

# **“Perception of Speech and Language Therapy Student’s To Their Profession”**

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**Faculty of Medicine, Affiliated by**

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**“Perception of Speech and Language Therapy Student’s To Their Profession.”**

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**Bangladesh Health Professions Institute (BHPI)**  
*(The academic institute of CRP)*  
University of Dhaka.

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**In partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of**  
**B.Sc. in Speech and Language Therapy.**

**“Perception Of Speech and Language Therapy Student’s To Their Profession”**

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## Abstract

**Purpose:** The purpose of the study was to explore the perception of speech and language therapy students.

**Objectives:** To identify the factors to influence their study selection, to figure out the obstacles are faced by SLT student, to determine their satisfaction level as SLT student, determine the confidence level of SLT students.

**Methodology:** Face to face qualitative research approach is applied with open ended question form. Total number of sample was 08.

**Results:** Most of the student chose SLT because it is a medical related profession, huge opportunity to serving mankind, most of them are satisfied but not sure about the future and job opportunity, some of them were not satisfied earlier, most of them are confident and states increase opportunity will increase their confident level. They perceived problems like lack of opportunities for job and higher study, lack of knowledge among people and other professionals, no council and mal practice.

**Conclusion:** In conclusion it can be said that, this profession is facing a lot of obstacles and difficulties like lack of opportunities for job and higher study, lack of knowledge among people and other health professionals, no council about SLT. So more orientation in people about SLT is recommended. It is good news that physiotherapy is included in health policy of Bangladesh, but there is no specific guideline about working area. So more specification of about SLT should be included in health policy. Government should create post for the SLT.

**Keyword:** *Speech and language therapy, Profession.*

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## DECLARATION

I am **Sanjida Rahman**, declared and confirm that this study is not harmful for participants and others. This study was done by me. And I am responsible for any mistake. All the sources used in this study have been cited appropriately.

**Signature& Date**

.....

**Sanjida Rahman**

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## DEDICATION

*To my beloved parents*

*And*

*My well-wishers*

## Acknowledgement

At first I am grateful to Almighty Allah for giving me enough patience, ability, intelligence to complete this study successfully in time and without this support it was totally impossible. Then I want to give thanks to my honorable parents and my all honorable teachers of BHPI supporting me every step in my life mentally and also encouraging me in crucial time of this study.

And I would like dedicated my acknowledgement to my honorable supervisor **Md Sazzad Hossain**, without his support from the beginning to the end it was totally impossible for me and I am thanking him not only his thoughtful suggestion and proper guidelines of this study. I could successfully complete this was possible only for his supports and excellent supervision during this study.

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I am grateful to all the authority of my selecting study area to give the permission for collecting data of my research. At last, thanks to my participants to share their time and their stories with me to conduct the study. And at the end again I want to give special thanks to Allah.

## List of Abbreviation

**BHPI:** Bangladesh Health Professions Institute.

**CRP:** Center for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysees.

**IRB:** Institutional Review Board.

**SLT:** Speech and Language Therapy.

**ASHA:** American Speech-Language Hearing Association.

## Chapte:I Introduction

### 1.1Introduction

According to the American Speech-Language Hearing Association, speech-language therapist's practice in a wide variety of work settings including schools, hospitals, clinics, private homes, nursing homes and more (ASHA, 2007). As a result of the diverse environments in which speech language pathologists, (SLTs) are employed, they work in collaboration with people from many other professions. The most common settings that employ SLTs are schools, hospitals, and clinics. While working in these settings SLTs interact with teachers, psychologists, doctors, nurses, social workers, and occupational and physical therapists.

Every SLT shares information with clients and caregivers and therefore must form a working partnership with patients and family members as well. Since SLTs work in close collaboration with such a wide variety of individuals, it is important to understand the relationships between

the practicing SLT and their co-workers. It is necessary to understand others' attitudes towards the profession and the practice of speech language therapists in order for successful professional relationships to grow. As a Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) is a course is a very new program in a Bangladesh, and still a considerable amount of time is required to be recognized as a popular subject.

In spite of SLT's huge demand in Bangladesh, many health professionals have lack knowledge about this. This may be partly due to the fact that the therapies tend to be perceived as occupations rather than profession (Nordholm&westbrook, 1979). Health professionals used to include a wide variety of the occupations engaged in the business of health care (Sim, 1985). Health care professionals are encouraged to provide a multi-faceted service working in collaboration in the health care team when communication and management skills will be of central importance (Lindquist ,2006).

Any profession can be characterized by that it represents a social standing in relation to other professions and in modern society social position is determined of any person to a great extent by occupation of individual (or one's parents' occupations) in spite of inherited standing (Turner, 2001). There have been several and huge studies of carrier selection, satisfaction and aspirations within the medical profession there have been little investigation of other health professionals such as Speech and Language Therapy.

So the study is aimed to find out the perception of Speech and Language therapy students, thus to explore professional socialization in SLT students of institutes of Bangladesh. Perception of a an individual about his occupation influences the quality of his work, undeveloped and failed and unclear perception can result in dissatisfaction, poor professional performance, and abandonment of the field after graduation (Corb et al. 1987). Speech and Language Therapy is a (SLT) is the scientific and rehabilitative treatment of human communication disorders. This includes disorder/difficulties of Speech, Language, Voice and Swallowing (Owens, 1997).

## **1.2: Literature review**

Speech and language therapists (SLTs) work closely with babies, children and adults who have various levels of speech, language and communication problems, and with those who have swallowing, drinking or eating difficulties. The role can involve working with a diverse client group, including people with physical and learning disabilities, hearing loss/deafness, psychiatric disorders or dementia. Therapists assess a client's needs before developing individual treatment programmes to enable each client to improve as much as possible. (Sullivan and Cleave 2003).

Treatment plans often involve other people with whom the client has a close relationship, for example family, careers or teachers. SLTs usually work as part of a multidisciplinary team, alongside other health professionals such as doctors; nurses; psychologists; physiotherapists; occupational therapists. Historically speech and language therapy services for children have been framed within a rehabilitative framework with explicit assumptions made about providing therapy to individuals. (Owens, 1997). While this is clearly important in many cases, we argue that this model needs revisiting for a number of reasons. First, our understanding of the nature of disability, and therefore communication disabilities, has changed over the past century. Second, there is an increasing understanding of the impact that the social gradient has on early communication difficulties. Finally, understanding how these factors interact with one other and have an impact across the life course remains poorly understood. (Morten, 2001).

Educational outcomes for professions are attained through the socialization of students to the values, attitudes and beliefs of their chosen profession and a commitment to a professional career (Lindquist et al, 2006). Professional socialization starts at the beginning of the educational programme and is a continuous, life-long process of learning formal knowledge, skills and rules, as well as informal and tacit knowledge, norms, values and loyalties within the profession. The process gradually leads to a professional identity (Ohman et al, 2002). During the professional socialization period students entering the profession are not a homogeneous group some similarities may exist which influences the initial pursuit of the profession, each student differs with respect to his individual qualification values, attitudes, and perception of the profession and of himself as a part of that profession (Corb et al. 1987).

Professional socialization theory emphasizes the students' interaction with the field in focus, their preferences and choices as well as their role models (Ohman et al, 2002). Educational outcomes for professions are attained through the socialization of students to the values, attitudes and beliefs of their chosen profession and a commitment to a professional career (Lindquist et al, 2006). Professional socialization starts at the beginning of the educational programmer and is a continuous, life-long process of learning formal knowledge, skills and rules, as well as informal and tacit knowledge, norms, values and loyalties within the profession. The process gradually leads to a professional identity (Ohman et al, 2002).

According to Stepton (1999) the most common setting that SLT's are work in schools, hospitals and clinics. While working in these settings SLT's interact with physician, teachers, psychologist's nurses, social workers, and occupational and physiotherapists. Every SLT shares information with clients and caregivers and therefore must form a working partnership with patients and family members s well (Steptoe et al, 1999). Although a SLT may not be a core member of a hospice team, their role in hospice care is still important. Pollen's research suggested that an SLT's role in hospice care is focused on consultation.

According to Pollens a SLT's suggestions are used to help the family increase communication with their loved one, as well as helping the core hospice team improve the patient's quality of remaining life. Community care legislation has long demanded for the joint working in health services across both hospital and community health care services because it is still a matter of debate and hard research evidence is needed as evidence of the impact of collaboration is lacking Lew (1993)

Health care professionals are encourage to provide a multi- faced service working in a collaboration in the health care team when communication and management skills will be of central importance (Lindquist, 2006). Further research informs to healthcare services about requirement of speech and language therapist to carry out their work in a variety of environment and settings and multidisciplinary teams within a competitive market of rationalization of health care resources (Richardon et al, 2002). Perception of an individual about his/her occupation influences the quality of work, undeveloped and failed and unclear perception can result in

dissatisfaction, poor professional performance, and a abandonment of the field after graduation (Corb et al 1987).

### **1.3: Significance of the study**

Development of a profession is completely depending on the positive perception of students. This study shows how to create better understanding in students about speech and language therapy profession. It explores the student's beliefs, opinion emotion attitude, view, ideas and expectation from Speech and Language Therapy. Students are able to differentiate speech and language therapy from other medical profession and help build positive perceptions of students. As a result the outcome of the study may help to inform about the process of their professional socialization.

### **1.4: Operational definitions**

**Perception:** The process by which people translate sensory impression into a coherent and unified view, through of the world around them or capacity for such inside and act, knowledge gained by perceiving. According to psychology dictionary (2008) perception is the ability or the way to see, hears, or become aware of something through the sense in which something is regarded, understood or interpreted. Perception is the process of recognition and interpreting the sensory stimuli.

**Profession:** A disciplined group of individuals who adhere to if ethical standards and then upload themselves to and are accepted by the public as possessing special skill and knowledge in a widely recognized .organized body of learning derived from education and training at a high level and who are prepared to exercise this knowledge and this skills in interest of others.

**Speech and Language Therapy:** Speech and Language Therapy is a treatment to improve the speech of children or adult who have difficulty in learning to speak, for example because of partial deafness or brain damage, or to help restore the power of speech to adults who have lost it or partly lost it through accident or illness.

Speech and Language Therapy is the part of health profession. They work with children and adults who have difficulties with communication or with eating, drinking and swallowing. Speech disorders refer to a problem with the actual production of sounds, whereas a language disorder refers to a difficulty understanding or putting word together to communication ideas, thought.

#### **1.5: Aims & Objectives of the study.**

- ✓ To explore Speech and Language Therapy students 'perception of as a career.

**1.6: General objective:** To explore Speech and Language Therapy students 'perception of as a career.

#### **1.7: Specific objectives.**

- ✓ To identify the factors influenced their study selection.
- ✓ To figure out the obstacles are faced by SLT student.
- ✓ To determine their satisfaction level as SLT student.
- ✓ To determine the confidence level of SLT students.

## **Chapter :II Methodology**

### **2.1: Study design.**

The study is conducted a holistic view of a phenomenological qualitative research design. The study is used to exploring the perception Of Speech and Language Therapy Student's regarding to Their Profession. According to Hicks (1999), Qualitative research is an exploratory in nature by which can gain insight into another person's view, opinions, feelings, and beliefs within their own natural settings. A phenomenological study can be implemented to any study where the investigator is concerned with people's views on their own life or the situations or their own views regarding existing circumstances and suitable to explore the new area.

### **2.2: Study place**

Investigator collected data from Bangladesh Health Professions Institute (BHPI).

### **2.3: Participations of the study**

In this study investigator selected 16 participants from Bangladesh Health Profession Institute (BHPI). As those students who are studying in BSC in Speech and Language Therapy.

### **2.4: Sample size**

A sample is a group of subjects that will be selected from the population, who will be used in pieces of research (Hicks, 1999, p. 287). Though a larger sample is more likely to be representative of the population in a survey study, but in many situations, it is not possible for the researcher both for practical and financial reasons (Hicks,2000). So the investigator was used a sampling equation to determine the sample size.

The equation is according to sample size-

Where,

**n** = required sample size,

**t** = confidence level at 95% (standard value of 1.96)

**p** = estimated prevalence of subject = 0.5

**r** = margin of error at 5% (standard value of 0.05)

$$\begin{aligned}n &= \frac{t^2 p(1-p)}{r^2} \\n &= \frac{(1.96)^2 \times .5(1-.5)}{(.05)^2} \\n &= \frac{3.8416 \times .5 \times .5}{.0025} \\n &= \frac{.9604}{.0025} \\&= 384.16\end{aligned}$$

But it was unrealistic to study on 384 samples within 3 months and would be costly and also unavailable due to time-consuming in the study setting. So, 16 samples were selected within the short period.

## **2.5: Sampling criteria**

Participants of this study are 16 students of Bangladesh Health Professions Institute (BHPI). Those participants are selected using convenience sampling method. Participants would recruit following specific inclusion and exclusion criteria and on a volunteer basis.

## **2.6: Inclusion criteria**

- Participants will be B.Sc. SLT students from Bangladesh Health Professions Institute (BHPI) institutes.
- Male and female both are the participants.
- Willingness to participate in the study.

## **Rational for inclusion criteria:**

Speech and Language Therapy is a new profession in the Bangladesh and there is no other institute outside of Bangladesh Health Profession Institute. That's why investigator chooses it.

## **2.7: Exclusion criteria**

- Practicing students will be excluded.
- Unwilling to participate in the study.

## **2.8: Data collection tools**

The researcher collected data by using open ended question for the BHPI students including statement answering question, and tape recording. As most of the question of the interview are open ended and the information's provider long and detailed information that are face to face interviews. Pens and papers are also used. According to Hicks (1999), Researcher is the main tool to collect data in qualitative study. Semi structured interview guides containing a set of questions are developed following a through literature research and in consultation with the supervisor. A tape recorder would be use during interview to record the conversation and when conducting face to face. The advantage soft tape recorder is full transcripts of interview possible accessible to independent analysis (Polgar and Thomus). It would appropriate to use tape recorder because it is difficult to write and think at the same time in an interview and as a result of small but important thing may be missing.

## **2.9: Data collection procedure**

All participants will engage in interview with the investigator. The person who is able to write in hand, investigator will give the form to the medical student's to fill up. Data will collect by using Questionnaire. Zechmeister&Zechmeister, 2003) and it involves conversation between the researcher and the subject which aims to elicit information relevant to the research topic (Hicks, 2000) which was followed during the data collection. Pen, papers will also be used for data collection.

## **2.10: Data analysis.**

Content analysis would used to analyze data collection from interviews. For content analysis collected data were prepared for analysis. According to (Shortell, 200) 'content analysis is very useful way to obtain information that describes an issue or topic and it is helpful in validating of the study. The analysis of the data would begin with transcription of the interviews. At first transcript made then it would transcribed into English. Then English transcripts were given to two individual who were good in translate. Then the investigator would verifying the accuracy of data & read out the transcript for several times to recognize what the participants want to say .According to (Bailey, 1997) "Content analysis is a process where researcher analyses the data by looking for repetitive words and concept."

### **2.11: Ethical consideration.**

- Researcher will take permission from the authority of BHPI.
- Informed consent will be given from the participant's data.
- Researcher will ensure that the confidentiality is maintained about the participants.
- All participants will be informed about the aim of the study.
- The investigator had promised to the participants that all information provided will be kept confidential and will not expose their identity.

Result part of this section has described as completely so that is possible to judge the finding of the study. There were eight SLT students from Bangladesh Health Professions Institute (BHPI).

Among sixteen student's (20-22) year old participant were 11 with 76% and (18- 23) years old participants were 05 with 0.8% from them male were 10 with 1.6% and female were 06 with 0.96%. Muslim participants were 13 with percentage of 2.08% and Hindu students were 03 with percentage of 0.48%. From them 09 students lives in nuclear family with the percentage of 1.44% and 07 students live in extended family with the percentage of 1.12%.

### 3.1 Socio demographic information at a glance

| Age         | Number | Percentage |
|-------------|--------|------------|
| 20-22       | 11     | 76%.       |
| 18-23       | 05     | 0.8%.      |
| Sex         |        |            |
| Male        | 10     | 1.6%.      |
| Female      | 06     | 0.96%.     |
| Religion    |        |            |
| Muslim      | 13     | 2.08%.     |
| Hindu       | 03     | 0.48%.     |
| Family type |        |            |
| Nuclear     | 09     | 1.44%.     |
| Extended    | 07     | 1.12%.     |

Table-1: Socio demographic information of the participant.

Student's participants from Bangladesh Health Profession Institute (BHPI) Sixteen (16).

| Institution name                                 | Number | Percentage |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------|------------|
| Bangladesh Health<br>Profession Institute (BHPI) | 16     | 2.56%      |

Table-2: Participant Location

### 3.2: Following themes and sub themes emerged on the basis of data analysis:

| Objectives                                                   | Categories                                | Themes                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. To identify the factors influenced their study selection. | 1. Study selection study of SLT students. | 1. Related medical science.<br>2. Opportunities to serve mankind.<br>3. Bright future and opportunity in abroad.                                       |
| 2. To figure out the obstacles are faced by SLT student.     | 2. Problem perceived by SLT students.     | 1. Lack of opportunities for job and higher study.<br>2. Mal practice.<br>3. Lack of knowledge among people about SLT.                                 |
| 3. To determine their satisfaction level as SLT student.     | 1. Satisfaction level as SLT students.    | 1. Satisfied but not sure about future.<br>2. Not satisfied earlier.<br>3. Not satisfied with the job opportunities.                                   |
| 4. To determine the confidence level of SLT students.        | 1. Confident level of the students.       | 1. Most of the students are confident.<br>2. Increased opportunity will increase their confident.<br>3. Need government concern to increase awareness. |

Table-3: Themes and sub themes emerged on the basis of data anal

## Chapter: IV Discussion

Discussion section is a very important part where the investigator can add her explanations to the work. It has presented the result of the research study and finding. According to Shuttleworth (2009), during this important part of the analysis paper, the investigator begins the method of explanation, any links and correlated those with findings of the study.

### 1. Factors influenced study selection of SLT students.

#### A. Related to medical science.

All most all the participants said that speech and language therapy was not their first choice to study. Many of them tried to get admitted in medical colleges like *one individual said. "I don't get chance in government hospitals or government universities, so I decide to study in speech and language therapy.* Most of the individuals give same kind answers, *"I grown up with a dream to become a doctor but unfortunately I don't get chance in government medical college, so I decide to study in speech and language therapy".*

*"After completing HSC exam I took part in admission exam of various universities but don't get chance anywhere so I decided to study here."* Mentioned by one.

Most of the time medical professions are cited as an ideal profession and as speech and language therapy semi or paraprofessional implying that it is subordinate to medical practice and not attributed full professional status (Bergman & Merriam, 1969).

This may be the cause that most of the students chose medical as a first choice. A few students provide different view one of the student commented that, *"my cousin get speech and language therapy treatment after watching this situation I decided to study in speech and language therapy."*

Some other individual said that *“In Bangladesh I think there remains a vast area for speech and language therapy, so I decided to study in speech and language therapy”*. Speech and language therapist work with problem with the communication disability that’s why I decided to study here. Mentioned one. *“One student mentioned that he wants to be a physiotherapist but when he had come to take admission form then he gets information about speech and language therapy. Two students know speech and language therapy through news paper and internet.”*

*“I have attend in the admission test then I have selected in merit list, then I choose SLT as my subject besides I think, I can build up my career better from SLT, better than Physiotherapy and occupational therapy.”* Said by one. *“When I was getting admission in ‘NITOR’ for physiotherapy, got a leaflet of CRP for admission, then I came to know that they run the speech and language therapy program. Basically, I came to know about SLT from that.”* One participates said.

*“Basically I wanted to study in medical science and SLT is a part of medical science, so this thing has influenced me.”* Mentioned one.

## **B. Opportunities to serve mankind.**

More than half of the student stated the factor of choosing speech and language therapy is to serve the people. *“It is a health service and there is a great scope to service directly with general people”* said by one. *“The main reason to select speech and language therapy as a carrier is to serve the people”* by another one. *“One participant expressed, speech and language therapy provide service to the people with disabilities this influenced me a lot to become a speech therapist”*. Several participants directly said, *I want to be a SLT to serve the people only*. *“I chose SLT because there is lot of chance to serve the common people”* Poland and Spain due to their interest in the subject and willingness to help those in need. These reasons were given by all students from Latvia, Malta and the UK (Gotlib et al, 2012). *“I will work with both children and adult with speech problem, so I had got interest to study this subject.”* said one. *“My dream was to serve everyone through treatment. This profession gave me the opportunity to do”*. Said by one. *“Speech and language therapist works on human speech. Language is the most important for communication. By language a person can share his own opinion, so that I select this subject as my profession.”*

### **C. Bright future and opportunity in abroad.**

*“To speak the truth I thought this is a new subject in Bangladesh and so there will be more job and huge field of work”* said by a student. One participant said, *“My wish is to become established outside of the country, there are a lot of opportunities in abroad this influenced me”*. Said by one. *For enriching my talent, I have researched it out of country for gaining high degree. I will be considered as dignified and respected human being. Surely it can make my future to stand one place”*. Said by one. *“There is enough opportunity to explore of mine. There is an opportunity to take higher education after B.Sc. and we have to opportunity going abroad for developed our profession.”* Mentioned one.

## **2. Problem perceived by SLT students.**

### **A. Lack of opportunities for job and higher study.**

All of the participants agreed with one thing that there is a lack of job opportunities in our country. *“Like other professionals SLT have very few job opportunities in Bangladesh. Still no chance to have higher degrees in Bangladesh”* commented by one student. I am facing a lot of problems in this profession. *Firstly we don't have more opportunities of job, not have opportunity in B.C.S, insulted by other professionals, no first class post and less chance of scholarship* stated by another one.

There is no post in government hospital, few posts were created but they are occupied by MBBS doctors. It is a very serious problem in Bangladesh for SLT. Its need to be solved very quickly. Employment problems will not be due to lack of demand, but to formal obstacles such as an insufficient number of workplace (Gotlibet al, 2012).

*“SLT is a new profession that's why it has a high demand. I have heard that there is a lot of work opportunity home and abroad. But we have some problem to establish.”* Said by one.

*“Yes there are some opportunities for higher studies, also have opportunities to do research. For giving proper treatment to the patients it helps to invent creative plan.”* Said by one.

## **B. Mal practice**

As SLT has no council, so there is no regulatory body for this profession and there develops lot of mal practice. So it makes a very bad impact about the profession in peoples. Many people started to practice like qualified SLT after completing two or three year's course this is a real problem for SLT.

## **C. Lack of knowledge among people about SLT.**

Almost two students mentioned they are facing identity problem in this profession. *"Some people thought this profession is as technician said one individual". "Many people thought this profession is as like technician, Homeopath, doctor, said by another one."*

People do not know about the SLT even many highly educated person is unaware of SLT. One person answer that, *"many patient does not knows well about SLT". "People knows less about profession, they look SLT in neglect eye"*. One other person indicated that, *"This profession faced so many problems many people does not knows it's name, after completing this study where is the future area of work and how treatment is given in this profession this type of question have to be faced"*. Rural people do not know about SLT .so they have a lot of question about SLT indicated by another student. One student said this type of problem as a main problem said, *"people nearly know about SLT is the main problem"*.

One student gives importance about the publicity of SLT stated as, *"In this profession I have to face many question, someone says what will happened in this profession and what I will do in future, we have to provide people information about this profession"*.

One participant said, *"I don't find any respect from students of other subject, everybody thought this is a diploma course"*. Lacking a clear identity and evidence of uncertainty on the part of the public, and even healthcare professionals are prominent about SLT, people does not know what SLT do and that are unable to differentiate SLT from other health professionals (Whitefield et al, 1996). *"Though the occupation has no great popularity. So many people don't know about it. For this reason I faced problem to explain them about this profession"*. One said that.

*“Yes, I m facing problem yet this profession is not regular profession. So, it is not understand by everyone. What is to do in this profession?” said one. “Someone says many people don’t know properly about this profession. They think this profession like technician.”*

*“I want to get respect from other medical professional its. Lacking knowledge about our current situation causes that we aren’t getting proper respect.”*

### **3. Satisfaction level as SLT students.**

#### **A. Satisfied for serving mankind but not sure about future.**

More than one third participant said that they are satisfied about their profession because they are able to serving the people directly but they are worried about their future. One participant said that, *“As a moral of this profession that is to serve the people I am satisfied but I am worried about getting, honor and financial support from this profession. “ I am serving the very extremely suffered people, so I am very satisfied with my profession.*

Many of them said that they are satisfied because it is related to medical. *“I want to bea doctor but I can’t. As SLT is related to patient assessment, diagnosis and treatment, so I am satisfied”.* SLT is concerned with promotion of health and wellbeing and with prevention, treatment or rehabilitation. So it can easily under stable that SLT can serve the common people in a good manner. Yes because we provide treatment like another health professional. Mentioned one.

*“I am satisfied because the job opportunity is too much for SLT which is very competitive for others. Said by one students.”“One individual said that I am satisfied of my profession. I can service to the person who have communication difficulties.” “We provide treatment according to the evidence that’s why I’m satisfied in my profession.” Said by one.“PMSLT like this same course which are very harmful for our profession. That’s why I m not satisfied earlier.* Mentioned one.

#### **B. Not satisfied earlier.**

Many students expressed that they were not satisfied earlier of their study but as day passed they become satisfied by knowing the original work of SLT. One student expressed that, *“I was not*

*satisfied earlier when I knew that it is not a profession of becoming doctor but when I learned about the efficacy of SLT and my job is not more than less of a doctor I become satisfied.”*

*“No, I don’t know details about my profession. Only I know it has demand. But I don’t know other thinks that’s why I am not satisfied earlier.”*

### **C. Not satisfied with the job opportunities.**

All of the participants expressed that they are not satisfied with the job opportunities of Bangladesh. *“We need more post not only government institute but also in private medicals said by one.”* One informer said, *“There is no opportunity for graduate SLT for government job and the opportunities remains in private sector is not enough”*. Most of the students support this statement. *“No I am not satisfied, we need at least one or two post in every government or non government medical hospital”* mentioned by a student. Some other students give priority to increase working field. *“Yes I am satisfied. Because in this profession I can service to the person who have communication difficulties.”* Mentioned one student.

*“No I am not satisfied. Because it is a new profession and many people don’t know. In my opinion the job sector should grow more for SLT professionals. It will be achieved in satisfaction.”* Mentioned by one.

*“No I am not satisfying SLT job opportunity are not available in Bangladesh. Because speech and language therapist are not familiar in Bangladesh. They are very rare in Bangladesh in Qualified SLT. Different medical, clinic or rehabilitation center are not available. Government do not take any step. Mentioned by one student.”*

*“If government and private job opportunity increase that will be good for us that’s why I am not satisfy with the job opportunity”. Said by one. “I am not satisfied about job sector because still now we aren’t given government post in government hospital.” Said one participants.*

## **4. Confident level of the students.**

### **A. Most of the students are confident.**

More than two third participants said they are confident about their profession. One of the participant stated that *“I am confident because if I treat patient by making proper assessment, diagnosis and treatment patient will cure easily and will respect the therapist”*.

Another one noted that, *“Yes I am confident because in future this profession will spread more and we don’t have to face any dignity problem”*. Other students support that statement. One informant noted that, *“Yes, because I believe one day peoples wrong perception about SLT will removed”*.

Other students informed that, *“Yes, because gradually the profession is being developed, but few days ago its condition was not so good”*. *“Yes, cause I think it will develop very soon and now-a-days man is being educated and they get the education which is appropriate for them”* Said by one student.

One said that, *“yes I m confident I believed that I can do something in this occupation and can established myself.”*

### **B. Increased opportunity will increase their confident.**

Almost one-fourth student those notified that they are not confident about their profession mentioned lack of opportunities as the cause. One of them mentioned, *“No, because there is lack of skilled teachers, practical seasons and job opportunities. Another one supports the point of lack of job opportunities. I don’t know about my future said by another one. If students are supported by providing skillful teacher and more practical season and more job opportunities created this will increase their confidence level.*

In the first year, I don’t feel confident but passing through in third year I feel confident about my profession because I complete 4 clinical placement indicated by one SLT student. Now in every

hospitals they talked about to appoint a speech and language therapist and there is extra opportunity to work because the therapists are lower than the patient. Mentioned by one.

### **C. Need government concern to increase awareness.**

Government concern is very important to make awareness among people. They expressed that the practice of this subject need to increase for children and adult neurologic condition at medical setting. If government takes step to make awareness among people then it would be accepted easily. Said by students.

Students expressed that every government hospital should have post for Speech Therapist. At now there is a huge demand for Speech Therapist. If government takes concern to increase awareness patient would get more benefit from Speech Therapy.

Students 3, 4 said that *” government should take step to create awareness among general people to make aware this therapy.”* Student said that *“When government should take step to make aware this Therapy then student would motivate to aware the general people.”*

Most of the participant's said that, *” To increase public understanding and government concern need seminar, workshop, improve facilities, health camp, advertisement about Speech and language Therapy, paper/book ,multimedia ,radio/television ,newspaper”*.

According to the participants view it is clear that, *” Advertising about Speech and Language Therapy, publish article about Speech and Language Therapy, ensure better professional relationship with other professionals. It's also necessary for develop our profession.*

## **Chapter : V   Recommendation**

Future research should focus on several areas. To increase understanding of future research should focus on the effects of promoting the profession, increasing awareness of speech and language therapy by visiting high schools and colleges to inform students of the career's existence, as well as its many work settings and competitive pay. The researchers also suggest increasing the public's knowledge that the field requires an advanced degree and is based in science. To increase other health professions' knowledge about the field of speech-language pathology, SLTs should increase their involvement with other professions as well as advocate for programs that would build awareness of the field. Although it is important for other professions to understand the roles of SLTs it is equally important that SLTs have an understanding of other professions' roles in providing Services. The researcher suggested that to increase the special school teacher's knowledge about the role of speech and language therapy. Because of many of special teacher thought that they are speech and language therapist they don't have enough knowledge.

All of the studies agree that more research can be done to uncover commonly held perceptions of the field of speech and language Therapy and that this information can be used by SLTs to improve others' Opinions of the field.

## **Chapter: VI Conclusion**

In conclusion it can be said this profession is facing a lot of obstacles and difficulties, like lack of opportunities for job and higher study, lack of knowledge among people and other health professionals, no council and mal practice.

So more orientation in people about SLT is recommended. It is good news that SLT is included in health policy of Bangladesh, but there is no specific guideline about working area. So more specification of about SLT should be included in health policy. Government should create post for the SLT.

They also expressed their expectation about this profession and said that this profession should spread in every corner in our country. It is a new profession in our country most of the peoples don't have enough knowledge about our profession.

## Chapter:-VII

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## Annexure 1: Permission letter for conduct the research project...

7 July 2018

Head

Department of Speech and Language Therapy  
Bangladesh Health Professions Institute (BHPI)  
CRP, Chapain, Savar, Dhaka-1343

Subject: Prayer for seeking permission to conduct the research project.

Sir,

With due respect, I state that I am a 4<sup>th</sup> year student (session: 2010-2011) of B.Sc in speech and language therapy in Bangladesh Health Professions Institute (BHPI), the academic institute of CRP. I am sincerely seeking permission to conduct my research project as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of B.Sc in Speech and Language Therapy. The title of my project is **"Perception of Speech and Language Therapy Student's To Their Profession."** under honorable supervisor Asst. Professor & Head (Acting) Department of Speech and Language Therapy Bangladesh Health Professions Institute (BHPI). The main objective of this study is to explore perception of Speech and Language Therapy Student's To Their Profession. I can make sure that the study will not be cause of any harm to the participants. For this purpose, I need permission from you to continue my research project.

So, I therefore pray and hope that you would be kind enough you give me the permission to continue the research project for my study.

Yours obediently,

Sanjida Rahman

Session: 2010-2011

4th year student of B.Sc Speech and Language Therapy  
Bangladesh Health Professions Institute (BHPI),  
CRP, Chapain, Savar, Dhaka-1343

| Approved by                                                                                                                                                                             | Comments and Signature                                                                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Md. Sazzad Hossain<br>Asst. Professor & Head (Acting)<br>Department of Speech and Language Therapy<br>Bangladesh Health Professions Institute (BHPI)<br>CRP, Chapain, Savar, Dhaka-1343 | Permission has been granted<br>to conduct the research<br>project. <i>Sazzad</i> 7.7.18 |

*Md. Sazzad Hossain*  
Asst. Professor & Head (Acting)  
Department of Speech and Language Therapy  
Bangladesh Health Professions Institute

26.11.2017

The Chairman

Institutional Review Board (IRB)

Bangladesh Health Professions Institute (BHPI)

CRP- Savar, Dhaka- 1343, Bangladesh.

**Subject: Application for review and ethical approval.**

Sir,

With due respect I would like to draw your kind attention that I am a 4<sup>th</sup> year student of B.Sc. in Speech and Language Therapy Department of BHPI, the academic institute of CRP under Faculty of Medicine of University of Dhaka(DU). In partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of B.Sc. In Speech and Language Therapy, I have to conduct a thesis entitled, **"Perception of Speech and Language Therapy Students to Their Profession"** under honourable supervisor, Md. Sazzad Hossian, Asst. Professor & Head (Acting) Department of Speech and Language Therapy, BHPI. The purpose of the study is to find out Perception of speech and language therapy students about the profession in Bangladesh. Questionnaire will be used that will take about 10 to 15 minutes. Collected data will be kept confidential.

Therefore I look forward to having your kind approval for the thesis proposal and to start data collection. I can also assure you that I will maintain all the requirements for study.

Sincerely yours,

*Sanjida Rahman*

Sanjida Rahman

Student of B. Sc. in Speech and Language Therapy  
Department

BHPI, CRP, Savar, Dhaka- 1343, Bangladesh

Cell: 01677655852, Email: suchona.slt.du@gmail.com.

Recommendation from the thesis  
supervisor:

Date:

*Sanjida Rahman*  
2.8.18

Md. Sazzad Hossian, Asst. Professor &  
Head (Acting) Department of Speech and  
Language Therapy, BHPI.  
BHPI, CRP, Savar, Dhaka-  
1343, Bangladesh.

### **Annexure 3: Consent form (English)...**

Dear Sir,

Assalamualikum, my name is SanjidaRahman. I m conducting this study for partial fulfillment of Bachelor of Science in Speech and Language Therapy degree, titled, "Perception of Speech and Language Therapy Student's To Their Profession. "From Bangladesh Health Professions Institute (BHPI), University of Dhaka. I would like to know about some information. You will answer some questions which are mentioned in this form. This will take approximately 10-20 minutes. The objectives of this study is to explore perception of Speech and Language Therapy Student's To Their Profession, to find out the identify the factors influenced their study selection, to figure out the obstacles are faced by SLT student, to determine the confidence level of SLT students. The participant must be voluntary. You have the right to withdraw consent and discontinue participant at any time. You might be benefited or not, but future may benefit and would not harmful. This project only for development of the profession. If you have any query about the study or your right as participant, you may contact with, researcher SanjidaRahman.

I (Participant) have read and understand the consent form. I agree to participant in the research without any force.

Do you have any question before I start?

So may I have your consent to procedure with the interview?

Yes:

No:

Signature of the participant:

Signature of the Interviewer:

## **Annexure : Data collection tool (English & Bangla).....**

### **Questionnaire sheet**

**Title: perception of speech and language therapy students regarding to their profession.**

Name:                      Date:

Address:                      Mobile no:

### **Part-A: Socio demographic information**

1. Age:

2. Gender:

1. Male 2. Female

3. Religion:

1. Muslim 2.Hindu 3.Buddha 4. Christian

4. Family type:

1. Nuclear family 2.Extendedfamily.

5. Institute name:

1. Bangladesh Health Professions Institute. (BHPI)

6. Year of study:

1. 1st year.

2. 2nd year.

3. 3rd year.

4. 4th year.

**Part-B: This part is designed to explore perception of speech and language therapy students regarding to their profession.**

[Please read each question and response which best reflects you're through and understanding]

1. Where did you know about SLT? (আপনি স্পীচ এ্যাণ্ড ল্যাঙ্গুয়েজ থেরাপী সনাক্তকৃতভাবে জেনেছেন?)
2. How did you decide to study in SLT?  
(আপনি কিভাবে স্পীচ এ্যাণ্ড ল্যাঙ্গুয়েজ থেরাপীতে অধ্যয়ন করার সিদ্ধান্ত নিলেন?)
3. What factors influenced you to choose SLT as your profession?  
(কি বিষয় আপনাকে স্পীচ এ্যাণ্ড ল্যাঙ্গুয়েজ থেরাপীকে পেশা হিসেবে গ্রহণে প্রভাবিত করেছে?)
4. What kind of service does the SLT offers to the patient?  
(স্পীচ এ্যাণ্ড ল্যাঙ্গুয়েজ থেরাপী স্ট্রোগীকে কি ধরনের সেবাদি যে থাকেন?)
5. Did you know about the status of SLT in Bangladesh?  
(আপনি কি বাংলাদেশে স্পীচ এ্যাণ্ড ল্যাঙ্গুয়েজ থেরাপী স্ট্রোগীদে রম্যাদাসম্পর্কে জানতেন?)
6. Are you satisfied with your profession? If yes why? If no why?  
(আপনি কি আপনার পেশা নিয়ে সন্তুষ্ট?) যদি হ্যাঁ কেন? যদি না কেন?
7. What kind of opportunities do you think available to develop your skills?  
(আপনার মতে আপনার প্রতিভা বিকাশের জন্য কি ধরনের সুযোগ রয়েছে?)
8. Are you satisfied about the job opportunities of SLT in Bangladesh? If yes why? If no why?  
(আপনি কি বাংলাদেশে স্পীচ এ্যাণ্ড ল্যাঙ্গুয়েজ থেরাপী স্ট্রোগীদের চাকরির সুযোগ নিয়ে সন্তুষ্ট? যদি হ্যাঁ কেন? যদি না কেন?)

9. Do you think you will get respect from other health professionals in practice? (আপনি কি মনে করেন সাম্র্য খাতের অন্য পেশাজীবীদের কাছ থেকে সম্মান পাবেন? )

10. What kind of problem are you facing in the profession?  
(আপনি এই পেশায় কি ধরনের সমস্যার মুখোমুখি হচ্ছেন?)

11. Are you feeling confident about your profession? If yes why? If no why?  
(আপনি কি আপনার পেশায় আত্মবিশ্বাসী? যদি হ্যাঁ কেন? যদি

***“Thank you for participating this questionnaire”***



বাংলাদেশ হেল্থ প্রফেশন্স ইনস্টিটিউট (বিএইচপিআই)  
**Bangladesh Health Professions Institute (BHPI)**  
(The Academic Institute of CRP)

Ref.

Date: 08/08/2018

CRP-BHPI/IRB/08/18/1218

To  
Sanjida Rahman  
B. SC. in Speech and Language Therapy.  
Session: 2010-11, Student ID: 132100053  
BHPI, CRP, Savar, Dhaka-1343, Bangladesh

**Subject: Approval of the thesis proposal "Perception of Speech and Language Therapy Student's to their Profession" by ethics committee.**

Dear Sanjida Rahman,

Congratulations.

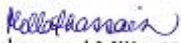
The Institutional Review Board (IRB) of BHPI has reviewed and discussed your application to conduct the above mentioned dissertation, with yourself, as the Principal investigator. The following documents have been reviewed and approved:

| Sr. No. | Name of the Documents                      |
|---------|--------------------------------------------|
| 1       | Dissertation Proposal.                     |
| 2       | Questionnaire (English & Bengali version). |
| 3       | Information sheet & Consent form.          |

Since the study involves "Self-structured" answering a questionnaire that take about 10-15 minutes and have no likelihood of any harm to the participants, the members of the ethics committee have approved the study to be conducted in the presented form at the meeting held at 8:30 AM on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2017 at BHPI.

The institutional Ethics committee expects to be informed about the progress of the study, any changes occurring in the course of the study, any revision in the protocol and patient information or informed consent and ask to be provided a copy of the final report. This Ethics committee is working accordance to Nuremberg Code 1947, World Medical Association Declaration of Helsinki, 1964 - 2013 and other applicable regulation.

Best regards,

  
Muhammad Millat Hossain  
Assistant Professor, Dept. of Rehabilitation Science  
Member Secretary, Institutional Review Board (IRB)  
BHPI, CRP, Savar, Dhaka-1343, Bangladesh

