Garment Worker Najma Akhter, 23, is depressed after she had to leave her work in a sweater factory for taking care of her new born baby. Even though it is legally obliged, the factory didn't provide a day care center for children. Najma started working in the garment factory 5 month after her delivery. But when she didn't get the chance to breast feed her child for more than 5-6 hours, she couldn't stand the pain for long. After a short time she decided to leave the factory. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Most garment workers have no choice but to live in unhygienic circumstances in the slums. Dhaka, Bangladesh, August 2009.
Garment worker Rebu Akhter is getting water for cooking from a tube well. Ten to 12 families have to share the same tube well, in a cramped and small space, which is used for washing clothes, cooking and bathing. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
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These children are passing time alone as their mother is out working in the garment factory. They have to help with household chores such as cooking or taking care of younger siblings. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Children of garment workers are playing with dolls, which they made themselves out of cheap cloth. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Most children of garment workers don't have a clean environment in which to play. They can't effort to go to the park or play outside though. Many of these children are also suffering from malnutrition. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Shanaj, who stays at home as a housewife is teaching the children of garment workers on the roof of a house. She only charges 200-300 taka a month. Most garment workers do not make enough money to send their children to school. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
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Garment worker Nurun Nahar is having lunch with her family in this small room. She pays 1050 taka as rent for this room per month. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Garment worker Nurun Nahar, 21, is married but her husband is not with her anymore. It is common for husbands of female garment workers to leave a few days after getting married if they haven't received dowry payment by then. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Garment worker Nurun Nahar, 21, is resting after coming back from the factory. She works in the woven garment industry and is not given any days off. She rests whenever she gets a chance. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh
Najma Akhter is working for a sweater factory. She is sharing food with her family at night during Ramadan, the fasting month for Muslims. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Garment worker Nurun Nahar, 21, is getting ready for work. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Garment worker Nurun Nahar, 21, is getting ready for work. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Garment worker Nurun Nahar, 21, on her way to work in the factory. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Garment worker Najma Akhter, 23, is sleeping in this room with her entire family - her children, her parents and her siblings. Altogether, 11 family members share this one room. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Garment worker Ruma is cooking in a shared kitchen. Ten to 15 families have to share this kitchen. They are in a constant hurry in the morning and at night to get their cooking done. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
A kitchen shared by ten to 15 garment worker families. They are in a constant hurry in the morning and at night to get their cooking done. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Ten to 12 families have to share the same tube well, in a cramped and small space which is used for washing clothes, cooking and bathing. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
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Ruma, her brother Faruk, and her two sisters are working in garment factories. They live together in this single room with four other family members. They pay 1,500 takas a month for this room, which is a large part of their salary. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
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22 children are taken care of in this single room. Bangladeshi law actually stipulates that daycare centers should be provided by garment factory owners but as this is usually not the case, the two garment workers Shobnom Hafj and Nurrun Nahar founded volunteer run Matrichaya Daycare Center. Garment workers with children need only pay 150-200 takas a month to the center, which will care for their children from morning till night. Shobnom and Nurrun have to pay for the running costs from their own pocket, if they don't raise enough money. So they also try raising donations from wellwishers. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
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Garment workers are hurrying to enter the factory by 8am. If they are late, their salary will be cut and they won't be able to receive any bonus. The garment industry in Bangladesh has nearly 2.4 million workers, 80 percent of which are women. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
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Most children of garment workers don't have a clean environment in which to play. They can't effort to go to the park or play outside though. Many of these children are also suffering from malnutrition. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Garment worker Kulsi Begum, 20, shares this room with two other workers. They pay 1,500 taka rent a month, which is a large part of their 1,662 taka monthly salary. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
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Portrait of garment worker Joli Akhter, 20, who has worked as an operator in a garment factory for the last three years. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Portrait of garment worker Joli Akhter, 20, who has worked as an operator in a garment factory for the last three years. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Hasina Akhter, 22, and her sister-in-law Joli Akhter, 19, are standing in front of their room with their friend Nurun Nahar, 21. They share one room which costs 1,500 taka in rent. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Garment worker Kulsi Begum is getting ready to leave home. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Portrait of Kulsi Begum, 20, who has been working as an operator in a garment factory for the last two years. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Garment workers Hasina Akhter, 22, and her sister-in-law Joli Akhter, 19, are getting ready to leave the house. Dhaka, Bangladesh, August 2009. cc Taslima Akhter/CleanClothesCampaign
Most mornings, Joli Akhter and her family eat rice and potato curry with chilli for breakfast. Sometimes they can only eat plain rice with some curry gravy and salt. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
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Garment workers Joli, 20, and Ruma, 18, on their way to the factory. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Garment workers are hurrying to enter the factory by 8am. If they are late, their salary will be cut and they won't be able to receive any bonus. The garment industry in Bangladesh has nearly 2.4 million workers, 80 percent of which are women. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Most children of garment workers don't have a clean environment in which to play. They can't effort to go to the park or play outside though. Many of these children are also suffering from malnutrition. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Nurun Nahar is preparing lunch during a holiday. The garment worker families usually eat rice with cheap vegetables and small fishes, because most of the time they can't afford to buy more nutritious food. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Like Jannat and her friend, most garment workers have to live in cramped, narrow and dark buildings, sharing only one room with sometimes more than 10 family members. A single room can cost 1,000 to 2,500 takas a month. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
Garment worker Najma Akhter, 23, is sleeping in this room with her entire family - her children, her parents and her siblings. Altogether, 11 family members share this one room. August 2009, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
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