল্য (টাকা)
১৬	দেয়াল ঘড়ি						
১৭	আয়না						
১৮	স্বর্নালংকার						
১৯	বাই সাইকেল						
২০	মোটর সাইকেল						
২১	বৈদ্যুতিক পাখা						
২২	সেলাই মেশিন						
২৩	অন্যান্য (যদি থাকে)						
মোট							

ঞ. ব্যবসা সম্প্রসারণের পরিবর্তন: অনুগ্রহ করে পিডিবিএফ এর ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ কর্মসূচির সাথে যুক্ত হওয়ার আগেও পরে আপনার ব্যবসার সম্প্রসারণ বিষয়ে নিম্নের প্রশ্নগুলোর জবাব দিন।

ক্র. নং	প্রশ্নসমূহ	পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভুক্তির পূর্বে (হাজার টাকা)	পিডিবিএফ এ অন্তর্ভুক্তির পরে (হাজার টাকা)
১	আপনি প্রতি মাসে আপনার কর্মীদের কত বেতন দেন?		
২	আপনি প্রতিদিন কত বিক্রি করেন?		
৩	আপনার ব্যবসায়িক সম্পদের মূল্য কত?		
৪	আপনার ব্যবসা এলাকার মূল্য কত?		
মোট			

১৪। পিডিবিএফ এর ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ কর্মসূচিরসাথে যুক্ত সুফলভোগীদের কার্যক্রমের বাধাসমূহঃ অনুগ্রহ পূর্বক আপনি পিডিবিএফ এর ক্ষুদ্র উদ্যোক্তা ঋণ কর্মসূচিরসাথে যুক্ত হওয়ার পর আপনার কার্যক্রমে সমস্যাসমূহের বক্তব্যগুলোর প্রতি সমর্থনের মাত্রা দ্বারা প্রকাশ করুন।

ক্র. নং	উক্তি	সমস্যার মাত্রা				সমস্যা সমাধানের পরামর্শ
		প্রকট সমস্যা	মাঝারী সমস্যা	কম সমস্যা	সমস্যা নেই	
		(৩)	(২)	(১)	(০)	
১	চাহিদা মাফিক ঋণের স্বল্পতা					
২	প্রক্রিয়াগত দীর্ঘসূত্রীতার কারণে ঋণ বিতরণে বিলম্ব হয়					
৩	সঠিক সময়ে ঋণ না পাওয়া যায় না					
৪	চূড়ান্ত কিস্তি পরিশোধ না হওয়া পর্যন্ত নতুন ঋণ না পাওয়া যায় না					
৫	নতুন ব্যবসা শুরুর জন্য ঋণ পাওয়া যায় না					
৬	সুদের হার বেশী					
৭	সঠিক খাতে ঋণ ব্যবহারের সক্ষমতা নেই					

ক্র. নং	উক্তি	সমস্যার মাত্রা				সমস্যা সমাধানের পরামর্শ
		প্রকট সমস্যা	মাঝারী সমস্যা	কম সমস্যা	সমস্যা নেই	
		(৩)	(২)	(১)	(০)	
৮	ঋণ পরিশোধের স্বল্প সময়ের জন্য ঋণের টাকার সঠিক ব্যবহার করতে পারিনি					
৯	উৎপাদন এবং বিপণনের জন্য প্রশিক্ষণ, দক্ষ কারিগর/কর্মী ও অন্যান্য সহায়তার অভাব					
১০	সঞ্চয়ের উপর ঋণ প্রাপ্তি নির্ভর করে, ফলে পর্যাপ্ত ঋণ পাইনি					
১১	বিভিন্ন ধর্মীয় এবং সামাজিক উৎসবের করণে ঋণ পরিশোধে সমস্যা হয়					
১২	পিডিবিএফ-এ দুর্নীতি ব্যবসা সম্প্রসারণে বাধা সৃষ্টি করছে					
১৩	একই অঞ্চলে পণ্যের সাদৃশ্যতা ব্যবসায় প্রভাব ফেলছে					
১৪	রাস্তা এবং নেটওয়ার্কের দুর্বল অবকাঠামো ব্যবসার বৃদ্ধিতে বাধা সৃষ্টি করছে					
মোট						

তথ্য সংগ্রহকারীর স্বাক্ষর
তারিখ:.....

APPENDIX – III

CONSTRUCTION OF ATTITUDE SCALE

In the present study, an attempt has been made to develop an attitude scale for measuring the attitude of beneficiaries towards SELP of PDBF activities. The attitude scale was combination of the Thurston's Technique of Equal Appearing Interval Scale and Likert's Technique of Summated Ratings Scale (Edwards, 1957). The steps followed in constructing attitude scale are described below.

Collection of Attitude Items

Thirty attitude statements about socio-economic development through SELP of PDBF activities were collected initially from different sources like progressive beneficiaries, social scientists, available literatures; unpublished PhD thesis and researcher's own experience. The statements were examined and edited as per criteria set up by Edwards (1957).

Item Analysis

This phase consisted of determining of relevancy of a particular statement and eliminates those, which did not discriminate well between person holding different attitudes. As the basis for rejecting, in the method of statements summated rating item analysis was used as suggested by Edwards (1957). Item analysis is an important step to construct valid and reliable state. For this analysis, the items were first administered to a random sample of 24 beneficiaries in the study area and these beneficiaries were different from the final sample. The selected beneficiaries were asked to give their reactions to each statement on the five point continuum i.e. 'strongly agree', 'agree', 'no opinion', 'disagree' and 'strongly disagree'. Weights assigned to the rating scale were 4, 3, 2, 1 and 0 respectively for the positive statements and the scoring was reversed for the negative statements.

Thus the possible score of attitude of beneficiaries towards SELP of PDBF activities of the pretest sample respondents could range from 0-120, while 0

indicating very unfavourable attitude and 120 indicating very favourable attitude towards SELP of PDBF activities.

Then critical ratio (t-value) was used for item selection. The respondents were arranged in the ascending order according to their total scores. The top 25 percent of the respondents with the highest scores (High group) and the bottom 25 percent of the respondents with the lowest scores (Low group) were used as criterion groups to evaluate individual statements. The critical ration (t-value) for each individual statement was worked out by using the following formula suggested by Edwards (1957):

$$t = \frac{\overline{X_H} - \overline{X_L}}{\sqrt{\frac{\sum (X_H - \overline{X_H})^2 + \sum (X_L - \overline{X_L})^2}{n(n-1)}}}$$

Where,

$$\sum (X_H - \overline{X_H}) = \sum X_H{}^2 - \frac{(\sum X_H)^2}{n}$$

and

$$\sum (X_L - \overline{X_L}) = \sum X_L{}^2 - \frac{(\sum X_L)^2}{n}$$

Where,

$\sum X_H{}^2$ = Sum of squares of individual scores in the high group

$\sum X_L{}^2$ = Sum of squares of individual scores in the low group

$\overline{X_H}$ = The mean score of a given statement for the high group

$\overline{X_L}$ = The mean score of a given statement for the low group

n = Number of subjects (respondents) in each group

Critical ratio (t-value) for attitude towards SELP of PDBF statements

SL. No.	Statements	t-values
(-) 1	PDBF is making us more dependent	0.748
(+) 2	PDBF is contributing to the creation of small entrepreneurs	3.056*
(-) 3	PDBF has no role in creating small entrepreneurs	5.622*
(+) 4	SELP of PDBF is very humanitarian	1.566
(+) 5	It is easier to get a loan from PDBF than a scheduled bank	2.860*
(+) 6	SELP of PDBF helps the entrepreneurs to improve their economic condition	7.246*
(-) 7	PDBF has an evil target behind assisting us. So, we should be aware before accepting their help	1.862*
(+) 8	SELP of PDBF helps to create the employment for poverty reduction	1.860*
(+) 9	PDBF provides us various non-financial benefits besides loan facilities	1.442
(+) 10	PDBF create women empowerment which is helpful for societies	1.421
(-) 11	Actually, PDBF has no activities for employment generation	1.750*
(-) 12	Although PDBF staffs visit us regularly but they do not support us all purposes	0.743
(+) 13	Interest rate of PDBF loan is less than other organizations	2.160*
(-) 14	Interest rate of PDBF loan is higher than other organizations	5.848*
(+) 15	I believe that PDBF's small enterprise loan programme is very helpful for poverty alleviation in the country	1.423
(+) 16	It is very easy to get SELP loan of PDBF	1.770*
(-) 17	PDBF has lacks of small business training facilities	1.456
(-) 18	It is very complicated to get SELP loan of PDBF	1.758*
(-) 19	PDBF is behind in organizing seminars/workshops on small businesses	0.987
(-) 20	PDBF provides inadequate loan to rural people against their needs	1.932*
(-) 21	Actually, PDBF has no income generating activities	1.256
(+) 22	SELP of PDBF has expanded my business	0.879
(-) 23	Even without the support of SELP of PDBF, my business would have been doing well	0.998

SL. No.	Statements	t-values
(+) 24	SELP of PDBF is very important for improving socio-economic development of the rural people	1.841*
(+) 25	PDBF has increased our savings.	1.697
(-) 26	PDBF is doing such things which are harmful to people and society.	2.246*
(-) 27	PDBF has no role in my business expansion and development.	1.511
(+) 28	It is better to receive loan from PDBF than village money lenders.	4.176*
(+) 29	PDBF's small enterprise loan programme needs to be expanded.	1.171
(-) 30	The total amount of loan could not be utilized properly due to shortage of grace period.	6.822*

*Statements selected for final attitude towards SELP of PDBF statements

The value of 't' was a measure of the extent to which a given statement differentiates between the high and low groups. As suggested by Edwards (1957), there is a thumb rule of rejecting items with't' values < 1.75. Usually, a t-value equal to or greater than 1.75 indicates that the average responses of the high and low groups to a statement differ significantly.

Finally t-values of all the statements were determined as above. The statements having't' values ≥ 1.75 were finally selected for the attitude towards SELP of PDBF activities scale. Ali (2008) and Islam (2014) in Bangladesh followed the same rule. As such 16 statements were selected in the final scale of attitude towards SELP of PDBF activities including 8 positive and 8 negative statements. These selected statements were arranged randomly in the scale in order to have real feelings without any biasness.

Scoring and administering the attitude scale

Finally attitude towards SELP of PDBF activities was measured by using selected 16 statements in relation to PDBF activities. The selected statements were expressed in positive and negative views towards ecological agriculture. The responded will be asked to indicate their attitude towards SELP of PDBF activities as 'strongly agree', 'agree', 'no opinion', 'disagree' and 'strongly disagree' and score were assigned as 4, 3, 2, 1 and 0 respectively for the positive statements and

the reverse score were given for the negative statements. The scoring method was slightly modified from that of Likert (1932). The possible range of score of attitude towards SELP of PDBF activities was from 0–64, where 0 indicated very highly unfavourable attitude and 64 indicated very highly favourable attitude towards SELP of PDBF activities.

APPENDIX – IV

Regression Analysis (Enter)

Variables Entered/Removed[a]

Model	Variables Entered	Variables Removed	Method
1	ASP, DMA, TE, LA, SD, LU, TDR, LRB, LI, Age, Edu, SLRC[b]		Enter

a. Dependent Variable: Y

b. All requested variables entered.

Model Summary[b]

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics					Durbin-Watson
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	df2	Sig. F Change	
1	.733[a]	.537	.516	699.271	.537	24.975	12	258	.000	1.425

a. Predictors: (Constant), ASP, DMA, TE, LA, SD, LU, TDR, LRB, LI, Age, Edu, SLRC

b. Dependent Variable: Y

ANOVA[a]

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	146544711.662	12	12212059.305	24.975	.000[b]
	Residual	126156657.829	258	488979.294		
	Total	272701369.491	270			

a. Dependent Variable: Y

b. Predictors: (Constant), ASP, DMA, TE, LA, SD, LU, TDR, LRB, LI, Age, Edu, SLRC

Coefficients[a]

Model		Un standardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients			95.0% Confidence Interval for B		Collinearity Statistics	
		B	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Tolerance	VIF
1	(Constant)	-559.389	666.063		-.840	.402	-1871.001	752.224		
	Age	20.996	4.733	.212	4.436	.000	11.677	30.316	.782	1.278
	Edu	139.651	19.003	.391	7.349	.000	102.229	177.072	.634	1.576
	TDR	.173	.985	.008	.175	.861	-1.768	2.113	.895	1.118
	TE	-4.363	7.325	-.026	-.596	.552	-18.787	10.061	.964	1.037
	LI	43.121	15.220	.129	2.833	.005	13.150	73.091	.871	1.148
	SD	.910	.289	.139	3.147	.002	.341	1.479	.918	1.089
	LA	-7.176	3.071	-.102	-2.337	.020	-13.223	-1.130	.941	1.063
	LU	.649	3.437	.009	.189	.850	-6.120	7.418	.853	1.172
	LRB	-2.058	4.077	-.022	-.505	.614	-10.088	5.971	.920	1.087
	SLRC	27.029	6.715	.215	4.025	.000	13.805	40.252	.627	1.595
	DMA	-15.968	27.748	-.025	-.575	.565	-70.609	38.672	.939	1.065
	ASP	8.002	3.792	.107	2.110	.036	.534	15.470	.700	1.428

a. Dependent Variable: Y

APPENDIX – V

PHOTOGRAPH OF INTERVIEWING RESPONDENTS AND SELECTED AREAS

Photo-1 The researcher in front of Rajbari Sadar upazila complex

Photo-2 The researcher with a respondent of Rajbari Sadar

Photo-3 The researcher in front of Ramgati upazila complex

Photo-4 A respondent of Ramgati upazila

PHOTOGRAPH OF INTERVIEWING RESPONDENTS AND SELECTED AREAS

Photo-5 PDBF Kaliakair upazila office

Photo-6 The researcher interviewing a SELP respondent

Photo-7 The researcher in front of Dhanbari upazila office

Photo-8 The researcher interviewing a SELP respondent