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**Dr. Bilkis Banu**

**Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB**

**Title:**

**Exploring Occupational Behaviors and Influencing Factors Among Sanitation Workers in Bangladesh: A Cross‑Sectional Study Using a Mixed‑Methods Approach**

**Abstract**

**Background:** Sanitation workers in Dhaka face significant hazards and are under-researched. This study aimed to describe their occupational safety practices and identify key factors influencing these behaviors.

**Methods:** A cross-sectional mixed-methods study involved 300 sanitation workers and 10 administrators in Dhaka, utilizing surveys and interviews, analyzed with descriptive statistics, logistic regression, and thematic analysis.

**Results:** Only 46% of workers showed good safety practices. Access to PPE, higher job satisfaction, and better hazard knowledge were significantly associated with safer behaviors (p<0.05). Qualitative data revealed PPE was often unused due to discomfort and lack of training, and stigma and low morale undermined safety practices.

**Conclusions:** Over half of Dhaka’s sanitation workers exhibit poor safety practices. Interventions such as ergonomic PPE, interactive training, and stigma reduction are needed to safeguard worker health.