

মানুষের জন্য
manusher jonno

promoting human rights and good governance

Bangladesh Child Rights Situation-2013

(Reflections from Newspapers)





Background

Though several reports on child rights in Bangladesh have been published in recent years, there is a lack of regular arrangements of data and facts about the issues of Children. As a result, in the "Concluding observations for Bangladesh" made by the UN Child's Rights Committee, a recommendation was proposed to develop a regular data storage and analysis system to monitor the situation of Children in Bangladesh. In this context, since 2011 Manusher Jonno Foundation have been collecting and sharing the Annual situation of the Child right to all the relevant stakeholders. Bangladesh Child Rights Situation-2013, is the continuation of that effort.

Purpose

- To determine the problem and prospects of children in different dimensions.
- To portray the reality of Child Rights situation through numerical data.
- To analyze the causes and current trend of the issues that affect the children.

Method

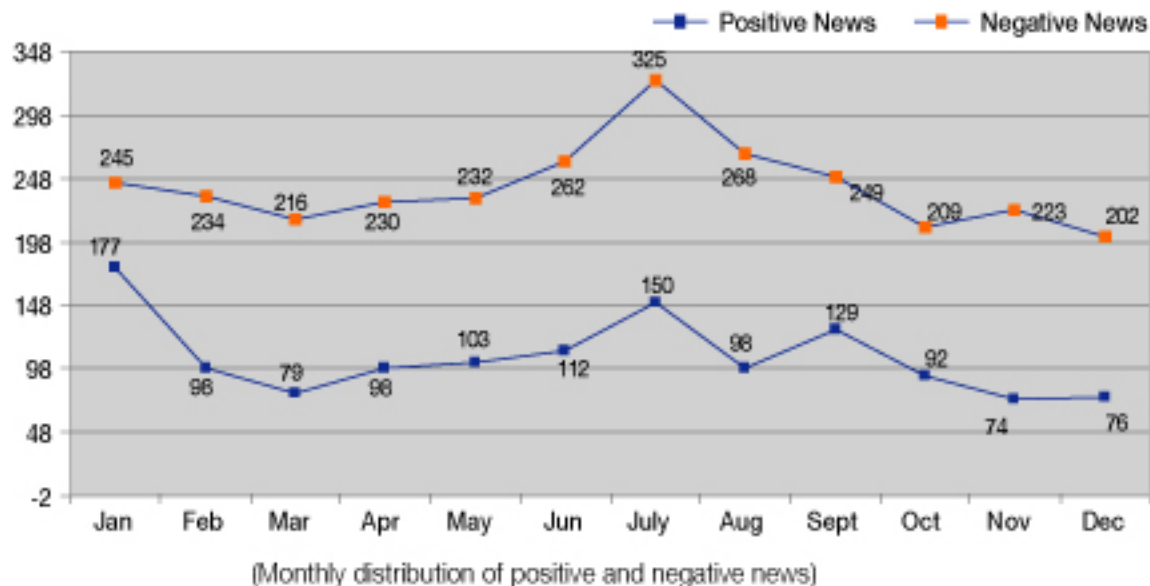
Everyday different child related news are collected from 6 National Daily Newspapers, which are The Daily Prothom-Alo, The Daily Ittefaq, The Daily Jugantor, The Daily Samakal, The Daily New Age and The Daily Star. Then these news are analyzed and split in a format with several thematic categories. Thus through a consistent analysis all the news of the months are categorized and an analytical overview is made at the end of the month. From that monthly analysis an annual data of the child situation is made at the end of the year.

Time-Period

January 2013 - December 2013.

Compiled Children's Situation

In 2013, children related 1286 positive news were published (which was 1181 in 2012) and 2895 negative news were published (which was 2677 in 2012).



A snapshot of positive news

News Category	Total in 2013	Total in 2012
Festival (Film, Painting, Theatre, Sports competition, Math Olympiad Magic show, Film screening, Book fair etc.)	102	190
Rescued (Abduction, Early marriage, Trafficking etc.)	161	201
Law enforcement	87	103
Development in Education	83	38
Getting Better Life/Support to live better	55	145
Award giving/ Scholarship	125	51
Seminar/Workshop/Training/Survey report	72	85
Student protest (Human chain/Press release / Procession etc)	125	91
Reception/Farewell/Reunion	181	69
Result/Exam	41	41
Administrative Decision	26	18
Involvement in Social Work	13	10
Mental Strength/Other Achievements	33	18
Immunization	08	06
Political Commitment	06	01
Non Categorized	168	106
Total	1286	1172

Positive News

In 2013, the most positive news were of rescuing the children from trafficking, abduction and early marriage. 181 news has been published regarding reception of talented students, reunion and farewell of students.

Analyzing the 2nd highest news- rescued from abduction, trafficking, early marriage; a fact came out that although law enforcement played role to rescue children from trafficking and abduction, local stakeholders played the major role in preventing early marriages. In some cases children have taken help of the adults to prevent early marriages.

In 2013, 125 news have been served regarding scholarships, honors for achievements in various field of education and prize giving ceremonies.

125 news were published where student protested regarding road accidents, sexual harassments, immoral behaviors of teachers through meeting, human-chain, memorandum submission against corruption and irregularities in school matters.



102 news of various festivals i.e.- book fairs, film festivals, science fairs, debate competitions, magic shows, math Olympiads were published and most of these events were centric, the participation of children from remote areas and marginal groups was very limited. Children's participation and interest in these types of programs is increasing gradually. But it is observed that such initiatives only targeted the students, disadvantaged children, street children and child labor who do not attend schools have no room to participate in these.

Regarding judicial and law enforcement of the agencies 87 news have been served; where most news were related to harasser penalty, death penalty for murder, rape and sexual oppressors penalty. News number related to sentencing for child murder, punishment of sexual harassment was almost as same as previous years.

Education and development related 83 news have been served; where news related to new books distribution, various projects on educational development, donation to various educational institutions by various organizations, volunteers operated schools have taken places. In 2012, such activities published in 38 news.

72news have been published related to children focused seminars, workshops, trainings. Most of these events are organized by the Child focused NGOs and few are by the government.

55news have been published about the development related to how the children are living better life than before, what new facilities children are getting from village and town. Mainly the news, related to the activities performed by various government, non-governmental and social organizations to improve the lifestyle of children have dominated here.

In 2013, regarding PSC, JSC, SSC exam results 41 news have been published.



33news have been reported relating life struggling with adverse situation and studying, playing positive role with extraordinary talent.

Regarding children related laws and government decisions, 26news have been served, in which, news of draft list of hazardous child labor, child law amendment, human trafficking prevention act, pneumonia vaccine will be included in EPI from the next year were etc were notable. Such news was 18 in 2012.

Some news were found about children's locally association with a variety of social works like winter clothes distribution, cleanliness campaigns, local level road development etc, a total 13 news have been published under this category.

In addition, vaccination program related 8news have been served.

Regarding political commitment to the education of autistic children 6 news have been served. Such news was 1 in 2012.

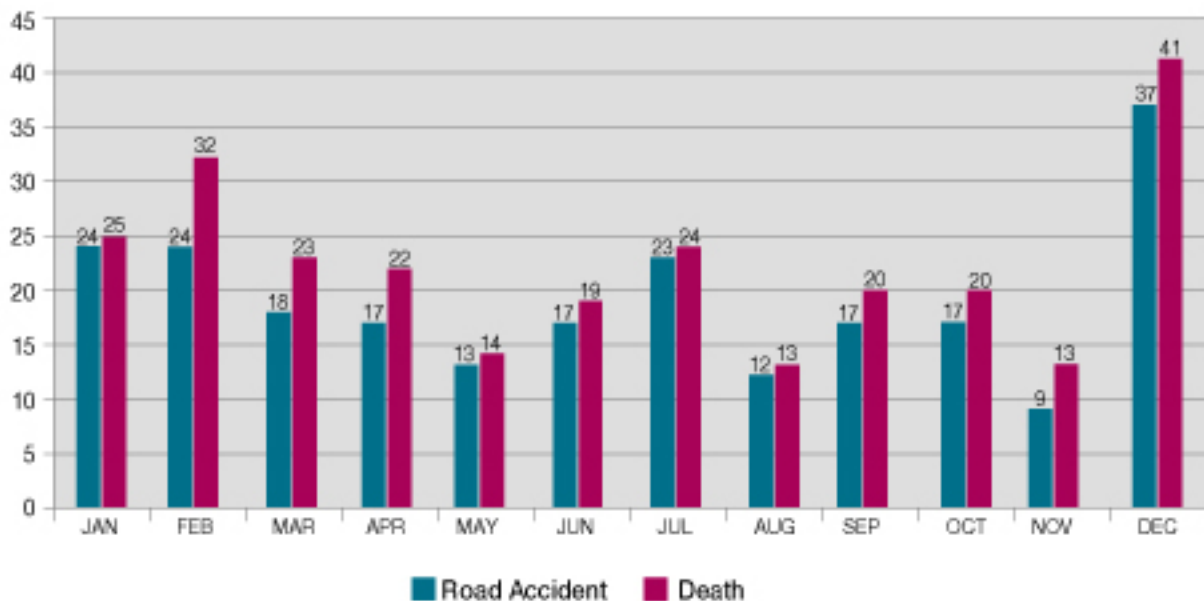
Another 168 various child related news were served which were not classified due to the variety of subjects.

On the contrary, negative events for children in this summary read as follows:

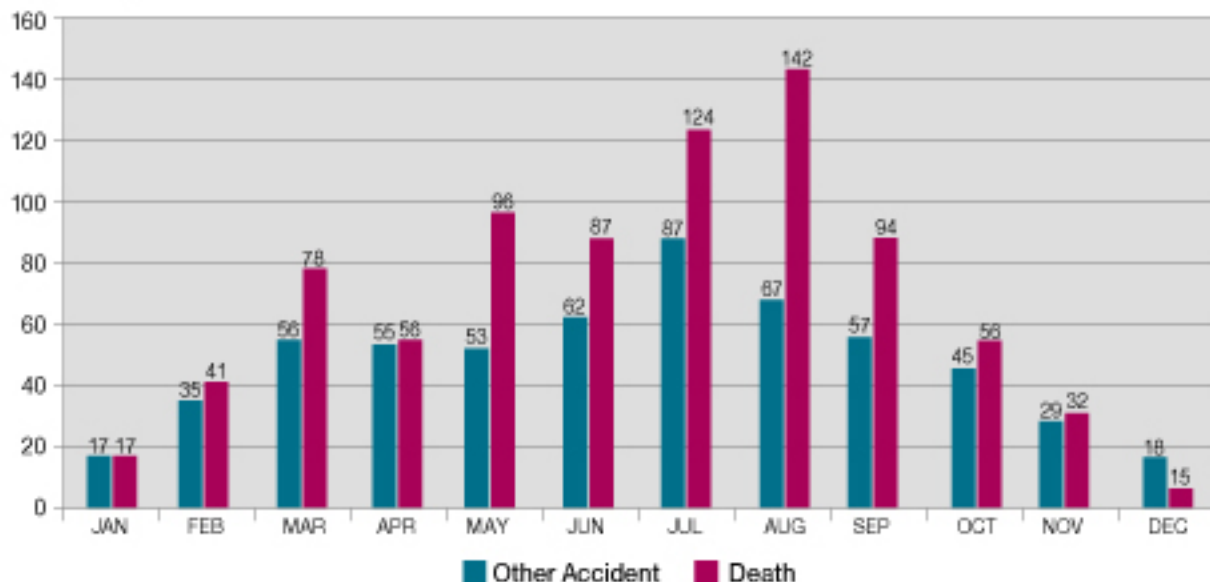
12 months summary of Children 2013			News Category	Summar of News 2013
Affected	Death	Injured		Total
295	266	15	Road Accident	228
1174	838	298	Other Accidents	581
2603799	0	0	Education Problem	237
1501468	10	53	Health Problem	70
183	02	136	Sexual Harassment	150
267	12	239	Rape	245
24	0	19	Attempt to Rape	24
90	02	2	Kidnapping	86
11	0	11	Attempt to Kidnap	11
84	02	1	Early Marriage	76
343	335	2	Murder	331
36	0	35	Attempt to Murder	24

12 months summary of Children 2013			News Category	Summar of News 2013
Affected	Death	Injured		Total
264	1	130	Torture	41
172	166	6	Suicide	159
245	1	1	Children in Crime	34
167	2	0	Missing	146
21443	3	3	Non-Response of Duty Bearers	79
12448	6	17	Uncertain Future of Children	73
1163132	2	16	Child Labor & Abuse of Children	58
39	14	0	Cold Wave	4
10	0	10	Acid Throwing	08
42	0	0	Trafficking	11
156	41	107	Political Violence with Children	76
0	0	0	Non Categorized	143
5305886	1702	1100	Total	2895

Negative Events



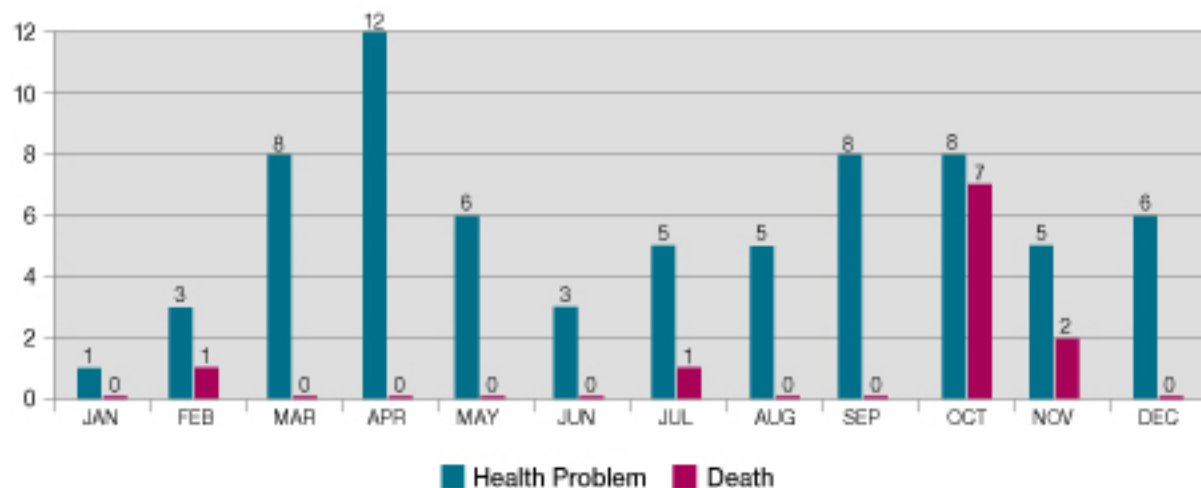
In 2013 news of road accidents have been served 228 in total. In these 266 children died and 15 got hurt. Compare to each month of 2013, in December highest of 41 children and in June lowest of 13 children died in accidents. In 2012 the total death was 363. Most accidents were reported because of the inefficiency, carelessness, unstable motion of drivers.



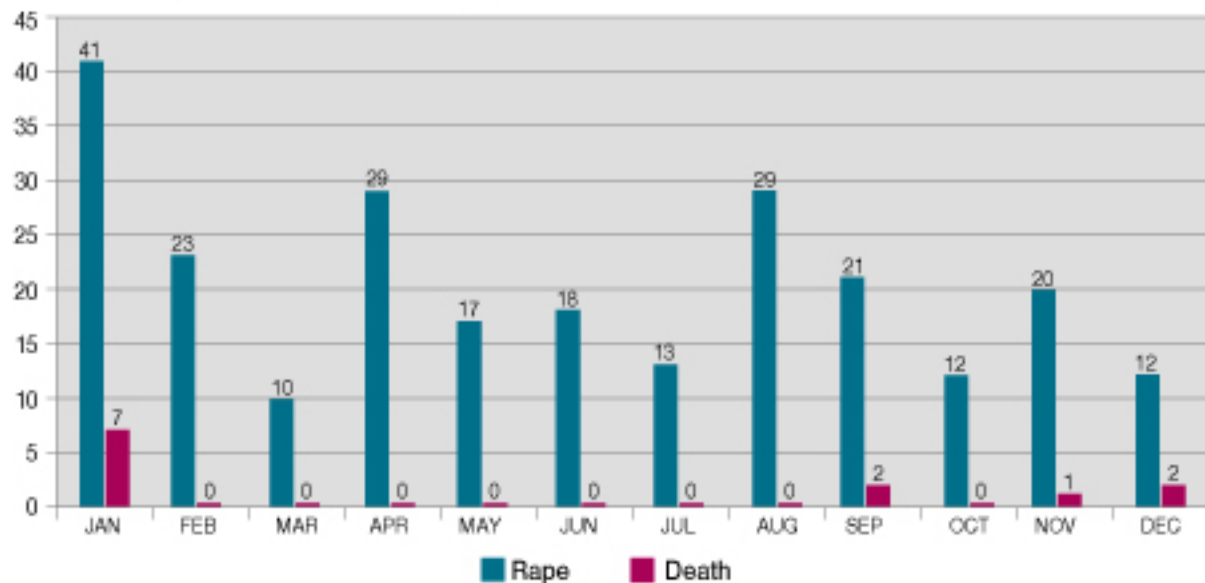
Apart from road accidents, 581 news of other accidents were served, where 838 children died and 298 injured. In these accidents, 502 children drowned (118 max on August), 48 died because of electric shock, 12 died in landslides on the hill, 26 died of lightning strikes, 23 died of fall from building, 27 died of food poisoning, 19 died of snake bites. In addition, 50 students were injured in an inter-sport competition of a school. In 2012, the death toll was 558.



Analyzing 70 health problem related news; 10 children died of lack of treatment, infrastructural constraints, transportation problems etc and 53 did not get proper medical care. Individual incidents have been counted here; besides, in area or hospital related reports, various aspects of health care quality issues have been raised. Monthly basis health related news are given below:



In 2013, child rape news was published in total of 245, and according to that 267 children were raped, where 12 died and 239 severely injured and taking treatment. Most of the children were raped when she was alone or going somewhere alone. A significant number of children have been victims of rape on the way to school or by the teacher. In 2012, 155 were the victims of rape.



Further, according to other 24 news, 24 more children were attempted to be raped, who eventually escaped, but 19 of those were injured severely.

Except rape, 150 reports of other type of sexual assault were published, where such news were 74 in 2012. In such incidents, 132 children severely injured.

Last year a total of 86 abduction related news were published, where 90 children were found abducted and 2 amongst them were murdered after abduction. Compared to 2012, in 2013 the phenomenon that has risen is abduction.

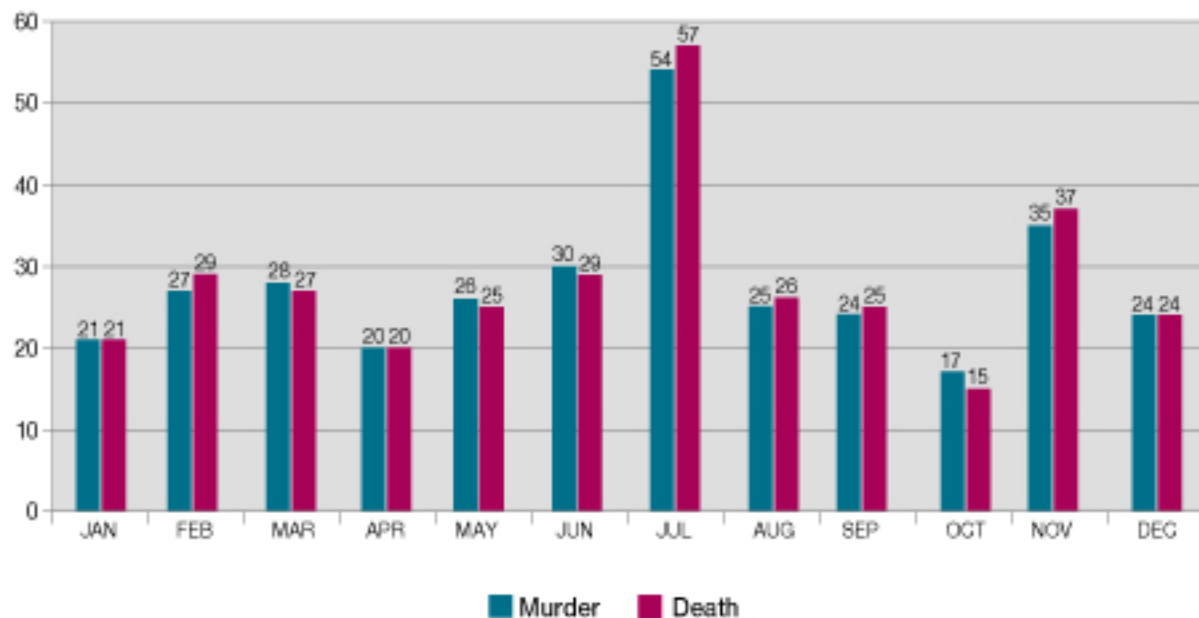
In 2013, from 331 news reports it is found that 335 children have been murdered.

Amongst this news, cause of 248 murder cases were published. 48 people murdered by family enemies, 3 of for ransom, 33 terror victims, 13 for land dispute, 20 of feud, 17 murdered by the friends, 7 at the hands of robbers, 7 for love related matter, 7 for parents' extra marital affairs, 8 after getting raped, 6 child domestic worker at workplaces, 8 for dowry, 4 by the BSF at the border.

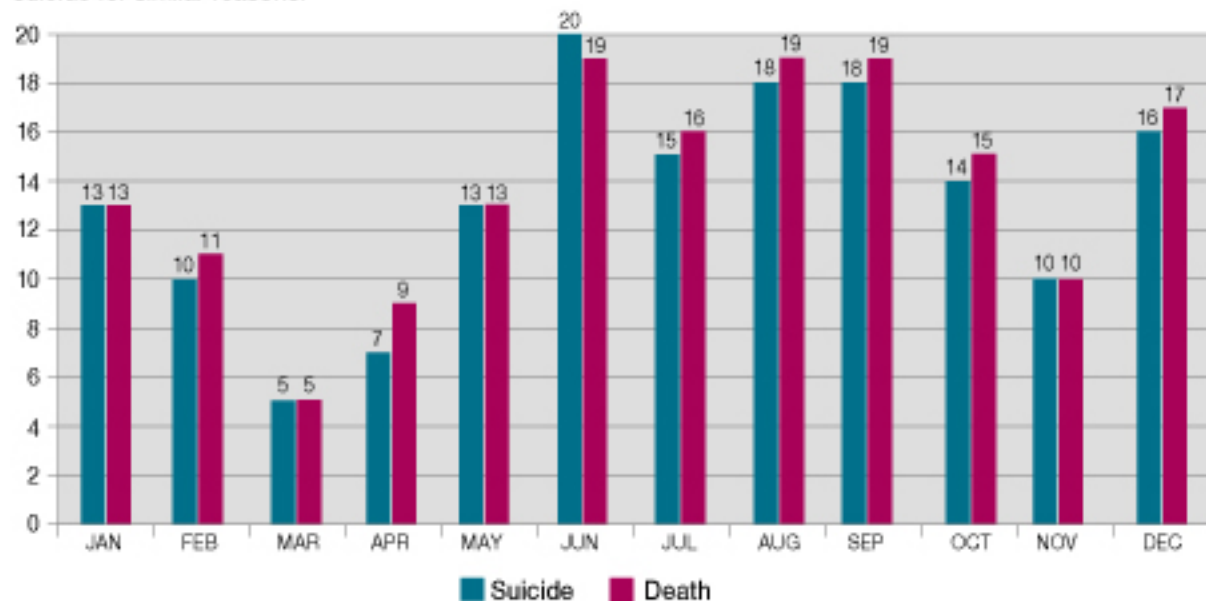
In 2012, the death was 414.

Besides, other 24 news reports show 36 children were attempted to be murdered, where 35 got severely injured.

41 news published that 264 children were abused physically throughout the year. Amongst them 1 died and 130 got injured.



Last year 166 suicide victims were found from 159news, where 33 children committed suicide for involving in love, 24 by huff, 21 for family feud, 19 due to regular sexual harassment, 5 being subjected to rape, 3 for fear of spreading pornographic video, 14 for failing in school exams. In 2012, 165 children committed suicide for similar reasons.

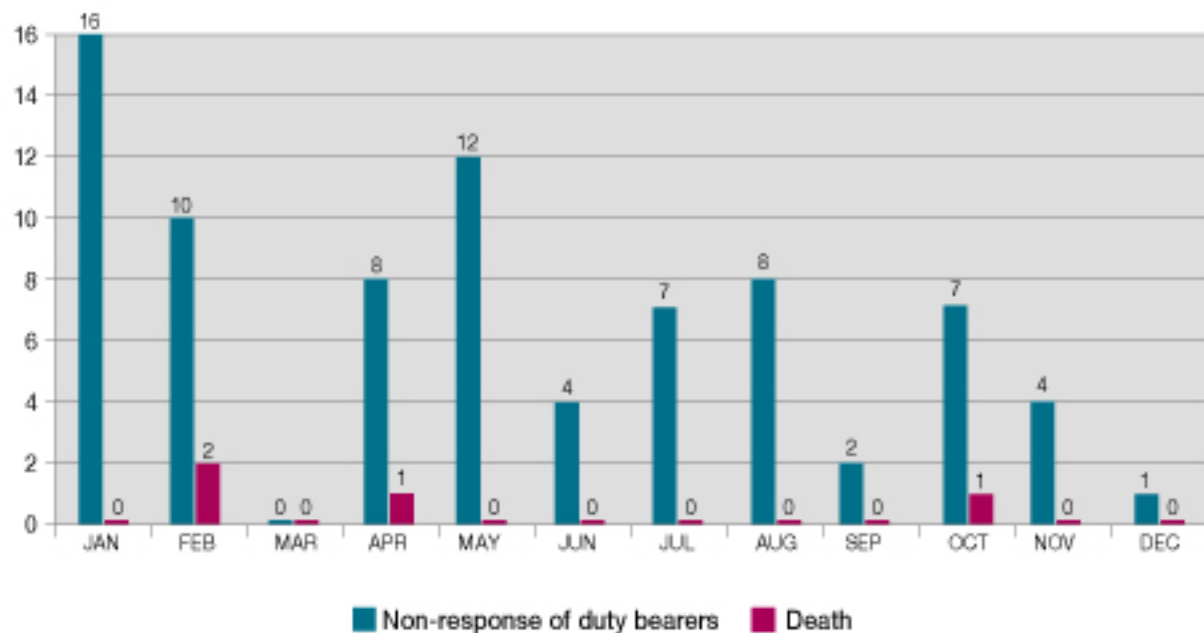




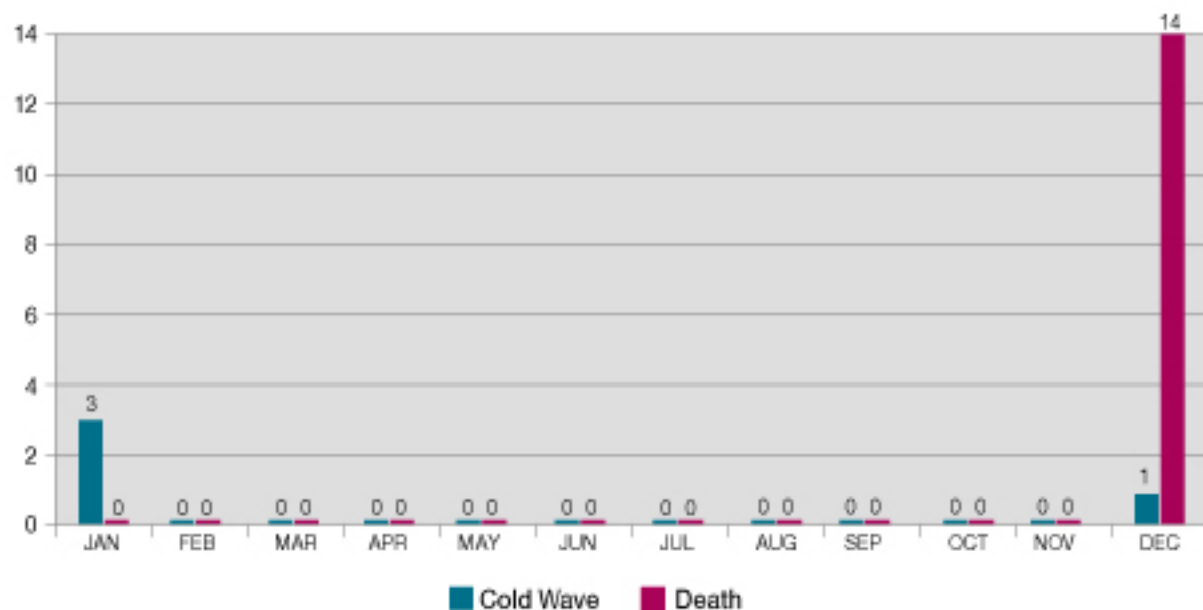
Last year, children engagement in crime related 34 news were published, where 245 children were involved. Besides the increasing number of children involved in various types of crimes, there was news of a child's assassination as well.

Last year children kidnapping related some 146 news were served. In total 167 children were lost last year, in which 2 bodies were found. In 2012, 91 children were lost according to the news published.

Another 79 news were reported where 39 children died throughout the year due to non responsive role of service providers; in which due to wrong medical treatment of public- private doctors 22 died and without treatment 8 died. In 2012, the number of this kind of death was 101.



In 2013, due to cold wave and winter disease 14 children died; in 2012, the death toll was 31. According to newspaper, more children suffering from cold disease have taken treatments from various hospitals.



In 2013, related to uncertain future of extremely poor and marginalized children, 73news were published. In these news, it was clear that how the marginalized and disadvantaged children fail to meet their minimum needs. To solve their problems, various recommendations were proposed in association with the public- private initiatives.

In 2013, 42 children were reported trafficked from 11 trafficking related news.

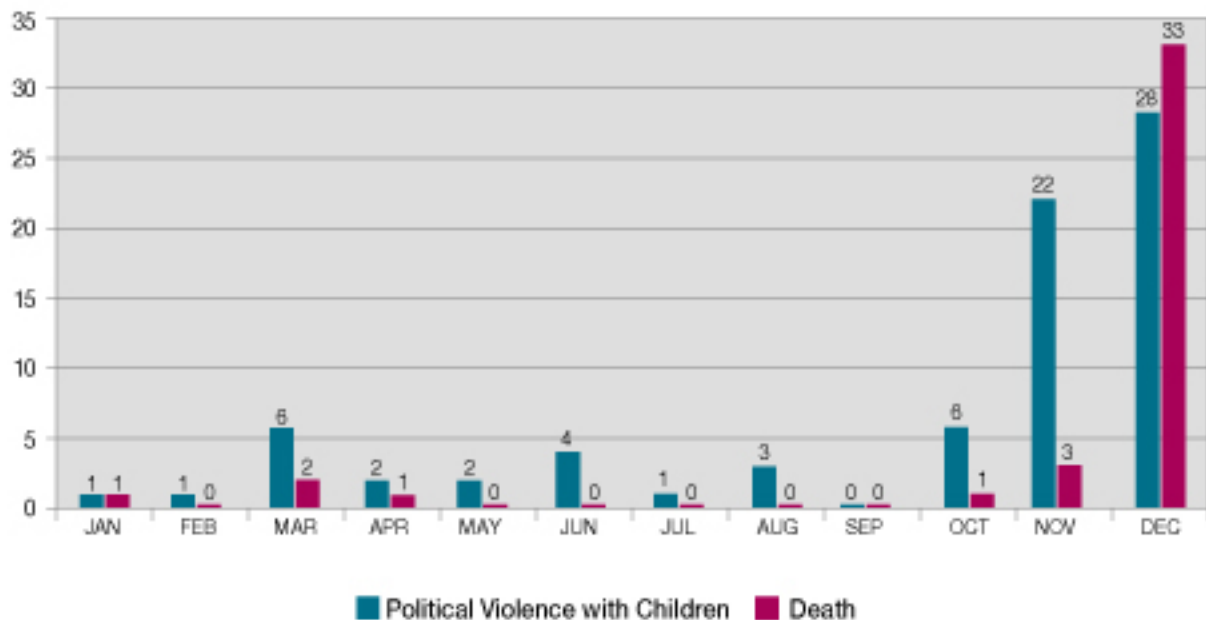
According to numerical data, the biggest risk for Bangladeshi children was not meeting the basic needs in different ways of child labor; last year there were around 11,63, 134 children at risk to be reported in 58 news.

In 2013, from 8 acid attacking news, 10 children were found victimized. Due to love, family feud, personal feud children have been victims of acid terrorism.

Total 237 news report that, more than 26,03,799 children have been deprived of quality education.

The more thematic issues of this series have been published on 143 News.

In addition, according to 76 news of political violence, 156 children got affected, where 41 died and 107 severely injured.



As an initiative for child rights monitoring in Bangladesh Manusher Jonno Foundation regularly maintains the data and information from all possible sources and encourages to use this data for UNCRC reporting, other academic and development interventions.

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