

**ANNUAL REPORT
2004-2005**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Nijera Kori has concluded yet another year of its activities under the 'Social Mobilisation, Voice and Democracy Programme'. This year marks the 25th anniversary of Nijera Kori's activities in its present incarnation. Since 1980, NK, in its present form and focus, has been endeavouring to bring about an affirmative change in society by enhancing the joint and concerted abilities of the marginal as well as the excluded for establishing their rights; and in building a society ensuring equality and justice for all. NK has gradually proved itself as a non-conventional activist NGO that is separate from most others in its vision, approach and understanding of the problems of the poor. NK is a systematic and coordinated movement because of its focus on social mobilisation, democratic supervisory structure, non-credit policy, pro-people role of our staff, targeting the most marginalised groups, development of autonomous landless organisation and our approach to the gender equity. A vast number of landless group members (230,129) including both male (110,183) and female (119,946) are working sincerely to the causes of attaining social parity.

NK's organisational motto is to establish a society free from repression and discrimination by generating awareness among grass-root people of their rights and privileges through united strength. NK's target group comprises of men and women who earn their living solely through physical toiling. At present the programme styled '*Social Mobilisation, Voice and Democracy Programme*', is operational in 17 districts. A summary of the activities for the year 2004-2005 is given.

Organisational Activities

This year, it was possible to form 69% of the targeted number of groups because of the prolonged flood in Rajshahi, Dhaka and Chittagong's activity areas, continued operation of the combined forces in Paikgacha, Kumarkhali and Gangni of Khula division and perennial bomb-hurls by fundamentalist forces on NGO offices across the country.

Around 77% of the number of group meetings projected was realised. The number of the group initiated meetings in the activity year is 17% higher than last year (See *table-4*). The percentage of representative meetings attained is 86% of the figure projected. The percentage of joint meeting held is 87% of the planned total. Besides, the percentage of annual group meeting is 88% of the targeted figure.

In the activity year, 68% of the total projected rate of workshops was held at group levels, the number being 102.

The percentage of the projected number of new committees actually formed is 27% at the village level and 4% at the union level.

Around 87% of the number of committee meetings planned was held at village level, 84% at union level, 113% at thana level and 98% at *anchalic* (area) level. The percentage of group conventions achieved was 78 at village level, 42 at union level, 75 at thana level and 96 *anchalic* level. However, of the total number of group conventions projected in the present committee valid till March 2005, 97% at village level, 9% at the union level and 100% at the thana level was held. The number of female members elected in open posts of various organizational level committees has been increased by 26%, as compared to that of last year.

In the activity year the groups have collected a total of Tk. 48, 54,219.00 for their savings account. For adequate protection of collected funds the members have opened 342 accounts.

During the activity year, it was decided that 858 joint activities would be undertaken. Since March 2005, about 25% of the total number of groups is involved in joint economic activities. The percentage of male groups involved is 57% and that of the female groups is 43%.

In the activity year, a total 277 groups (male-147 and female-130) have moved from first level to second level. The percentage of achievement is 101% in accordance with the plan. During the activity year, the modifications of the requirements in the levelling process meant that instead of the usual three groups remaining in third level, as was the case till last year, 74 groups (male 46 & female 28) are at present in the third level. No group has been promoted to fourth level as yet.

Training

In the activity year, the rate of training organized is much more than was expected. In various other trainings, such as development, production, management and the right of access to information, the participation of women is 3% more than last year. It may be mentioned that in training on land laws and management, female participation is more than male participation.

In the activity year, as per plan, the rate of discussion on training is 90% basic and 96% advanced. In the activity year it was not possible to form new forum. As per plan, the rate of forum meeting held is 38%.

Landless Cultural Group Activities

Of the number projected, 14% of cultural groups have been formed. Four cultural groups were also formed at first level and they are under observation. At present 53 cultural groups are performing their activities. Compared to the plan, the cultural groups undertook a number of activities in the year, such as, meetings 86%, cultural discussions 91%, People's drama 137%, cultural long march 50%, and cultural week 100%. Last year the number of female members in cultural group was 35. In the activity year it has increased by 21. At present, number of female members is 56.

Special And Other Activities

In the current year, the number of cases filed by the local elite is 86% more than that of last year. The percentage of cases concluded is 11% less than those cases concluded last year in which the verdict went against the landless groups. The percentage of concluded cases in the lower courts is seven percent less than that of last year. Participation of the landless groups in conducting the cases has increased by 65% compared to last year.

Of the total 30 primary schools, 3 schools at Alexander, Guptachara and Daudkandi, were built through group initiatives in the activity year. In the activity year 4,365 members have become literate.

Under the Livestock Vaccination Activities organized by the landless groups, around 45% of the targeted vaccination and 66% of the set treatment was attained in reality. A total of 17,921 families have benefited by this programme.

Movement & Struggle

The landless peoples' groups have conducted in the activity year a total of 692 movements on issues like corruption at local government bodies, administrative irregularities and torture by power elite groups etc. The rights of the landless peoples were established in 609 cases, the success rate being 89%. This movement induced certain major changes in the respective areas like repression against women, aggressive fundamentalism, resisting corruption, establishment of rights in *khas* land and water-bodies, commercial shrimp industry, demand for proper wage etc.

Advocacy And Campaigning Activities:

NK conducts its advocacy and campaigning activities at the national and international levels on various issues such as government *khas* land/water body, commercial shrimp cultivation, activities, corruption of the local government, environment, water-logging, women persecution, sowing and harvesting paddy, terrorist activities, natural calamity and relief operation, observation of national/international days, law and order etc. A total 2,303 meetings were held with administration and professional groups at the initiative of landless groups, which is 46% less than last year. On the other hand at the initiative of administration and professional groups 1,643 meetings were held with the landless organization, which is 12% more than last year.

A two-day's national workshop was organized on "Terrorism Based Commerce, Democracy and Rights of the Poor." Apart from this, two district level workshops were also held in Noakhali and Dinajpur.

NK, jointly with the *Innovators* are working against the World Bank Indemnity Bill and are conducting IFI Watch activities. An attempt is being made to present the true picture to general masses through publication of two IFI Watch quarterly bulletins in Bangla, its English version was published in the *Innovator's* web-site. Food Fast Information Action Network (FIAN) International, in assistance with NK, organised an opinion sharing meeting and presented a fact finding mission report thereby.

NK, as integral part of a social platform *Nari Morcha* to protest against fundamentalist groups' perennial bomb attacks, murder and women's persecution and others, actively participates in demonstration, procession,

signature campaign and so many. In NK's training centre at Noongola, Bogra, a two weeks' long international workshop was organized jointly by "Britta" and NK. Around 500 representatives from various professional groups attended the ending ceremony and expressed their solidarity with NK. Thus, NK is strengthening its solidarity with various professional groups and activists.

A working seminar was organized by Economic Commission on Latin America (ECLAC) in Santiago, Chilli. In the seminar Nijera Kori was selected as a *case study of best practice* by ECLAC. Office of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) also nominated NK as a *case study for right-based approach* in a workshop where the participants focussed *right and development* for it's controversial arguments.

In addition, NK is actively working with Industrial Shrimp Action Network (ISANet), National Adivasi Coordination Committee (NACC), Hill Tract NGO Forum (HTNF) Bangladesh Adivasi Forum (BAF) and Forest People Programme (FPP). Consequentially, NK is having stronger ties with the named organisations and is working particularly with FPP on issues like policy review of Sunderban Bio-diversity Project and others.

Planning, Monitoring And Evaluation Process Of Nk

A number of 7,767 annual group meetings and 254 group conventions at villages, unions, area and thanas were held. A number of 1,059 representative meetings, 915 joint meetings and 2,672 various level's committee meetings were also held. On the other hand, 102 workshops were held and through these meetings and workshop the group representatives and committee members reviewed the present position of the activities, identified their successes and failures, decided on the necessary actions to be taken. By doing, the group members also decided and approved the next activity year's plan.

Besides, by reviewing and analyzing activities in the regular weekly meetings at the sub-centers, monthly meetings and divisional conventions, new ideas and experiences are added or subtracted to make the plan more realistic. Therefore, quarterly Nirbahi Parishad meetings, staff-representative meetings, organisational and training cell meetings, experience gathering tours, staff conventions and councils are ensuring the regular review process. In the activity year, experience sharing activities were carried out at the staff level and also the mid-term review was held in agreement with all the partner organizations and experienced personalities.

Output – 1

In the activity year a total number of 829 groups were formed inclusive of 404 male groups and 429 female groups were formed against the target of 592 male and 605 female groups. Nijera Kori activities extended to 34 villages with 28 villages coming under village coverage. A total of 201 female members were elected last year in the open posts of various committees by winning the polls contested by both male and female. The total number of female members elected in various committees is 153. This indicates women's empowerment and advancement in joint leadership. The target of promoting 259 groups comprising 138 male groups and 125 female groups from primary to secondary level could not be achieved fully. At their own initiative the landless groups held 68,561 group meetings. In the activity year, 3 issue

based movement committees were formed at the initiative of landless groups. The groups spent from the group saving funds of Rajshahi, Dhaka and Chittagong Tk. 32,430,566 on emergency relief work for both members and non-members during last year's prolonged flood. Moreover, around 1,700 groups could earn Tk. 52,42,789 profit from joint economic activities last year and distributed the profit equally among all the members.

Output – 2

A number of 702 meetings with government officials were held to discuss the problems, needs and irregularities relating to government service sectors like health and education. In the activity year 3 schools were established at the initiative of the groups. At present there are 30 schools at primary level, 4 at lower secondary level and 1 night school. A total amount of Tk. 28,198 has been spent by the groups from their savings to conduct their activities. In the activity year 4,807 members have received various trainings. In the activity year training has started newly both at group and staff leveled on "Land Law and Management System", and "Citizen's Rights and Constitutional Guarantees."

Output – 3

In the last activity year 692 resistance movements were successfully formed by landless groups, 609 issues were won by grass-root people with the solid support and participation of professional groups, 1,164 rural arbitrations were successfully arranged by landless groups. Female landless group members led 288 cases, 588 cases were arbitrated with leadership provided jointly by male and female landless group members and 288 were held with concerted initiatives of landless group leader well as rural influential persons. In 1,112 arbitration cases, the verdict was in favour of the poor.

In these arbitrations a total number of 27,644 members (male 18,392 and female 9,252) were present as observers and a total of 3,109 members discharged their responsibilities as judges in those arbitrations. The landless people held 11 press briefings on multiple issues in various work areas.

Output - 4

In the activity year, a large section of landless group members have contested in the local government elections and sought the membership of various institutional management committees and they have been elected and nominated in many posts. Such as seven landless members including five men in open posts and two women in various reserved seats contested and got elected in the Union Parisad (UP) elections. Ten candidates were supported by landless groups for membership including two for the post of chairman of which nine were elected with two candidates being elected to the situation of chairman. In school management committees, a total number of 505 members (male 432 and female 73) are now performing their duties. In market supervisory committees, 222 landless members including 214 male and female members are now doing their duties. Five landless members are now engaged in Sugarcane Purchasing Committees.

A total number of 2,303 meetings with concerned administration and various professional groups on issues like khas land and water bodies, repression against women, terrorist activities, natural calamities, solid waste, law and order situation etc. On the other hand at the initiative of administration and professional groups 1,643 meetings were held with the landless organization.

This is 12% more than last year. These meetings reflect their growing bargaining power and social recognition of the landless peoples.

Output - 5

Around 300 NK employees got basic, advanced, higher, cultural, land law and management as well as gender workshop and training as NK emphasizes skill development of its workers. Due to experience sharing tours, monitoring process could be made more effective.

Translation of two research works in Bangla styled "Political Economy of *Khas* land in Bangladesh" and "Political Economy of Land Litigations in Bangladesh" have started in the activity year. Research and Advisory Services (RAS), on behalf of NK, has taken the responsibility to conduct a research styled "A Research Based Study of Brackish-Water Shrimp Cultivation in Coastal Bangladesh." Two issue-based research works are being conducted by collecting information from the field in the activity year with the support of ADSC. The research works are "Tobacco Cultivation: Small and Marginal Farmer, Life of the Labourer & It's Impact on the Environment" and "River Erosion: Overall Life in the River Eroded Areas and It's Impact on Women and Children." At the initiatives of Forest Peoples' Program (FPP) and with assistance of NK, the work of preparing policy based care study in context of the Sunderban Bio-Diversity Conservation Project has started. Information gathering and vast dissemination of those collected would be possible through undertaking of this research study.

To reinforce advocacy activities, NK is operating two information collection and dissemination centres in Khulna and Noakhali. More news and articles on *Khas* land/ water bodies, commercial shrimp culture, militancy, displacement, persecution of women etc. were published in the national and local print media in the activity year. A documentary on commercial shrimp industry in Bangladesh was aired in BBC Radio-4. A national workshop was held styled "Terrorism Based Commerce, Democracy and Rights of the Poor." Two district level workshops were also held.

NK, in concerted efforts with the *Innovators*, are working against the World Bank Indemnity Bill and are conducting IFI Watch activity. In the working seminar organized in Santiago, Chili. The organizing groups selected Nijera Kori as case study. In view of all the case studies, the participants of various countries identified and focussed *Right and Development* for its controversial arguments. One workshop styled *Human Right Based Approach to Development* was organized jointly by UNDP and office of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

A two weeks' long International Art Workshop was organized jointly by BRITTA and NK. This year, NK, jointly with ISANET (Industrial Shrimp Network), EJF (Environmental Justice Foundation) and *The Swallows* are actively working to intensify the collection and dissemination of information regarding commercial shrimp culture. These have been published in various international newspapers.

NK is also actively working as a member of Bangladesh Peoples' Initiative against River Linking Project (BPIRLP). A national alliance styled *Nari Morcha* was formed against fundamentalist groups' perennial bomb attacks, murder

and women's persecution. This year four landless women group members from four different remote regions of Bangladesh have been selected for Noble acclaim. Nijera Kori at times undertakes responsibilities to carry out certain activities relating to the adivasi community and their relationship is one of mutual support and understanding. This is why NK participated in a round table styled "National Round Table Conference on Emerging Issues of Indigenous peoples in Bangladesh" in the activity year.

Trend of Important Changes:

In the broader sense, changes, which are carried out through NK's activities in the grass root level to the state level, should be identified from three perspectives; ie, the changes in social, economical and political sphere. Concerted activities of the landless groups have induced a positive change of attitude towards the landless peoples in various social institutions from the grass-root to the state level. The landless groups' actions have largely contributed in changing various reactionary factors prevailing in the society. The landless group members are successfully changing themselves from within their families and carrying this change into larger spheres of the society, thus being capable of bringing an affirmative and constructive shift in the attitudinal behavior of the wide masses towards them.

Remarks

The salient factors of the impediments faced last year by the organization are prolonged flood in Rajshahi, Dhaka and Chittagong's activity areas, continued operation of combined forces in Paikgacha, Kumarkhali and Gangni of Khulna division (as a result, se areas, any congregation of people after dusk has been prohibited and even daily activities have almost come to a halt), an increase in terrorist activities, such as bomb and grenade attacks by fundamental groups on NGO offices. As a result, the government has set restrictions on the activities of the NGO workers and directed the workers to end their daily activities by nightfall. However, all these obstacles have hampered the formation of new groups with people from unorganised landless population and this has contributed to the reduction in the number of groups formed compared to that of the previous year.

Joint economic activities like agriculture and fishery depend on establishing rights on khas land and water bodies or by taking lease on land or water bodies from private individual or on sharing rights. Owing to non-availability of khas land or water-bodies at times, expansion of joint economic activities sometimes becomes very difficult to be commenced or continued.

PART ONE: A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF NIJERA KORI

1. A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF NIJERA KORI

1.1 Background:

Nijera Kori, a well-known activist NGO in Bangladesh, was created following the famine of 1974 when many destitute rural women made their way to the cities in search of food and work. An initiative was taken by a group of urban women to help these migrating women by training them in food processing to enable them to generate income. The project gradually resulted in the development of an organisation “Nijera Kori”, which, in English, means, “We do it ourselves”. Subsequently, when the organisation became dormant, a group of development activists joined NK in 1980 to revive it. This group comprised of people who were working in leading NGOs at that time and felt that consciousness rising of the poor held the key to resolving the core problems of rural society. Hence, these activists left their organisations and joined NK, shifting its initial programme of rehabilitating a handful of famine-affected urban destitute to undertake the initiative in creating a society free from oppression and deprivation through the establishment of the fundamental rights of the people. The organisation based its work at field levels, concentrating on rural social mobilisation and rejecting the increasingly popular service-based approach of NGOs, which they felt would simply create dependency among the target population. Instead, it began to concentrate on addressing the situation, which causes poverty and destitution of rural people, rather than temporarily ameliorating, and that too at a surface level, the suffering of those who faced such circumstances. To achieve its objectives, NK worked towards making people conscious of their rights and assisting them to build up the collective strength necessary to establish those rights. Under this goal, the target group of NK also expanded from its original concentration. Now NK defines its target group broadly as those women and men who earn their living mainly through physical labour. Its geographical concentration has an emphasis on rural rather than urban areas.

The organisation now has a total bulk of 230,129 group members. Of them, more than half are women. Total number of programme staff in NK is 315 out of which 129 are female and 289 are male. The programme staff directly function in field. Besides, 103 support staff (94 male and 9 female) work along with the programme staff. Thus, the total number of staff is 418. Today the programme is called '*Social Mobilisation, Voice and Democracy Programme*', which is operational in 17 districts.

1.2 Mission of Nijera Kori:

- Development activities of Nijera Kori are directed for the establishment of rights of the downtrodden people.
- Women are an important and integral part of all production processes. In order to break the patriarchal system, Nijera Kori works to change the biased male perception towards women and encourages women to recognize and assert their own position in society.
- Nijera Kori feels that an accountable, democratic environment is absolutely essential for development. Nijera Kori imbibes democratic conduct through participation and accountability in planning, implementation, evaluation and overall management not only with the groups organized but throughout the organization itself.
- Nijera Kori believes in an environment friendly sustainable development process.

1.3 Objectives of Nijera Kori:

- To unite people, both women and men who have long been the victims of exploitation, social marginalization, oppression and poverty.
- To enable people thus united to understand and develop awareness about their rights, causes of their problems and their responsibilities.
- To empower people to take up challenges within their own spheres to create better and more meaningful lives for themselves and their immediate community.

1.4 Target group of Nijera Kori:

- Those dependant on physical labour as their main source of livelihood: wage labourers, sharecroppers, small and marginal farmers etc.
- Other vulnerable communities: indigenous communities, fisher folk, weavers, blacksmiths, barbers, cobblers, potters, small traders etc.

1.5 Management of Nijera Kori (*Organ gram in Annex - A*):

The core value that shapes the management structure and decision-making system of Nijera Kori is participatory democracy. The overall governance of the organisation rests with the 'General Body,' which elects the 'Governing Body' for two years. The 'Governing Body' meets regularly every three months while the 'General Body' holds its General Meeting annually. The 'Governing Body' appoints the Coordinator who is responsible for coordinating the overall programmes and management of Nijera Kori.

However, the main decision-making body of the organisation is the Central Staff Convention, which is held every alternate year and attended by all staff of NK. Here they constitute a three-tier council for two years for overall management and coordination by electing their representatives (except coordinator) from among the staff. These councils are 1) Anchal Parishad

(Area Council), 2) Bibhagiya Parishad (Divisional Council) and 3) Nirbahi Parishad (Central Executive Council). The overall activities of NK are planned and monitored through weekly sub-centre meeting, monthly anchal parishad meeting, bi-monthly divisional parishad meeting, quarterly nirbahi parishad meeting, annual divisional staff convention and finally at central staff convention/council. On behalf of the above councils the Coordinator regularly consults the Governing Body.

For linking the grassroots, on the other hand, each Anchal (area structure) has 3-4 sub-centres, which are made up of female and male field staff. They, through living collectively in a centre in the field, manage the activities of NK along with the landless people. The landless groups themselves have their own structure for group activities (*See Figure 1 and Annex C*).

Nijera Kori ensures that all staff and target group members have equal participation and say in the planning, monitoring and implementation of its activities. According to group structure, the groups, through annual group meetings, village, union, thana and anchal group/committee meetings, annual group conventions and groups' representative meetings, evaluate their previous activities, discuss problems and remedial measures and formulate their next plans of action. NK staffs, by participating in those meetings, become part of the decisions/outputs taken in these meetings, which they later share in NK's internal meetings/forums as per organisational structure. This process of synthesizing opinions from group level to central staff convention/council and its subsequent reflection in the formulation of a concrete plan shapes the participatory management system of Nijera Kori.

1.6 Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting system of Nijera Kori:

NK has been practicing a comprehensive PME and reporting system ensuring equal participation of staff and landless groups in the whole process (*See Annex B*). The landless groups through regular meetings evaluate their activities and formulate plans. In these meetings leaders, representatives of landless groups/committees from other working areas too; besides, the field staff of NK participate also. In fact, these meetings constitute the basis of the whole system. The information and recommendations generated from these meetings of the landless groups are discussed at various other levels (i.e. village, union, area and thana committee meetings and conventions etc.) of the landless organisation. Being sieved through this process the recommendations, proposals of the landless are sent to the sub-centres of NK through NK field staff, which later are discussed and evaluated at various levels of the organisation as per the organisational structure. Through this process, guidelines for NK activities are set, based on which NK staff formulates the plans for the organisation. To help coordinate activities, facilitate interaction between staff and groups, share opinions and provide necessary suggestions, the executive council, divisional council and area presidents directly participate in field level activities on a regular basis. In addition, the staff and the groups at times visit each others working areas with a view to assess, evaluate,

monitor and provide necessary counselling to their counterparts. The same process is followed where written reports are produced in each meeting based on which the annual report is made at the end of every activity year.

1.7 Working areas and Nijera Kori (*details in Annex Map - E and Table -1*):

From the very inception the NK activists, as per organization's long-term vision, started working in the areas that are densely populated by the poor who mainly use physical labour to earn a living. Most of these working areas fall in close vicinity of the seacoasts and river basins.

Table 1		
NK WORKING AREAS		
Year	2004	2005
Village	1,282	1316
Union	170	170
Thana	37	37
District	17	17
Division	4	4

Besides, Nijera Kori also works in some specific areas where most of the inhabitants belong to the vulnerable communities such as weavers, blacksmiths, tobacco and sugarcane farmers etc. and in the areas where fundamentalism, human rights abuse and violation against women have become common phenomenon.

Nijera Kori provides enough logistical support to carry out its programmes at field level, coordinate all its activities including regular trainings. Overall activities in the working areas are being managed and coordinated through 51 sub-centres, 16 areas, 4 divisional offices cum training centres located respectively in Tangail (Gala), Bogra (Noongola), Comilla (Chandina) and Khulna (Maniktala). The Head Office of NK is located in Dhaka. *During the activity year NK has expanded its activities in 34 new villages.*

1.8 Why is NK different?

Because of our focus on social mobilisation:

- NK believes that the only true experts on poverty are the poor.
- NK's strategy is to provide poor and marginalised groups within society with largely intangible resources, which promote their self-confidence and build their organisational capacity so that they are able to claim their rights through their own collective agency, rather than the agency of others who act on their behalf.
- NK's priority is to promote collective empowerment, rather than the empowerment of the individual. However, we recognise the importance of changes at the level of the individual, beginning with the issue of individual consciousness.

Because of our democratic management structure:

- Participatory democracy is the core value that shapes NK's management structure and decision-making process.
- NK believes that democratic management is necessary to successfully establish the rights of the poor.
- NK imbues democratic practices through participation and accountability in planning, implementation, and evaluation and overall management not only with the landless groups that NK organises, but replicates and practises within the organisation itself.

- Our own structure and culture seeks, as far as possible, to replicate the principles of democracy, accountability, transparency and gender equity that are fostered through our attempts to organise the landless.

Because we don't do credit:

- What has set NK apart from perhaps every other NGO in Bangladesh is that we eschew service provision in the form of micro-credit for the poor. At a time when Bangladesh has become famous for its innovations in the arena of micro-credit, NK continued with its principle of 'we-don't-lend-credit'.

Because of pro-people role of our staff:

- NK expects a level of dedication, commitment and 'people' skills from its staff that extends beyond what is required by the more professionalized NGOs in Bangladesh.
- In general, staff in large organisations expect and receive a higher remuneration, more comfortable working conditions and more benefits than NK staff. However, NK believes that this widens the social and economic distance between its staff and its constituency, thereby jeopardising the relationship on which their interactions are based.
- NK staffs are more like social activists, who must live among and interact closely with the poor whom they try to mobilise.
- The role of NK staff is less of an information collector' (as is the case in many development organisations), and more like that of a 'brother' or 'sister'. Their main purpose is to advise and support the *samity* (organisation) by skills that create bonds of trust between them and the landless groups. This affects the *samity* by giving the groups within it a stronger sense of unity and a greater set of common goals and values.
- NK is characterised by a high frequency of meetings, for both staff and landless groups. It is this frequency of face-to-face meetings, which the organisation regards as the most important way of promoting closer relationships, establishing trust and ensuring participatory decision-making and democratic accountability.

Because we work with the most neglected groups:

- NK aims to reach the most poor and marginalised groups in society. These groups include those dependent on physical labour as their main source of livelihood.
- NK works with specifically vulnerable communities, such as indigenous communities, fisher-folk, farmers, weavers etc.
- Development organisations in general have failed to reach the 'hardcore poor' - people whose poverty is so immense that they are often excluded as targets for micro-credit activities, since they are not considered credit-worthy. Nijera Kori aims to reach those people - without land or any other resources - whose basic human rights and needs are largely ignored by society.

Because we develop autonomous landless organisation:

- NK emphasises on promoting autonomous nature and structure of the landless organisations so that the landless members gradually decrease their dependency on NK and finally rely on their own strength.
- NK follows a strategy through its inbuilt processes, of encouraging participation and sharing both in physical and financial terms, among the group members in all its activities to inculcate a sense of belonging to the organisation vis a vis a feeling of ownership of work and responsibilities which ultimately lead them towards developing an independent autonomous organisation.

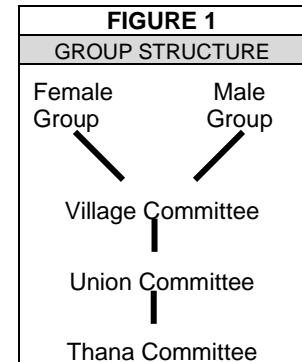
Because of our approach to gender equity:

- Gender inequality remains central to NK's understanding of poverty and social injustice. We recognise that patriarchy perpetuates the disadvantages of inequality, injustice and exclusion, which are intensified in relation to women and girls. In addition, they also suffer from gender-specific forms of discrimination and domestic violence within their household, restrictions on their physical movements and discrimination within labour markets, beyond the household in the larger society.
- However, NK believes that male/female relations need not be inherently antagonistic and that men can become women's allies in the struggle against patriarchal oppression. Indeed, without active support and participation of the men from their families and from their class, women from landless households will find their own struggle for respect and recognition incredibly difficult.

PART TWO: SECTION – I: LANDLESS GROUP ACTIVITIES

2.1 The Landless Group and Its Activities:

With a minimum of 16 and maximum 30 members a primary landless group (separately for female and male) is formed. The reason behind having a separate group for women is both for strategic reasons of giving space to women to empower themselves and also due to the prevailing socio-religious bias, which stresses exclusion and seclusion of women from society. But at a later stage, when both women's and men's groups are more receptive and able to work together as equals and when committees are formed, both female and male members get integrated into one by being gender sensitised and conscious through the organisational process. By expanding such group formation and through covering two-third of the targeted population of a particular village, union or thana the committees in those areas are formed (see Figure 1 and Annex C). However, the landless can form additional co-ordination committees called 'area committee' as per need for running organisational activities in a particular area, even though the organised group members constitute less than two-third of the targeted population. The formation and renewal of the landless' committees at every level is done through annual conventions. In this process, the landless groups gradually get strengthened and achieve a reputable identity, which ultimately ensures their share to the local power structure.



2.1.1 Group Formation and Members (Detail annex- Table 2 and 3)

Achievement analysis:

The landless peoples are gradually becoming aware of the problems of scattered and disunited living and understanding the opportunities of making unified position. This is why, a number of landless peoples, at their own initiatives, are forming groups through networking with old landless groups and group members. As a result, solidarity and organizational activities are being flourished within the group members. Because of the formation of new groups, group activities would be expanded at 34 villages and 24 villages have come under coverage (75% of the target population are group members).

This year, it was possible to form 69% of the targeted number of groups.

Besides, the 230,129 members, who are associated with the groups come from 137,314 families. Though only one or two members from

Description	Group			Member		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Up to March 04	4,570	5,588	10,158	102,159	111,531	213,690
Plan	592	605	1,197	11,840	12,100	23,940
Achievement	404	425	829	8,024	8,415	16,439
Total March 05	4,974	6,013	10,987	110,183	119,946	230,129

each family are directly working for the landless groups, other members of the family are also getting involved indirectly with the activities of the landless groups. As a

result, as many as 755,227 individuals are participating indirectly in the group's activities and are thus getting influenced.

2.1.2 Group, representative and joint meeting, (Detail annex –Table 4 & 5)

Achievement analysis:

Group members, themselves, determine the topic of group discussion, hold the discussion and take decision. As a result, peoples having faith in traditional rules are now gaining skill in logical analysis of situation.

They can now find out the causes of their everyday problems and the way-outs. Ignoring the social taboos, male and female members are holding group meetings jointly. They are explaining their accountability to each other in the group meetings as regards their duties and responsibilities and taking decision on ground of opinions from all. At many instances, meetings are being held at initiatives from the group members' part only. Consequentially, group consciousness and group leadership is being developed which is helping them sorting out and resolving their problems.

Asia Begum (46) said at end of a group meeting at Daudkandi, Cominlla, " We come here to hold group meeting leaving behind lots of household chores at home. As we have no other merriment or leisure time in our lives except fatiguing work, the group meeting help us in sitting together for a while with others. In the group meetings, we sing chorus songs, hold discussion and learn many things through making funs that we earlier did not know. Although we are poor, but now we know and understand lot many things and can raise our voice. We get the same enchantment through holding meetings which the rich get through watching TV or cinema."

77% of the number of group meetings

projected was realised. It may be mentioned that the number of the activity year's group initiated

meetings is 17% higher than last year (See table-4). The percentage of representative

meetings attained is 86% of the figure projected. The percentage of joint meeting held is 87% of the planned total. Besides, the percentage of annual group meeting is 88% of the targeted figure.

Description	Group Meeting			R M	J M	AGM
	Male	Female	Total			
Plan	119,184	152,940	272,124	1,229	1,050	8,800
Achievement	95,786	113,537	209,323	1,059	915	7,767

RM=Representative Meeting, JM=Joint Meeting, AGM=Annual Group Meeting

Remarks:

In the activity year, due to prolonged flood in Rajshahi, Dhaka and Chittagong's activity areas, the members of the landless groups resided outside these areas in search of livelihood. Besides, in Paikgacha, Kumarkhali and Gangni of Khulna division the operation of combined forces is still continuing. As a result, in these areas, any congregation of people after dusk has been prohibited and even daily activities have almost come to a halt. Furthermore, during winter, which is a suitable time for organizational activities, there had been an increase in terrorist activities, such as bomb and grenade attacks, by fundamental groups on NGO offices. As a result, the government has set restrictions on the activities of the NGO workers and

directed the workers to end their daily activities by nightfall, even though Nijera Kori continues to carry on its activities after dusk. However, all these obstacles have hampered the formation of new groups with people from unorganised landless population and this has contributed to the reduction in the number of groups formed compared to that of the previous year.

By looking at the activities of the previous year in order to improve the quality of the groups, more emphasis was given to holding regular group meetings and to enabling the leaders to undertake more responsibility. The resulting increase in group meetings diminished the need for representative meeting and subsequently the percentage of representative meeting in the activity year is less than last year's. During flood there was an increase in organizing joint meetings as this was used as a strategic step for strengthening solidarity among the groups for overcoming their problems. This also strengthened the process of group's accountability and hence the number of annual group meetings increased.

Group Meeting at Group's Initiative		
By Gender	2003-04	2004-05
Male	29,639	31,017
Female	25,564	33,544
Total	55,203	64,561

Lessons learnt:

At present, the groups have adopted the method of numerical planning. But to make the qualitative change in the groups more dynamic it is imperative to identify the changes. For this reason for future planning more importance should be given to qualitative changes in the members and the groups.

2.1.3 Workshop (Detail annex table-5)

Achievement analysis:

The landless group members, by holding workshops and analysing the local problems, are successfully sorting out the solutions of their major problems. As the group members analyse strength and weaknesses of the organization in the workshops, they are strengthening the basis of organizational unity by resolving the crises themselves. Accountability of the leadership and the mentality to take responsibility are being developed. Above all, the male and female landless members now hold discussion over gender discrimination sitting together which is marking a change trend in family relationship pattern.

The purpose of organizing workshops by the groups is mainly to analyze the groups' activities, identify organizational weaknesses and strengths, decide on the activities to be undertaken, discuss local issues and plan out strategies for movements. In the activity year, 68% of the total projected number of workshops was held at group levels (92-1 day workshop, 10-2 day workshop). The two days workshops were held mainly to plan joint economic activities and to ensure their implementation.

Remarks:

Due to prolonged flood in Rajshahi and Dhaka divisions and the continuation combined forces operation in all the activity areas of Khulna division, the achievement level in Khulna division is comparatively less. But the activity areas of Comilla, in Chittagong division, being free from the onslaught of flood had organized workshops more than the number projected in the plan for that year.

2.1.4 Organisational Committee and Formation Process:

Organisational committees are formed mainly at three levels – village, union and thana. In organizing the village committee 75% of its population is to be organized. Likewise at union and thana levels, 75% villages are required to be incorporated within the activities of the union. It may be mentioned that when it is not possible to form union and thana committees for coordinating organizational activities, accountability and directing movement, “Anchal” (area) Committees can be formed at sub-centers.

In accordance with the conditions mentioned above, the village, union and thana committees are formed with 7 members, 13 members and 21 members respectively. Anchal committees are formed with 11 members.

The committees are elected for one year in the group conventions. But in case of failure to elect the committee on time for unforeseen reasons, the old committee continues to work on adhoc basis till the formation of new committee.

2.1.5 Formation of Committee, Meeting and Convention (Detail Annex Table 6 & 7)

Achievement analysis:

Because of the regular activities, review of leadership responsibilities and accountability, the relationship between the landless leaders and the members is being closer. Alternative leadership is being created along with the increased rate of women leaders being elected to the local government posts. As mass people support the landless leadership, this leadership is being considered as the alternative or parallel force of rural power structure. The landless leadership is gaining participation at both the formal (school and market committees) and non-formal power structure (viz., holding village arbitration or shalish, at many instances, are not possible at present without presence and participation of the landless leaders). The landless leaders are being capable enough to maintain contact and raise debates with the local administration, professional groups and the well-wishers' circles, if necessary. They are also being able to undertake next plans and elect the new leadership in democratic process in the group conventions. The committees are becoming more efficient in mobilizing movements against any odds or perils.

Description	V	U	T	A
Plan (Committee Formation)	70	25	0	1
Achievement	19	1	0	0
Plan (Convention)	196	54	4	38
Achievement	207	19	3	25
Plan (Committee Meeting)	2,423	240	24	360
Achievement	2,106	201	27	338

(V=Village, U= Union, T= Thana, A= Area)

The percentage of the projected number of new committees actually formed is 27% at the village level and 4% at the union level. Though there were plans to form a committee at thana level, it was not realised. 87% of the number of committee meetings planned was held at village level,

84% at union level, 113% at thana level and 94% at anchalic (area) level. This indicates a rise in every committee than last year.

The percentage of group conventions achieved was 106 at village level, 35 at union level, 75 at thana level and 66 anchalic level. However of the total number of group

conventions projected in the present committee valid till March 2005, 97% at village level, 95% at the union level, 96% at anchalic level and 100% at the thana level was held. It may be mentioned that the number of female members elected in various organizational level committees' open posts has increased by 26% compared to that of last year. This reflects an increased acceptability, empowerment and recognition of women as equals in society. It may be mentioned that at various times in order to direct the landless group's movement and struggles in to a more organized channel, issue based committees are formed consisting of the local population. Examples of these committees are the Salt Water Prevention Committee, Khas land and the Water Bodies Releasing Committee. The number of committees formed at the end of the activity year is 46. Due to the activities performed by these committees a wholesome partnership has developed amongst the unorganized members of various profession groups in the locality. Furthermore, it is a reflection of joint participation in economic activities by the group in the group convention (*Detail in annex table –17*).

Number of women elected in open post		
Name of committee	2003-4	2004-5
Village	112	153
Union	22	32
Thana	7	4
Anchal	19	12
Total	160	201

Remarks:

Throughout the activity year, though there was a decision to form organizational committees as planned (depicted in serial 2.5), which was to reach the figure necessary for group formation, (shown in annex 2.3) it could not be achieved due to a lack of expansion of the work area. Out of three thana committees in Noakhali,

Box 1	
Total Committees	
Village:	214
Union:	21
Thana:	3
Anchalic:	26
Others:	46

Dhanbari and Shaghata, more thana committee meetings were held in Noakhali and Dhanbari thana committees comparatively because of armed aggression by land grabbers. Meetings were held to form policies and decide on actions to counter act these attacks. The number group conventions held was less than that planned. It may be noted that committees were not formed according to the plan and hence there were fewer conventions.

In any case, group conventions are held at the end of the activity year. But due to armed attack using bombs and hand grenades by fundamentalist hoodlums on various NGO offices, and due to the subsequent restriction imposed by the government (explained in column 2, 3) conventions were not held in some work areas. Despite this, compared to the present number of committees (Box-1) the number of conventions held exceeded expectations.

Lessons learnt:

It is necessary to put more emphasis on issue-based workshops. For strategic reasons field level workshop should be given importance to facilitate qualitative policy formation. In the activity area the number of committees is less considering the number of villages there are. It is necessary to give more importance to the formation of committees through village coverage to consolidate combined empowerment and to form groups based on structure.

2.1.6 Group Saving and Bank Account (Detail annex table 8 & 9)

During group formation, the members through collective discussion decide on the issue of group savings after seeking consent of the poorest member of the group. The group discharges all the responsibilities for conducting withdrawal of the group account and savings. In special cases, if required, the NK staff helps maintain the account and write the account book according to the needs of that particular group. But the staff never gets involved in either collecting or ensuring the collection of the money.

Achievement analysis:

In the activity year the groups have collected a total of Tk. 48,54,219.00 for their savings account. For adequate protection of collected funds the members have opened 342 accounts. Members from various area of Rajshahi, Dhaka and Chittagang spent Tk. 17,459,034 from their saving accounts and conducted emergency relief work among the victims, both from organized and unorganized groups, during the prolonged flood. After the flood, to overcome the crisis period, they spent Tk. 1,52,45,146.00 to repair the homesteads of the victims and supplement the agricultural expenditures for the next harvest. This joint effort of the members to successfully encounter a prolonged crisis is a glaring example of their self-sufficiency. Gradually, as the members are being able to encounter economic crisis using their own savings, dependency on moneylenders and the need to seek loans are eventually declining. In the activity year group members have spent a total of Tk. 364,733.00 for group organizational activities such as organizing protests, law-suits, meetings and group conventions, as well as for other beneficial activities for both members and non-members, such as repairing schools, roads, culverts, cleaning canals, expenditures on health and education and providing assistance to the families of the arrested groups members. Through undertaking the responsibility of implementing these activities and through increased economic participation the process of collective mutual assistance has been strengthened.

Remarks:

The members in the group meeting take all decisions regarding savings. NK has no role in the decision-making process. During the prolonged flood the group members decided not to collect money for the savings account and hence the saving account is smaller than before. Issues that act as a deterrent to opening a bank account are a. distance of the activity area from the bank, b. insufficient amount of money, c. reluctance of the bank official to accept joint signatures for opening the account, d. expenditure of transport for going to the bank, e. and paying service charges to the bank while the interest rate is minimal. This is a great disadvantage for the members. Besides in the activity year during flood communication was disrupted for a long period, and the members could not collect sufficient amount, that is why the trend of opening bank account is less than previous year. Despite this, the members are very eager to save money in the bank for future security.

2.1.7 Joint Economic Venture (Detail annex table-13)

When a group reaches a certain level of awareness and accumulates the minimum required for undertaking joint investments, the groups embark on joint economic activities. Joint economic activity is an integral part of the collective movement for

raising awareness. The activities undertaken in joint ventures may include establishing right on khas land and water bodies, taking lease, undertaking share-cropping, buying rickshaw/van and livestock rearing depending on the situation and opportunity available in the activity area. The activities of joint economic ventures are collectively managed by group members who distribute the money equitably amongst the members save the remaining amount in their joint accounts for future activities.

Achievement analysis:

Through the joint economic activities, the group members grow within themselves a sense of collective identity and responsibility. This sense of collective identity strengthen any sort of their concerted efforts like mobilizing movement, nurturing family relationship and providing security in emergency needs and so many.

During the last activity year, a number of groups decided to undertake new venture of 858 joint economic activities. The activities incorporate: 256- agricultural activities, 22- fish cultivation, 149- livestock rearing, 28- rickshaw/van and 403- small business. The total amount is 7% more than last year's. But in some areas such as, agriculture – 169, fish cultivation – 16, livestock – 39, rickshaw/van – 8, shallow tube-well – 2 and small business – 445 the groups stopped joint activities temporarily. Since March 2005, about 25% of the total number of groups is involved in joint economic activities. The percentage of male groups involved is 57% and that of the female groups, 43%. Furthermore, during the activity year a profit of Tk. 5,242,789 was made from the 1,700 group activities. The money was distributed among the members equally. The group members have been able to pay for at least one week's family expenditure from these earnings.

Remarks:

Joint economic activities, especially agriculture and fishery, depend on establishing rights on khas land and water bodies or on taking lease on land or water bodies from private individual or on sharing rights. Hence, these activities are not expanding in all the areas at an equal pace. Its expansion and reduction depend on the particular situation in the appointed area. For this reason the groups at times cannot maintain the continuity of the groups' joint economic activities. This is why 679 groups had stopped their joint economic activities temporarily during the activity year. However, the groups are now undergoing attempts to renew the activities.

During the activity year most of the savings was spent on the joint relief operation undertaken the groups. As a result there has been a subsequent decrease in small businesses during the activity year. Though money is jointly invested in rickshaw/van and livestock rearing, the effectiveness of the activity depends on the ability of the individual. In most cases livestock elderly members who are unable to work as efficiently as day labourers undertake rearing. The presence of powerful middlemen and hoarders also pose a big obstacle for conducting small business. For all these reasons fast growth of joint economic activity is hampered.

Lessons Learnt:

Groups who are involved in joint economic activities have a stronger sense of unity. On the other hand joint venture is a prerequisite for determining the level of the groups. Besides, these activities definitely bring economic uplift and help the groups to become self-sufficient. For holding rights on khas land and water bodies joint economic activities play an important role. For all these reasons it is necessary to encourage the groups to undertake joint activities.

2.1. 8 Level of Group Consciousness (*Detail annex table-16*)

Consciousness arises from the ability to rationally reflect the knowledge gained from organizational activities. When the level of awareness of the majority (more than 50%) of the group members is found similar as per the criterion defined, the group becomes qualified to be incorporated within that indicated level. The groups have four levels, first, second, third and fourth. (*Details about levels are in the box*).

<i>Box 2; Level of Group Consciousness</i>
Primary Level:
Groups at this level concentrate on developing basic awareness, organizing members of similar class, learning to trust and sympathise with members of the same class. <i>The group gives special emphasis on cultivating a sense of unity amongst the members. It organises regular meetings, ensures regular deposition and withdrawal of savings and undertakes the responsibility of forming and renewing group committees.</i>
Secondary level:
At this level the group is able to organise protest against any ongoing injustice. The group is also responsible for ensuring the continuation of the movement for protest if their initial efforts fail. The group members at this level learn from a rational evaluation of the various activities. The members raise awareness amongst the various professional groups in the society by holding discussions with them. The group also sees to the participation of its members at the various levels in the village. <i>The group specifically takes the initiative to invest its savings in joint cooperative ventures, organise members of the same class, to ensure group accountability and to undertake the practice of people's culture.</i>
Third Level:
At this level the group must be able to: distinguish exploitation and oppression and take necessary steps against them, organise movements by ensuring the support of the local people, take initiative for publicity at the national level, strengthen the organisational activities of the villages, ensure support of the neighbouring villages, expand and enlarge support of the well-wishers, raise the cultural awareness amongst people. <i>The group should specifically develop a clear conception about exploitation, organize for the group savings to be invested in joint ventures, raise cultural awareness amongst the masses and take responsibility of conducting local committees.</i>
Fourth level:
The group members at this level are required to be able to expand their movement to a national level by holding discussions with the more eminent personalities who are in a position to inspire mass awareness. <i>The group should support the strengthening of people's voice so that there is an alternative to the opinions of the local leaders.</i>

Achievement and analysis of present situation:

In the activity year total 259 groups (*male-134 and female-125*) have moved from first level to second level. The percentage of achievement is 95% in accordance with the plan. During activity year the modifications of the requirements in the levelling process meant that instead of the usual three groups remaining in third level, 74 groups (*male 46 & female 28*) are at present in the third level. No group has been promoted to fourth level as yet.

Remarks:

Description	2004	Position March 2005		
		M	F	T
1 st Level	9,182	4,281	5,471	9,752
2 nd Level	973	647	514	1,161
3 rd Level	3	46	28	74
4th Level	-	-	-	-
<i>M=Male F= Female T= Total</i>				

For a long time there have been exhaustive discussions on the weakness of the levelling system and the requirements for each level among the workers, partner organizations and group representatives. On the basis of the opinions gathered from these discussions in the activity year the process of levelling has been over-hauled and

instead of three levels, four levels have been introduced. By reorganizing the third level, the fourth level has been introduced to make the transition from one level to another level smooth. That is why transition of members to second level and the group's achievement has been analyzed. On the other hand, transition to third level is the result of re-structuring the groups. Besides, the workers feel that one may progress individually to the fourth level but if the whole group cannot achieve the same level, there will be lack of collective confidence and strength in the group. That is why, in the activity year, the fourth level was introduced separately and is still vacant.

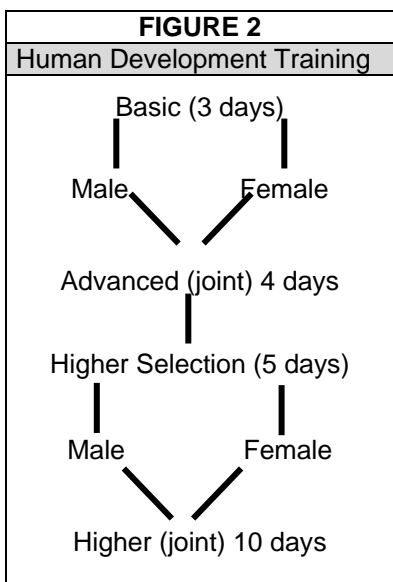
Lessons Learnt:

Already in accordance with the re-structuring of the levels the workers are practicing the process of indicating the qualitative changes of the groups. To decide the level of a group it is necessary that quality policies should be formulated according to the respective level and emphasis should be given on ensuring full participation in and the continuation of issue based discussions.

PART TWO: SECTION – II: A- TRAINING OF NIJERA KORI

2.2 Training (details in Annex - Table 10):

Human development training is held with 20-25 female and male participants in each of the training events. At the basic level the training is imparted to female and male members separately while at the advanced level the training is imparted jointly. Again at the higher selection level, it is organised separately and at its higher level, jointly (see Figure 2). This is the strategy that NK has been following so far to provide training to both female and male members. Given the prevailing socio-religious condition, trainings are organised separately in order to creating a free environment especially for women so that they can interact openly with other fellow participants.



Afterwards, female and male members participate together in the advanced level training to create space for reciprocal interaction so that they can develop a greater understanding and overcome gender bias. The same process is followed at the higher selection and the higher training level for the same reason. A few other trainings are also undertaken, which are jointly attended by both men and women, based on the specific demand of groups from the working areas. An example of this is the organising of a joint cultural training at the basic and advanced level with 20 female and male cultural group members is an instance. Trainings on issues like "Leadership Development", "Joint Production Management", "Right and Access to Information", "Land Laws and Management Systems", "Citizens Rights and Constitutional Guarantees" and "Globalisation and

Sustainable Development" are being imparted to the groups comprising of 20-25 female and male participants, who had previously received basic training and are prominent among the members.

2.2.1 Different Trainings for the Landless Group

Analysis of Achievement:

Because of the training, the landless groups could obtain the efficiency to analyse the socio-economic condition. As a result, they are being able to identify their condition in the society. On the other hand, they are also being more interested in identifying the problems and growing strategically more efficient to finding out the solutions. It is because of the participatory discussion that reciprocal relationship, accountability, acquiring leadership skill and growing democratic values within the group members is being enhanced. Owing to open discussion on gender disparity, the traditional outlook of male landless members is being changed towards women. Despite economic hardships, the landless members are gradually having more access to information resulting in their increased knowledge and bargaining power on issues like citizen's rights, government service, wages, land laws and others.

Training and Life of Abu Taleb :

Abu Taleb (45), hailing from Kumarkhali, is a rickshaw-puller. He said, “ I have been brought up in a family with rigorous set of religious and social bindings. Later, like my other family members, I got also involved in the religious politics. Truly speaking, I grew my interest in the landless group as I witnessed their activities. I also wanted to be a member but the group members did not accept me at first. After repeated requests, I was granted membership. Still then I was not totally relieved of my earlier fanatic faith. After three years of my membership at the landless group, I was nominated for training that had changed my life. Now, I am free from my fanatic beliefs. My wife has also become a member. As she rides on my rickshaw, we both attend the meetings and demonstrations of our group. You know, the fundamentalists are now upset and angry towards me. They have boycotted my family in the society. But, as now my family is the member of the landless group which has thousands of members, the fanatics can not succeed in holding any grip over me.”

In the activity year the rate of training organized is much more than we expected. In various other trainings such as leadership development, production and management, the right of access to information the participation of women is 27% more than last year. It may be mentioned that in training regarding land laws and management system, female and male participation ratio is almost the same (7:8).

In most cases members who have undergone training perform the task of communicating and discussing for forming groups. The trained members take initiative to organize group meeting for the inter-action of their experience. As a result the rate of meetings organized by group's initiative is more this year than last year. The participation of women in cultural training has increased. Hence in every drama staged the participation of women was ensured.

Comment:

In planning training schedule though time for higher training was planned but due to flood that prolonged in many activity areas training could not be organized. It may be mentioned that though training was stopped temporarily in flood affected areas but it was possible to organize the training afterwards. But for higher training, the selected people for training were outside their own areas in search of livelihood; hence higher training could not be organized.

In the activity year emphasis was given to increase the qualitative degree of cultural groups, it's proficiency, it's ability to disseminate information for organizing movement/struggle and in motivating the people cultural activities have been emphasized to be used as strategy. For this reason, on the demand of the cultural group, an advanced training was organized more than the plan. Beside this, though there was no plan to increase the proficiency for performing on the spot drama, still on the demand of the cultural groups 15 cultural workshops were organized at field level. Above all, though it was in the schedule, yet at the end of the year due to continuous attack by land grabbers and shrimp cultivators it was not possible to organize even a single Para-legal workshop in Noakhali.

Table 10 (Training Activities)				
Description of Training	P		A	
	N	P	N	P
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT TRAINING				
Basic	72	1,800	72	1,736
Advanced	22	550	22	527
Higher Selection	14	350	14	296
Higher	3	75	2	48
CULTURAL TRAINING				
Basic	6	120	6	119
Advanced	1	20	2	37
Workshop	-	-	15	181
OTHER TRAININGS				
Leadership Development	5	125	5	122
Production & Management	5	125	5	117
Right to Information	4	100	4	93
Land Laws and Management Systems	3	75	3	75
Citizens Rights and Constitutional Guarantees	30	750	29	721
Globalisation & Sustainable	30	750	30	725
<i>P=Plan, A= Achievement, N= Number, P= participant</i>				

It is nearly impossible to assess the experience and it's instant impact gained in social awareness activities. Through training normally they learn to question and get inspired. In course of time through a process of change this gets reflected in family, social and organizational activities. It may be mentioned that on the suggestion of mid-term review Para-legal training is being organized on new module for landless and management system.

2.2.2 Follow up of Training Activities:

The group members are getting the opportunity to discuss the issue-based concepts or ideas in context of the field realities. As a result, the members are being able to attain the technical skill because of applying these concepts in operating the activities. As a result, the group discussions are being more realistic and closer to life.

Discussion on training on follow-up training is an essential feature of all trainings. After the training the follow-up training takes place at field level in the following process. In the first place, by ensuring exchange of views and experiences gained by the trainees in group meetings, by activating analytical discussion and by ensuring every one's participation and secondly by ensuring regular discussion on the training with the trainees at field level, (follow-up training (Basic–1 day, advanced–2 days) and thirdly by forming training forum with trainees having equal level of awareness and holding regular discussion meeting every month.

Analysis of Achievement:

In the activity year, as per plan, the rate of discussion on training is 90% basic and 96% advanced. In the activity year it was not possible to form new forum. As per plan forum meeting is 38%.

DESCRIPTION	Plan	Achievement
Refresher Training (Basic)	80	72
Refresher Training (Advanced)	23	22
Participant	2,575	2,241
Training forum meeting	1,278	484

Comment:

Discussion on training was organized more than expectation but due to prolonged flood and due to absence of group members in their respective areas after the flood in search of livelihood implementation as per plan was retarded. To make the training forum more consolidated, as a tactical course it has been decided, in the activity year, to give more emphasis on the old forum instead of forming new forum. Though no new forum was formed but 6 at field level at present are under observation and in the activity year they will most probably gain recognition. As new forum was not organized as per plan so the number of forum meeting was less. At present the number of forums are 41 and as such every month forum meeting were held in every forum.

Lesson Learnt:

Regular application of experience gained in the training at field level, resolving problems at field-level through discussion with the experience gained from training, and through this process giving more importance to their own life style and concept. In forming new forums definite strategy should be chalked out.

2.2.3 Activities For Improving The Quality Of The Staff:

Nk, from it's inception has given much importance to improve the quality of it's staff and for this reason it has been following a certain strategy. This strategy is very important for self-development of the staff and they have always been inspired by process. This process of operation is weekly sub-center, monthly anchalic, bi-monthly divisional parishad, quarterly Nirbahi Parishad meetings in which issue based schooling is organized. Secondly, to collect information regularly and disseminating this information to sub-centres. This has been done so that the individuals can develop for betterment through reading. Thirdly, organizing cultural and issue-based workshops at first, middle and advanced level. Fourthly, for gaining experience in various trainings ensuring that every staff participates as observer. On top of it, inter-exchange of ideas with experienced personalities through meetings. Lastly, in staff convention, councils, and representative meetings constant review and analysis of the qualitative changes in the staff are held for determining the necessary steps.

Analysis of Achievement:

For improving the quality and efficiency of staff, representative and training cell, in the activity year, on top of regular training, special steps were taken. The participation of members in all other training workshops was more than expectation, except the first level in which training workshop was held for improving the quality of staff.

Normally the newly recruited members take part in the initial level training. Participation was less due to lack of enrolment of promising members. On demand from the field and on the basis of mid-level review in the activity year, training was organized on land laws and management with the assistance of A.L.R.D.

Activities for improving the quality of staff						
Description	Plan			Implementation		
	M	F	T	M	F	T
Workshop on improving the quality of the staff						
First Level	35	60	95	26	29	55
Middle Level	30	20	50	22	20	42
Advanced Level	30	25	55	26	25	51
Cultural (Advancement)	15	12	27	16	11	27
Land Laws & Management	60	40	100	62	31	93
Gender Workshop	22	10	32	22	10	32
<i>M=Male F=Female T=Total</i>						

(Association for Land Reform and Development) for both the group members and staff. These workshops were organized to improve the transparency of ideas on various issues of the staff. Gender workshop is a positive step for improving the quality of staff.

Besides, in the light of mid-term review, in every sphere for improving schooling method, presentation of subjects that relate to the life of staff, representative and teacher, improving tactical proficiency, analysing problems/risks and for improving efficiency activities were organized all the year round. In the activity year 03 workshops for staff and 01 workshop for groups were held. One important aspect of this process of arranging workshop by the groups immediately after the staff's workshop is that they learn to practice the experience thus gained and exercise it in the presence of people, and this is an effort to learn by practicing on the spot. As a result, there has been much improvement in training and conducting schooling.

In the activity special effort is being made to improve the tactical proficiency of the training cell. A three-member team comprising from NK's general and governing body, who are experienced in giving training in the country, work together with the NK's central training team every month on how to improve the training process. As a result, it is improving the method of training of the facilitator or the trainer and they are also able to get a better understanding of how to determine the result.

In the activity year the central and divisional team have identified the weaknesses of the staff quality by reviewing 2 representative meetings & staff council. In order to do so they travelled to every work areas and participated in meetings with the staff. In these meetings the tactic of presenting discussion in the light of experience has played an important role. Besides, in monthly meeting, the presence of schooling representatives has helped in identifying the weakness in schooling method and on how to overcome them.

In the divisional level in respect of group representatives and staff it has been possible to arrange 7 days experience tour. As a result in implementation it has been possible to work out a system in the light of practical experience.

Through inter exchange of experience in organizing and conducting movement both parties have gained support and inspiration. Besides, mid-term review and various

articles on gender case study were translated in Bengali and supplied to the staff. As a result in assessing the activities and analyzing the improvement in staff quality dissemination of information has increased. For taking all these steps as an instant result there is a definite improvement at field level among the staff as well as the groups in joint effort and joint venture.

Comment:

In the activity year despite effort it has not been possible to organize a training for account section as suggested by mid-term review, But in activities relating to staff qualitative improvement and various other activities the divisional staff have participated.

Lesson Learnt:

In the activity year, the steps taken to improve the qualitative changes in the staff has definitely brought a positive change. It is necessary to practice this strategy in future with added emphasis.

PART TWO: SECTION –II: B – CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

2.2.4 Cultural Group and Its Formation (Detail Annex Table-12)

Nijera Kori believes that cultural activity is an integral part of social mobilization. The purpose of cultural activity is to develop human qualities and increase social consciousness by enabling people to depict social injustice and to bring about a change in the attitudes of people by overcoming superstition, dependency and ignorance. For this reason weekly discussions are held. The duration of each session is 2/3 hours every day and during this process cultural group of 13-20 members is formed from amongst those deemed to be culturally more aware than others. The cultural group performs issue-based drama, songs etc in various work areas and plays a auxiliary role in motivating people.

2.2.4.1 Activities of Landless Cultural Group:

Achievement:

The cultural groups write, compose and perform songs and dramas on various problems at villages. Through acting upon such cultural performances across the villages, mass people are being informed on various issues/problems and forming opinion on their behalf. Women’s participation along with men is gradually being increased. The attempts to convert the cultural performances into continuous movement through arranging Padayatras are being dynamic.

Table 12 (Cultural Activities)		
Description	P	A
Formation of cultural group	7	1
Meetings of cultural group	738	632
Cultural Discussion	43	39
Drama	318	449
Padajatra/ Cultural Week	6	4
Cultural Functions	353	302
<i>(P=Plan, A=Achievement)</i>		

Cultural Performance by landless groups

“ It is Sakhina who cries in her household of grief,
Her father gave her to marriage to a man of good descent,
Alas! the marriage broke for dowry-
As the husband uttered talak for three times,
It is Sakhina who cries in her household of grief.”

: Landless female members while depicting women’s repression in society through songs in folk tune, Dayarampara village, Tangail.

Of the number projected, 14% of cultural groups have been formed. It may be mentioned that towards the end of activity year it was possible to form 4 cultural groups at first level and they are under observation. At present 53 cultural groups are performing their activities. Compared to the plan, the numbers of activities undertaken by the cultural groups in the activity year are – meetings 86%, cultural discussions 91%, People’s drama 141%, cultural *Padjatra* (long march) and cultural week 67%. Besides, the cultural groups performed in open market places and in schools and colleges and participated in open cultural discussion as mentioned in the plan. The participation of women in cultural activities defying family and social barrier is noteworthy. Last year the number of female members in cultural group was 35. In the activity year it has increased by 21. At present female members are 56. In the activity year the cultural groups observed the national and international days such as Shahid Dibash and International Mother Tongue Day on 21st February, Independence Day on 26th March, May Day on 1st May, Victory Day on 16th December through cultural performances. Besides, by defying the conspiracy of the fundamentalists and militants they observed Shahid Karunamoyee day on 7 November and Rokeya Day on 9 December. In these activities by the landless groups the participation of professional groups is increasing gradually. It is noticeable that in some areas the functions are organized jointly. Besides, in the activity areas the importance and significance of these days have increased because of the cultural activities undertaken by the landless groups than in other areas. On the other hand the tendency to assert their rights has increased and they seem to have enhanced awareness about liberation war.

2.2.4.2 Long March, Cultural Week:

The cultural group with the assistance of the organization undertakes 3-7 days long cultural long march in various areas every year. Under the leadership of the groups the members roam different villages and perform openly in the school ground, and bazar people’s song and drama. Logistic support to the performance is given by the landless organization of the relevant area and they arrange food for them by collecting rice, vegetable, pulses and fish from the villagers and the performers are lodged in the school/cyclone center.

Besides, the cultural groups arrange cultural week in populated areas in the activity year. During the week, every day after dusk discussions, people’s songs and people’s drama are organized.

Analysis of Achievement:

A rural, awareness-raising drama: From viewers' gawk

"I won't take you in my earth-filling work for the road construction project for you are too old and also you are coughing," the member of the Union Parisad (UP) tells an aged day labourer. As the April night sets in, the viewers of a village theatre appear as emotionally involved at sight of the old day labourer being continually harassed by the local UP member. "Oh- what would happen to the old man now?" the villagers whisper among themselves while tasting a pouch of country tobacco with the friends and neighbours. "No, man, our medicine stock went out yesterday. I can no longer give you any potion now," says the medical assistant at Government Health Complex to the old man. "But, I am seriously ill," the old man implores. "Oh, the devil medical assistant would offer him no service," the tense viewers whisper, "Where the poor would go? Is death without treatment is their ultimate destiny?" they frown in utter despair and agony.

: Landless group members staging a village theatre on negligence towards poor in village administration and health service.

The landless cultural groups have been able to organize long march in Comilla of the Chittagong division and Gangni of Khulna division. Besides, the landless cultural groups have organized cultural week in Rangpur of Rajshahi division and Kumarkhali in Khulna. However, the plan and preparation to hold drama festival in Modhupur of Dhaka was not materialized.

Comment:

A cultural group is formed after a lengthy process, that is, after gaining experience and proficiency over a long period of time. In the activity year due to prolonged flood 4 cultural groups could not perform their regular activities. As a result they were deprived from achieving first level of experience and this posed a hindrance in full achievement. That is why the formation of cultural group is less than plan. Other activities have achieved maximum level.

PART TWO: SECTION – III: SPECIAL AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

2.3 Special Activities:

2.3.1 Legal Aid (*Detail annex table – 15*):

As the movement of the landless organisations for establishing basic rights is getting stronger, the voices and struggles of the disadvantaged people are gaining more and more recognition from the state as well as the society. The increasing success has threatened the local vested groups who systematically try to harass or create a friction between the landless groups by conspiring against them, filing false lawsuits and using the police to persecute the landless groups. At times, the landless groups are forced to file cases in protest to the harassment. In the initial stages, the groups finance the legal case from their saving or by collecting donation. When the number cases is larger the cost is too great for the landless groups to support, then they turn to Nijera Kori to seek financial assistance. Nijera Kori after discussing and considering the situation agrees to sanction the required amount of money if the case being filed will potentially bear importance in the movement to establish the rights of the landless groups.

Analysis of Achievement:

DESCRIPTION	2003-04	2004-05
Till March	457	531
New Cases	137	255
Settled Cases	70	62
Judgment in favour of Group	61	53
Verdict against the Group	2	9
Appeal Cases	7	9
Total Cases end of the year	531	733
Conducted by Groups	302	499
Supported by NK	229	234

In the current year, the number of cases filed by the local elite is 86% more than that of last year. The percentage of cases concluded is 11% less than last year's value and the number of cases in which the verdict went against the landless group in the lower courts is seven less than that of last year. The opponent has made an appeal against the

verdict in only one case. On the other hand the landless groups appealed in the higher courts for all the cases in which the verdict went against them. Participation of the landless groups in conducting the cases has increased by 65% compared to last year. This is a positive step towards achieving self-sufficiency. It may be mentioned that in the activity year the groups have spent Tk. 64,510 for carrying out the cases. Besides, the groups have spent Tk. 30,075 to finance the daily allowances of the arrested group members.

Furthermore, when the government decided to cancel the rights of publication of the Ahmadias, a sect of the Muslim community, and when the security of the Ahmadias was threatened, various organizations and individuals filed a writ petition demanding security and constitutional rights of the Ahmadias. Nijera Kori also participated with these groups to petition, under the registration number 7031/2004. The petitioners are A. K. Rezaul Karim, Adhikar, Sammilita Samagik Andolon, Ain O Shalish Kendra, Karmajibi Nari, Jatio Ain Parishad and Nijera Kori. The case is still continuing.

Comment:

In the activity year the number of new cases against the landless groups has increased comparatively in the Khulna and Chittagong divisions. More cases have been filed against the landless as a result of the increased harassment on the landless groups protesting against forcible land grabbing and shrimp cultivation. In the activity year the hired goons of the shrimp cultivators regularly attacked the landless groups attempting to forcefully occupy the land by torching the settlements of the landless groups and persecuting the women. As a result the group members resolved to take legal action and filed 75 cases. These cases are mainly against land grabbing by force, persecution and harassment of women, militant attacks including the torching of houses and illegal shrimp cultivation. The legal action taken against the perpetrators of injustice is another indicator of the rising consciousness of the landless groups. As a result of filing cases against powerful and influential shrimp cultivators, the landless groups are facing questions and difficulties from the administration and at the same time the groups are destabilizing the monopolized power structure of the vested groups. Since most of the shrimp cultivators against whom these cases are filed are powerful enough to influence the administration and cause a deliberate delay in framing the charge sheet by the authority or, in many cases, in giving the verdict by the court. Because of this, the rate of concluded cases in lower court is less than last year. But in higher court the groups have been able to get bail through appeal.

Lessons Learnt:

In the activity year it may be expected, from examining past experiences, that the number of new cases next year will increase even further. Subsequently, the harassment of group members and staff may be expected to increase. In many cases the groups may fail to conduct the cases. The situation may be such that they would have to depend more on Nijera Kori. It is necessary for Nijera Kori to have further discussions on this issue.

Legal Conflict

On 6 May 2003, the Land Ministry of the Bangladesh government declared the coastal areas of Noakhali district as shrimp zone under Memo No – Land/Section/8/Revenue/ 227/91/217 Date 06.05.2003. Previously, a partial portion of this agricultural khas land of the coastal belt was distributed among the landless people on a permanent settlement basis. This was done prior to the land ministry's declaration. Some portion of it was handed over to the Forest Ministry as protected area for the purpose of expanding forestry. Even land owned by individuals fell under the shrimp zone. Hence, the lives and livelihoods of about 40,000 peoples were at stake as result of this government decision.

In this situation, in order to safeguard the land rights of the 40 thousand affected people and stop the anti-human rights commercial shrimp culture, Nijera Kori, on behalf the landless groups filed a writ petition in the High Court on 24 January 2004, under petition number 7248/2003. When the case was being fought the judges posed doubt as to whether the landless people really resided in this belt,

more than thousand males/ females came from the coastal areas with voter lists, receipts of revenue as proofs of their area of habitation and took position inside the high court premise. This news was published with photographs in a number of national newspapers. It was only when the honourable judge gave word that the case will be resolved without delay that the landless people left the court. Later on, the Attorney General on behalf of the government promised in the court that the landless members enrolled in NK groups would not be dislodged or harassed without being provided proper re-settlement. The court concluded the case on the basis of this commitment from the government. Advocate Sigma Huda and the Paribesh Ainbid Samity assisted in fighting this case. However, despite this order from the government, the agents of shrimp cultivations are continuously harassing, attacking and trying to dislodge the landless group members forcibly.

NK decided to file writ petition and took the initiative to include other organizations as petitioners. After a number of discussions, 6 organisations – Nijera Kori, Bangladesh Paribesh Ainbid Samity (BELA), Bangladesh Legal Aid Services Trust (BLAST), Ain O Shalish Kendra (ASK),

Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD), Bangladesh Manobadhikar Bastobaon Shangstha (BASHR) become petitioners and on 1 September 2004 filed a writ petition, under the petition number 5194/2004. On the basis of the writ petition, the court, on 8 September declared a suspension order on shrimp ghers for six months. Despite this Nijera Kori staff and landless group members have been charged with numerous false cases and the terrorist activities have not yet ceased. The shrimp cultivators by perpetuating terrorist activities are attempting to dislodge the people. The extent of the harassment can be seen from the fact that between January 24, 2004 and March 2005 the shrimp cultivators have filed 93 cases against landless members. The total number of landless members accused is 1,481 (1,411 male and 60 female). It may be mentioned that amongst these cases, seven Nijera Kori staff have been accused in five of these cases.

During a discussion with NK

Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs minister barrister Moudud Ahmed said, "The shrimp ghers that have come up in the coastal belt of Noakhali are illegal and soon steps will be taken to dislodge these ghers." Furthermore, during the discussions the minister expressed concern about the security of the landless groups and said, "As per government regulations, the khas land of the Noakhali's coastal belt will be distributed among the landless people."

2.3.2 Educational Activities:

Due to a dearth of educational institutions in the villages, the children from the poor, marginal population are constantly getting involved in activities to earn a living rather than pursuing education. As a result they are being deprived from the basic right to education. For establishing equal rights to education for all citizens, the landless organization is taking initiatives to organize a massive movement and undertaking group activities to provide education to the deprived section of the society.

Analysis of Achievement:

Description	Number of School & Students		
	Number	Male	Female
Primary School	30	5,833	5,980
Junior High School	4	343	402
Night School	1	25	5

Of the total 30 primary schools, 3 schools –Alexander, Guptachara and Daudkandi, were built through group initiatives in the activity year. One night school is being run solely through group effort and

management. The number of students is 11,813 (male 5,833 and female 5,980). Beside this, the students under the guidance of group leaders have initiated a mass literacy programme amongst the members. In the activity year 4,365 members (Male 1,800 & Female 2,565) have become literate. Again, the groups have spent Tk. 28,194 for conducting these activities from group's saving (Tk. 23,294 from group members and Tk. 4,900 from individuals outside the group). The number of students has increased compared to that of last year. It may be mentioned that in the primary & lower secondary schools the number of female students is more than the male students. This reflects the improved status of women in our society, the need for mothers to be aware about the importance of educating their daughters and the significance of education for women in the society. In the activity year much progress in the administrative procedure for school registration has been achieved. However, the procedure has not been completed yet.

Position of the Educational Institution

Of the 30 schools the registration of 12 schools has been completed. 6 schools have received temporary grants from the DD (Deputy Director) office. 4 others are receiving a paltry sum of financial assistance from other development organizations, 3 schools received permission from the government to teach, 5 schools have applied for registration and of the 4 lower secondary schools 2 schools have completed their registration but have not been included in the M.P.O. (Monthly Payment Order). 2 schools have applied for registration.

2.3.3 Livestock Vaccination Activities:

In the villages and coastal areas, due to a lack of proper implementation of the government projects, a large section of the population remain deprived from availing various opportunities. Isolated from sadar thana, two very remote activity areas in Paikgacha and Charjabbar are conducting activities under group initiative.

Description	Plan	Achievement
Vaccination	83,000	38,560
Treatment	11,000	7,209

Moreover, to encourage cattle farming by using the indigenous method, group members have arranged a training center in Noongola where exemplary activities are on going. In this programme, NK only helped in establishing contact with thana officials in getting and giving vaccination. 46% of the number of vaccinations and 66% of the number of treatments as per the plan were accomplished in reality. By this programme 17,921 families have benefited.

Comment:

Due to the problems of prolonged flood in Rajshahi division in the Noongola training center, continuous militant attacks on landless groups in Charjabbar and the lack of supply of sufficient vaccination by the government, the vaccination programme could not be conducted regularly. As a result of the after effects of the flood, medical treatment was more necessary than vaccination.

2.3.4 Movement – Struggle: (Detail annex table 22)

The important aspects of raising social awareness are the reaction of the masses to various issues, the tendency of the people to support the struggle, the nature of the struggle and its impact in the area. But the yardstick of impact in the area is not the volume and number of people participating in the struggle, but the various issues on which people's voice is vocal. It may be mentioned that it is not only the organized groups who are involved in the movement, but the unorganized masses are also being motivated to join the struggle to establish their rights and resist injustice. The landless groups participate in any struggle that develops spontaneously to realize genuine demands of the people.

Persecution on Women:

In the activity year the landless organizations have organized 175 movements/struggles to protest and resist various issues like dowry, divorce, polygamy, rape, physical torture, kidnapping etc.

Child Trafficking: Landless Group's Movement for Rescue

Area: A case of child trafficking took place in the village North Mohammadpur, in Comilla district under Daudkandi thana. Description of the incident:

Nargis Akhtar promised Farzana, a girl aged 11 from the same village, to give her a job as a domestic help and accordingly took her to Chittagong on 15 September 2004. But instead of giving Farzana any employment Nargis took her around site seeing. This mysterious behavior puzzled Farzana and she started crying. So, on 1st October 2004 Farzana was sent back to her father. Again on 16 October Nargis Akhtar brought Farzana back to Chittagong with the help of Farzana's brother Hazrat Ali and this time Nargis Akhtar promised to provide a job for Farzana in the garment factory.

Persecution and Tactic of Trafficking:

Instead of giving the job, Nargis took Farzana to different houses every day. Farzana later said, “ In every house I saw many girls kept in captivity. What happened to them after wards I do not know.”At one stage Farzana was employed as a domestic worker in

House No. 2, Monsurabad, Chittagang. Her employee was Zahirul Islam. When Farzana refused to get involved in any illicit relationship, Zahirul Islam and Nargis started torturing her physically. To conceal that she was tortured and to facilitate trafficking on 29 October 2004 they announced that Farzana has fled without notifying anyone in the house. On 30th October, to avoid any legal complications they

Nargis Akhtar’s identity
Nargis Akhtar’s (25) father Abdul Karim, after being impoverished left his own neighbouring village and came to South Mohammadpur village to reside in his brother-in-law’s house. Nargis was the third among 2 sisters and 2 brothers. Her father used to pull rickshaw and when he died her elder brother started to pull rickshaw to earn a living for the family. In 1989 Nargis Akhtar was married while still a minor. The marriage broke after a few days. She was remarried. As a garment worker she started her career in Chittagong. But after a few year’s she got entangled in the criminal world of women and child trafficking and drug smuggling. Overnight she became very rich and politically influential.

announced through mike the so-called disappearance of Farzana in Chittagong city. Moreover, on November 1, 2004, Zahirul Islam’s brother filed a G.D. entry in Haliashar thana, registered under No. 07/2004. Farzana’s family was not informed about any of this. In November 2004, Nargis Akhtar went to Daudkandi to celebrate Eid. Farzana’s parents, on hearing that Nargis Akhtar was in the village, went to her for Farzana’s news. They were informed that Farzana was missing. Nargis Akhtar’s mysterious behaviour made Farzana’s parents suspicious. They also heard from the people in the locality that Nargis was connected in criminal world.

Landless Group’s Attempt to Resist Child Trafficking:

Immediately Farzana’s father informed the matter to the leaders of the landless group and to the eminent people in the locality. On 8 November 2004, under the leadership of landless group’s village committee, more than a hundred members along with the local personalities went to Nargis Akhtar for discussing the matter. First Nargis said that Farzana left without informing any one in the house. “Farzana left without any information. I arranged for the news of her disappearance to be announced. I even filed a G.D. entry in the police station and searched for her, but I could not find her”. When the leaders of the landless groups started putting pressure on her she, at one point she said, “If you want to find the girl, file a case against Zahirul Islam. I will give evidence and I will provide the fund. But do not take the matter too far. If you do, the result will not be good.” Though the leaders of the landless group and the local personalities met with Nargis Akhter five times to resolve the matter, nothing came of it. On the contrary local hoodlums started intimidating Farzana’s father. In this situation on 6 December 2004, landless groups

met all the representatives of the area and at the meeting they decided to organize a protest. Accordingly, on 17 December, 2004, more than a thousand members, both male and female, of the landless groups organized protest procession demanding official action and gathered in front of the police station and office. They also submitted mass signatures and a memorandum to various levels of administration. Gradually the local people also expressed solidarity with the landless group. At this point, Nargis Akhtar in collaboration with influential individuals and local mastans started to intimidate all the people protesting. Farzana's mother, Malancha Begum said that the mastans not only verbally and physically abused the family but also forced them out of their house and took them to Nargis's house. She also informed that Nargis said, "Take 40 thousands taka and give up all claims on your daughter. Go home, or come to Chittagong, I will provide for all expenses, but stop your connections with the landless groups. If you keep this connection you will not see your daughter alive." At this Malancha Begum said, "We do not want any money, we do not want any case, give back our child." Hearing this the landless groups decided to take legal action. They went to Daudkandi thana a number of times to file a case but the thana official kept on delaying to take the case on various pretexts. On 2nd January about five hundred males and females gheraoed the thana police office. Even after this the officer-in-charge of the thana refused to take the case and asked them to file the case in the court. The landless groups, after much deliberation decided to take legal action and on 8 January 2005 filed the case on behalf of Malancha Begum in special court for prevention of persecution on women and children, under Comilla Case No. 03/05. For gaining mass support and to organize a movement on a wider scale, the landless groups called a press conference on 9 January. When the news was serially published in local and national papers, the police administration was forced to investigate the case. In the dead of the night the culprit fled in connivance with the police.

Result:

So, the landless groups undertook the responsibility to rescue Farzana. For this purpose they formed a committee, which was named "Farzana Rescue Committee", comprising leaders of the landless groups, local U.P. members, school teachers, journalists and professional groups. This committee managed to find information on Farzana's whereabouts and established link with the Chittagong police administration. On 25 February 2005, with the assistance of Chittagong Double Mooring thana police administration they rescued Farzana from the abandoned house of a port official. After Farzana's return, except a few people, most of the people in the village boycotted Nargis Akhtar and her family socially for being connected with such heinous activities as trafficking of women and children. Till now the culprit can not be traced in the locality as a result of social rejection. After this incident the people of this area have become very conscious about women and child trafficking and there is an increased awareness to resist this. At present the case is still continuing in the court.

Militancy Fundamentalism:

In the activity year 29 movements were organized to resist reactionary fundamental advances like fatwa, bomb-grenade attacks, killings, efforts to create communal conflict etc. The landless organizations have been able to establish their rights in 25 out of 29 movements. Therefore, the success rate is 86%. However, recent years have seen a rise in the activities of the fundamental power groups at the grass root level, especially in the number of bomb attacks. It may be mentioned that the women organizations have raised 12 issues.

Landless peoples Resisting Eviction Attempt of Temple: A Case Study

Introduction:

For the past 150 years, the Hindu community of Padmacote village in Debiddar thana, Comilla has been congregating under a banyan tree situated in a fallow khas land for praying and worshipping. About thirty years back the Hindu community, under the leadership and support of Ananda and Mahendra Das, started building a temple on the land and in 2001 the temple was completed under the leadership of Nibarun Chandra Das. On the various occasions celebrating Hindu festivals, fan fares-attended by people from all religious communities- would be organized in this temple. However, since 2002, industrialist Shah Alam began his attempts to remove the temple and forcibly occupy the land with the aid of local fundamentalist forces.

Conspiracy involving the eviction:

The land adjacent to the temple belongs to Shah Alam, and for this reason he has been long trying to occupy the khas land on which the temple is situated. In 2002 he established strategic links with local communal forces, and provided funds to the fundamentalist groups to organize religious meetings every month on the area adjoining that of the temple. This caused friction between the different communities. Shah Alam used his political influence and financial inducement to make an appeal to the D.C. of Comilla zila to purchase the khas land and establish a factory for the purpose of employment generation. At the same time Shah Alam directed the local terrorists to intimidate members of the religious minority by threatening to file false lawsuits.

Landless organization's role in resisting temple eviction:

On August 20, 2002, under the direction of Shah Alam, communal forces in collusion with the terrorist groups chopped down the banyan tree and occupied 6% of the khas land with the intention of demolishing the temple. As the members of the Hindu minority faced repeated threats from the goons, the landless group members immediately took the responsibility of keeping vigilance and protecting every area in the village. On 22 August 2002, landless groups called a regional meeting in which they planned to take action against such atrocities. Accordingly, thousands of male and female members gheraoed the T.N.O.'s office on 24 October and submitted a

memorandum, containing two thousand signatures, to officials at various levels of administration, including the Home Minister. They also staged sit in strike demanding immediate action. When all administrative activities almost came to a halt due to this strike, the administration was forced to promise an on-spot survey, which was carried out on 25 October 2005 by two government land commissioners. In the subsequent report the eviction charges were proved and the assistant land commissioner appealed to the leaders of the landless groups to take the initiative of constructing the temple with support from the local people. The commissioner also planted a banyan sapling in the temple yard and fined Shah Alam Tk. 12,000/- for cutting down a government owned tree without permission. The temple committee made a petition to the administration for sanctioning 6% of the khas land to the temple, in accordance with the government provisions. The politically influential Shah Alam was humiliated in public and a lobby was undertaken, demanding the transfer of the high officials of Debiddar thana. Accordingly, the officials were transferred towards the beginning of 2004.

However, Shah Alam once again made attempts to destroy the temple and on 25th June 2004, he hired some goons who ravaged the temple to the ground. On 26th June 2004 when the landless group went to file a case, the police refused to take the case. When the police office was gradually being surrounded by an increasing number of landless group members, the police was forced to take the case. Following this, the terrorists started going house-to-house, threatening to kill the inhabitants and kidnap their children unless they withdraw the case. On 9 July the landless organization organized a protest procession in Debiddar thana sadar, congregated inside the thana complex and barricaded the TNO's road. The landless organization sent a memorandum, containing five thousands signatures to the Prime Minister, demanding communal harmony and security. To bring this matter under nation wide attention a national press conference was held by journalists on 18 July 2004, in Debiddar press club. When this news was released in national papers the landless organization got full support of the people from all strata of society. When the journalists gave daily coverage in the newspapers on the development of the case, the police administration was forced to arrest two culprits. Again, under the leadership of landless organization, various professional groups, comprising of more than 4 thousands men and women, organized a protest procession demanding definite action. They gheraoed the TNO's office and formed a two mile long human chain on 20th July, 2004. Pressurized by the masses, the TNO promised on 23 July to investigate the matter and take necessary action. When the administration failed to do so, the land less leaders immediately called for a press conference in which they stated their plans to gherao the district administration on 25 July if proper actions were not taken.

When this news got published in the papers, the district administration was forced to call a meeting inviting the leaders of the landless organization and members of various professional groups. On 21 July 2004 ten representatives met with the district officials and discussed the matter. The TNO was present in the meeting. As per the decision taken at the meeting, the TNO surveyed the area on 23 July 2004

and evidence of both the instances of attack on the temple was found. Following the investigation the TNO sat for discussion in the Padmacote school ground. When it was proposed that both parties accept certain conditionalities and reach a compromise, the offenders readily agreed. However, the landless organization decided to consider the offer carefully so as to ensure that the victims were rightfully compensated and received due justice.

Result:

TNO nullified Shah Alam's appeal to purchase the khas land. He promised to sanction the 6% of the land to the temple authority within 6 months. As compensation for the damages Shah Alam gave Tk. 15,000/- to reconstruct the temple. The TNO office also contributed Tk. 10,000/- for the construction of the temple. Shah Alam signed and delivered a written pledge to the TNO that he would never perpetrate any form of conspiracy, attack or damage to the temple; nor would he terrorise the general public and make threats against the temple authority in future. The landless organization was satisfied with this and agreed to reach conciliation.

Resistance against corruption:

In the activity year the landless organizations organized 167 movements against issues such as corruption in union parishad, money and power based rural legal system, corruption in development sector, extortion, irregularities in micro credit, demand for withdrawal of false law suits etc. Out of these, the landless organizations have been able to establish their rights in 149 issues. The percentage of success is 89%. The women organizations have raised 85 issues.

A REPORT ON THE IRREGULARITIES AND CORRUPTION OF FFA ACTIVITIES WHICH IS INCORPORATED IN THE COUNTRY PROGRAM OF WORLD FOOD PROGRAM 2001-2005

Background of the Area:

Kurigram is the poorest district of the northern region of Bangladesh. Lack of sufficient job opportunities makes the lives of the people of this region unstable and insecure. Every year poor people of this region suffer from starvation due to seasonal famine (*Monga*). Not surprisingly, day labourers spend most of the year looking for work in other areas.

Nature of the Project:

The FFA (Food for Asset) is a part of the "Coordinated Food Security Project" under the CWFP (Country Programme of World Food Programme). Under the direction of LGED of Bangladesh government, the project under the FFA is supervising the programs of a local development organisation in Rajibpur thana in Kurigram district. The programme includes raising the level of the homesteads and filling in earth in the roads and educational institutions. Under this program a total of 500 women were employed in Rajibpur union in 03 wards. User committees, each comprising of

3 members, were formed amongst the employed laborers in every ward. In accordance with the notice

sheet, the members of the user committee were required not only to work with

Description of work and wage
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For 6 days training allowances include Tk. 100.00 and 20 Kg. Wheat. • For digging 53 CFT earth daily, Tk. 20.00 and 2 Kg. Wheat. • For leveling 10 CFT ground daily, Tk. 20.00 and 2 Kg. Wheat. • For rooting 10 CFT grass daily, Tk. 20.00 and 2 Kg. Wheat.

the rest of the workers but were also to take responsibility for withdrawing and distributing amongst the workers their due wages, wheat and training allowances. The condition for work was that the employed labourers would participate in various activities and would receive wages according to their level of training.

Irregularities and Corruption:

According to the rules and regulations of implementation, it is required that there are signboards in various places in the area describing the project and nature of work and the nature of payment. But those who were responsible for implementing the project did not put up any signboards anywhere. Hence the user committee seemed to exist only in name. Sub-assistant engineer of Rajibpur thana got the signatures of user committee’s president, vice-president and secretary on a blank paper by telling them that the signatures were for attendance in the ensuing meeting. An illegal document was forged on this blank signed paper. The officials of the project, under the guidance of sub-assistant engineer, did not give the delivery order to the user committee and instead, withdrew the 3 wards’ first allotment of 26.16 metric ton wheat, their training allowance of Tk. 50,000.00 and their total wage of Tk. 80,000.00 by submitting “Allotment order No. LGED/CE/CPER-02/2003/2005/355 dated 04/03/2004. The workers were given only 17 metric tons of very low quality rice instead of their training allowance and wage for labour. When the laborers refused to accept this low quality rice the officials threatened to dismiss them.

Role of Administration:

When the TNO was informed about this irregularity and corruption he initially expressed his sympathy towards the plight of the labourers, but later on got influenced by the corrupt officials of the organisation. Incidentally, being local residents, the sub-assistant engineer and supervisors got the support of the influential people from the area. They offered bribes and intimidated the workers by threatening to file false cases. The TNO, therefore, refused to take any actions regarding the exploitation.

Movement/Agitation:

Landless group called a meeting with all the representatives on 18th April 2004. In the meeting they discussed the prevailing situation and decided to organise a massive movement. They managed to collect the necessary information and papers regarding the corruption and distributed these among the general masses in order to gain enough support to gherao the police station. The landless groups held discussions with the professional sector, Muktijoddha Sangsad, UP members and various political parties. Through these inter exchanges they were able to gain the support of various groups.

According to the decision taken in the meeting held on 24 April, more than a thousand men and women rounded up (*gherao*) TNO office and observed a daylong strike (*hartal*). At one stage the administration promised to investigate the irregularities and corruption charges. Continuing the movement, the landless group called a press conference to give a detailed account of the corruption to the press. They also submitted a memorandum to the administrations and to the official at various levels in the project.

Eventually, the administration initiated three meetings with the landless group. In every meeting the sub-assistant engineer threatened to sack the employed laborers. In the last meeting, when the sub-assistant inspector misbehaved and attempted to physically assault the leaders of the landless group, they boycotted the meeting and held a sit-in strike within the administrative premise. In this strike the progressive group of professionals also participated. Subsequently, on the request of landless group, a team from WFP agreed to carry out an on-spot investigation on 26 June 04. In the investigation landless group's claims of corruption and irregularities were proved to be genuine.

Result:

A copy of an allotment paper of the delivery order was given to user committee. They were able to withdraw the misappropriated wheat, the training allowance of Tk. 50,000/- and their wages of Tk. 80,000/-. In the presence of landless groups' union committee president Hafiza Begum and secretary Asgar Ali these were distributed duly to the laborers. The authority has put up signboards in the area describing the nature of work. Besides, the authority relieved country coordinator Shajahan Mia and the supervisor from their duties.

Impact

The landless groups are now more accepted in the area. There is an increase in the participation of people outside the groups in the various movements and issues. There has been a considerable decrease in irregularities and corruption. Furthermore, there has developed a greater tendency to seek and ensure accountability amongst the organised groups.

Commercial Shrimp Cultivation:

In the activity year the landless organizations have organized 58 movements against various damages as a result of the increase in saline water caused by shrimp cultivation, illegal grabbing of khas land and water bodies, forcible grabbing of land from the marginal farmers by the shrimp cultivators, use of chemical fertilizer and application of poison, destruction of environment etc. 58 movements have been successful. The percentage of success is 100%. Women raised 27 of these issues.

Landless group waging war against commercial shrimp aquaculture

Description of the area:

Village: Zhaltala, Union: Sharafpur, Thana: Dumuria, Zila: Khulna.

Description of the incident:

Zaltala village lies on the bank of river Vodhra is known to be a haven for armed terrorists. Those terrorists were hired by the shrimp cultivator, Golam Moulung, for creating shrimp farms. In April 2002 these terrorists forcibly evicted 18 small farmers from their own land and occupied a considerable portion of the river to make a shrimp farm on 50 acres of land. When the landless group members went to the police station to seek justice, the police officers, instead of taking any action, threatened to file false cases against them. During the movement led by the landless group members against the illegal shrimp cultivation, Udai Sankar from Senpara was killed on 31st October 2002 and Kasem Yunus from Keyakhali was murdered on 29th May 2003, by armed terrorists. In face of the murders and continuous attacks, the landless groups were not able to build up a strong resistance. Towards the end of 2003 the terrorists got involved in internal conflicts that weakened them.

The landless organisations took advantage of this situation and chalked out their strategy for a movement against commercial shrimp culture. Subsequently they gathered in front of the thana Sadar declaring commercial shrimp culture as being illegal and redundant. On 9th December, 2003, after the meeting, they handed over a memorandum with mass signatures to the TNO and other police officials. Complying with the demands of the landless groups, the TNO directed the Assistant Commissioner, land and Police officials to conduct an on-the-spot inquiry that they did on 15th February, 2004 and the report was submitted on 18th March, 2004. In the report it was stated that the Shrimp farm was created by illegal occupation of the river and forcible occupation of the land owned by small farmers. The officials did not find any legal documents in favour of the shrimp farm against which administrative measures were recommended subsequently. But Golam Mougli stifled the official actions with his political influence and black money. In such a situation the landless organisations again organised a meeting in Dumuria thana Sadar. In the meeting held on 19 June, 2004 they declared that the gher was illegal and demanded eviction. For strategic reasons they again submitted mass signatures and memorandum to the DC, Zila officials, DIG and the TNO. But when the administration did not take any action the landless organisations called a meeting to

discuss the matter with small farmers and professional groups. In accordance with the decision reached in the meeting by people from all social strata, the embankment of the shrimp farm was breached and the gher destroyed on July 20, 2004.

Result:

The small farmers got back their land. Golam Mougli attempted to file a case against the landless groups with the assistance of the DIG. However, the police officials were refrained from taking the case, sensing that the sympathies of the people lay with the landless groups. The farmers started sowing paddy in their fields again. On the issue of saline water shrimp cultivation, solidarity developed between the organized and unorganised groups.

Impact
<p>In the same year this movement inspired people from all social strata to evict other illegal saline water shrimp farms in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Three ghers, covering a total area of 120 acres, within Kodjir Hola, Digholia and Chorchotia villages under Shahosh Union, Dumuria Thana, Khulna.• Two shrimp ghers, covering 80 acres, within Akra and Sadar Mahal villages under Sharafpur Union, Dumuria Thana, Khulna.• One shrimp gher occupying 200 acres in Honalar chak under Goroikhali Union, Paikgacha Thana, Khulna.

<p>Demand for raise of wage:</p> <p>In the activity year the landless organizations have organized 10 movements demanding equal wages for male and female labourers. Though there has been an increase in the wages of the female labourers, it is yet to be equal to that of the men. It may be mentioned that women’s organizations raised 4 issues demanding a raise in the wage.</p>

Movement by female labourers for equal wage

Background:

In the rural areas women are working side by side with men in various aspects of production. Though this a positive change, there remains a substantial discrimination in wages between the male and female workers. In some areas protests against this discrimination are being organised.

Area:

Village: Bargoan, Union: 17 no. Nayergaon, Thana: Motlob, Zila: Chandpur.

Description:

In February 2005, during the potato harvesting season labourers, both male and female, began their work in fields belonging to various land owners. Right from the onset of the season, members of the landless groups decided amongst themselves

to work in small groups. On 28th February 2005, 13 labourers (8 male, 5 female) formed a small group and started working in a local landowner, Abdul Mojid's field. After finishing the work at dusk they went to collect their wages. When Mojid ventured to pay taka 70 to the male workers and 40 to the female, the workers protested and demanded a raise in the wages, especially that of the female workers. Instead of complying with their demands, the hence -men of Mojid started threatening all the workers and abusing the female workers using obscene language. As a result both the male and female workers left without collecting their wages. On the same day the landless group of Bargaon sat down to decide what is to be done regarding this issue. In sequence to this discussion a meeting was held on 1st March, comprising workers from both the organised groups and from outside groups coming from Nayergoan, Patan, Ashinpu, Khargpur and other villages. As per the decision taken at the meeting of March 1st, members from all the groups gathered and rallied for legitimate wages on 3rd March 2005 at the Bargaon primary school ground. In the rally the leaders of landless groups, on behalf of all the workers, declared abstention from work until their demands were fulfilled. In response to this declaration, majority of the workers from many neighbouring villages declared abstention from work until their demands for legitimate wages were met. Even though the land owners attempted to hire workers from adjacent areas, they failed in their attempt as the adjacent areas were all under potato cultivation as well and so there was a dearth of available workers. Moreover, in solidarity with their fellow farm labourers, workers from the surrounding villages, under the leadership of the landless groups, refused to work in that area. As a result, the landowners were forced to reach conciliation with leaders of the agitated landless groups through UP chairman.

Result:

On March 6, 2005 at a meeting held at Bargaon school grounds, all the land owners in the presence of landless group leaders came to a decision that female workers would receive taka 50 instead of taka 40. This new wage is being implemented in 21 villages in 3 unions. Though this movement was essentially for a raise in wages for female workers, the support and participation of male workers was important for accomplishing this goal. As a result, thousands of day -labourers have gained financial benefit, however small, from this movement.

Other are also not lagging behind for legitimate wage
A glaring discrimination in wage between male and female workers took place in Char Afjal of Laxipur district in Alexander thana. The time was during the winter season when vegetables and cereals are cultivated. The daily wage for male workers was TK. 80 and for female workers, TK. 40. On 8 th December 2004 hundreds of workers, both male and female, gathered demanding a raise in wage for female workers. They announced that until their demands were met, they would refrain from work. After abstention from work for 9 days the owners raised the female worker's wage from TK. 40 to 60. In this movement the participation of the male workers was praiseworthy.

Establishing rights on khas land, water bodies:

In the activity year the landless organizations organized 130 movements including struggles to establish possession rights on khas land and water bodies and dislodging forcible grabbers from the land of the marginal farmers. They have been able to establish their legal rights in 108 issues. As a result, the success rate stands at 83%. It may be mentioned that women raised 43 issues demanding rights.

Khurshida's struggle against intrigue and persecution**Background:**

Kurshida was born in Keranigonj thana in Dhaka zila. Her parents left home in '89 in search of livelihood and started residing in a slum in Narayangonj. Her mother worked as a housemaid in different houses and her father was a rickshaw puller.

Ansar Ali from Alangi village in Kumarkhali thana also left home in search of livelihood and came to Narayangonj. Here he worked as a rickshaw-puller and also sold pan. Ansar Ali & Khurshida resided in the same slum and they got married by their own choice.

Kurshida, embroiled in life's struggle:

From childhood Kurshida was independent in nature and outspoken. In '98 Ansar Ali came back to his village Alangi in Kumarkhali thana with his family. As Ansar Ali did not have his own homestead, local Yotder Jamat Ali gave 6% of the khas land, that he has forcibly acquired, to Ansar Ali to build a house and live there on the condition that he would look after the land. Hence, Ansar Ali started his new life as an indentured labourer. Jamat Ali started availing every opportunity to harass Khurshida with illicit offers. When Khurshida refused to comply, he threatened to evict them. In '95 Khurshida was inspired by watching a drama that was staged by the landless cultural groups. After discussing with the leaders of the landless groups Khurshida formed a new landless group with their support. Jamat Ali started pressurising Khurshida to cease such activities. At one stage her husband also tried to stop her activities. In this situation Khurshida informed the group about her predicament and as a result the leaders of the group held numerous discussions with her husband regarding this matter. The landless groups offered full support to ensure their security. In '96 when the government announced its initiative to distribute Khas land among the landless, Khurshida, with the help of a neighbouring male landless group, applied for acquiring 6% of the khas land in accordance with the provisions of the government. On 2001, government allotted that 6% land to both Khurshida and Ansar Ali on a permanent settlement basis. This infuriated Jamat Ali. He tried to evict Khurshida and her husband by seeking assistance from the local chairman. They were attacked by hoodlums a number of times and Jamat Ali himself made attempts to inflict physical torture on Khurshida. Intimidated by the hired goons and the UP chairman and concerned with Khurshida's security, Ansar Ali agreed to vacate the land. When Khurshida did not comply with this decision, she was beaten

by her husband. Even after all this, when Kurshida remained adamant not to yield to pressure, Jamat Ali instructed a team of hoodlums to attack and kidnap Khurshida. The team, led by Jamat Ali's son, attempted to execute the plan. However, they failed as members from the adjoining landless groups came to rescue Khurshida when they heard her screams. They rescued her and immediately admitted her to a hospital.

Obstruction to landless group's protest:

On the evening of 20 July 2004 Khurshida's husband along with other landless groups' leaders went to the thana to lodge a case against Jamat Ali. But the police officer refused to file a case. In fact, even in the presence of police, the UP chairman warned Khurshida and her husband not to reveal the incident and threatened that if they do not comply they would be charged with false cases.

In this situation in July 26, 2004 about 5 hundred male, female members from landless groups gheraod the thana. They staged a sit-in strike demanding that the case be accepted and the culprits arrested. After 4 hours of sit-in strike the officer in charge was compelled to give assurance that the case would be taken following an investigation. On July 28 the officer in charge went to the hospital and recorded Khurshida's confession and prepared an unofficial charge sheet. The leaders of the landless groups called a press conference to reveal the incident. When this news was printed the culprits started leaving the area. In the meantime politically influential Jamat Ali and the UP chairman started putting pressure on the police officer through the local MP. As a result there was a deliberate delay by the police officer to prepare the official charge sheet and take legal action. The landless group, in a meeting attended by hundreds of members, decided to adopt a strategy. According to the decision taken at this meeting, starting from 30th July 2004, the landless group members gathered daily in front of Khurshida's house and staged a people's drama to influence people in their favour. This strategy generated tremendous support from all sections of people including the professional groups. The MP, as a result, made a proposal to sit for arbitration in the Union Parishad office. The landless groups refused to participate unless the arbitration took place in Khurshida's house. On July 2, 2004 four judges were selected of whom two were landless group's leaders and the arbitration was held.

Result:

Jamat Ali handed over almost 2 acres of khas land that was illegally occupied by him to Khurshida's family along with the land that they got through permanent settlement. He gave tk. 8000 for Khurshida's treatment. In front of thousands of people Jamat Ali and UP chairman confessed their crime and begged forgiveness. At one stage of this movement Khurshida's husband also became a member of the landless group.

Other issues:

In the activity year the landless organizations have organized 123 movements, struggles on various issues such as child trafficking, looting of paddies sown by the landless, attacks on various groups, gambling, drug abuse, illegal selling of pornographic video shows etc. The groups have been successful in 118 issues. 46 issues were organized by the women's organizations.

Corruption in education system: Protest by landless group

Sahagalpur is a remote village in Gangni thana of Meherpur Zila. In the seventies, under the initiative of the local inhabitants a school was established in this village. In the early eighties, after numerous attempts, the school was finally registered officially under the name of Garbaria government school.

Government grant:

In 1993 this school was included within the government's scholarship programme. As per the government regulation 40% of the total number of students was required to be selected for scholarship. Accordingly, starting from July '93, 82 of the 205 students are getting Tk. 100 monthly as scholarship allowance.

Irregularities and corruption

Since the provision of this scholarship, money from government grant was being distributed appropriately among the students. But in 2003 Headmaster and President of the school management committee in connivance with the authority created a false muster roll and embezzled money that was allotted to 17 students. When the guardians of the deprived students demanded an explanation from Headmaster, his replied, "the government has dropped their names from the list".

Exposing corruption and protest movement:

In 2002 landless group's leader Shamer Molla stood in the Garabaria government primary school's management committee elections as a candidate from landless group and got elected. For performing his duties effectively Shamser Molla has succeeded in getting elected every year in the school committee since 2002.

Shamser Molla along with other landless group leaders has been trying to collect information regarding this corruption for a long time. At various school committee meetings Shamser Molla had repeatedly demanded information about scholarship matters. Though some members supported Shamser Molla on this issue, the Headmaster and committee President lodged complaints against Shamser Ali to the thana education officer. In the meantime Shamser Ali managed to get a copy of the false muster roll and exposed it to the landless group's village committee. On 28th July 2004 the leader of the village committee came to see the Headmaster and demanded an evidential explanation for dropping the names of 17 students from the scholarship list. At this point the Headmaster threatened the village committee and added that he would file a case against them for insulting him. In this situation, the committee members called a representative meeting on 9 August in order to decide

their next course of action. As per the decision taken at the representatives' meeting, a large member of male and female members gheraoed the thana education office on 12 August. In the meeting held in the office ground the leaders exposed the whole incident of corruption along with evidence. As a result they instantly got the support of the general masses.

After the meeting hundreds of male and female members participated in a procession and submitted a memorandum to the thana executive officer and staged a sit-in strike. At the end of three hours the thana executive officer was forced to promise in front of the huge gathering that the matter would be investigated within 10 days, after which necessary action would be taken.

Result:

The thana executive officials along with district education officials investigated the matter. The corruption charges were proved in the investigation, and it was declared on 22 August that the embezzled money would be returned and distributed properly. Accordingly when the money was returned, the students, inspired by the landless group members, donated the money to the school for establishing a library. In the following school management committee election a number of the landless group's member was selected as candidates.

2.3.5 Action for Advocacy and Campaigning Activities:

NK, being an activist organization works at the field level to organise landless poor men and women so that they are more aware and united in their efforts to establish their rights. To achieve this goal NK conducts various activities involving the landless population. The landless group usually succeeds in motivating the general masses in their favour on various issues by organizing long-term movements for various causes.

NK conducts its advocacy and campaigning activities at the national and international levels on the basis of the rights and demands of the landless groups in partnership with only those organizations, networks, partner organizations and individuals who think alike and uphold similar views.

2.3.5.1 Landless group's role on issue based advocacy activity (*Detail annex table-23*)

The landless groups create pressure on the administration and social organizations to rightfully implement the law. The groups also provide solutions to local problems through joint effort and accountability. To achieve their goal, discussions are organized sometimes at the initiative of the landless organization and sometimes at the initiative of the administration or social organization on various issues such as government khas land/water body, commercial shrimp cultivation, activities, corruption of the local government, environment, water-logging, women persecution, sowing and harvesting paddy, terrorist activities, natural calamity and relief operation, observation of national/ international days, law and order etc.

Analysis of Achievement:

The number of issues on which meetings were held at the initiative of the landless organization with administration and professional groups are 2,357. This is 46% less than last year. On the other hand at the initiative of administration and professional groups 1,664 meetings were held with the landless organization. This is 13% more than last year. This positive tendency is a reflection of the sense of responsibility of the administration and the professional groups, democratic accountability and recognition of the landless organization socially and officially. But for disruption of communication due to prolonged flood and excessive police harassment in Noakhali and Paikgacha meetings held at the initiative of landless groups with administration and professional groups was comparatively less.

- 212 discussions were held with district administration. But at the initiative of the district administration 66 meetings were held which is 83% more than last year.
- 237 meetings were held with Deputy Commissioner (revenue) and Assistant commissioner (land). But 57 meetings were held with relevant administration, which is 50% more than last year.
- 689 meetings were held with NGO and other administrative officials. But 221 meetings were held with relevant administration. This is 5% more than last year.
- 705 meetings were held with police super and other police officials But 343 meetings were held with relevant administration.
- 47 meetings were held with members of the parliament. Of this 25 meetings were held at the initiative of parliament members. This is 48% less than last year.
- 1424 meetings were held with Union Parishad. But 666 meetings were held at the initiative of the Union Parishad which is only 2% less than last year.
- At zila and thana level 168 meetings were held with government health officials. This is 2% less than last year. But 60 meetings were held at the initiative of the health officials. This is 40% more than last year.
- At zila and thana level 148 meetings were held with educational officials. But at the initiative of the educational officials 65 meetings were held. This is 8% more than last year.
- At zila and thana level 305 meetings were held with press club. But at the initiative of press club 140 meetings were held. This is 30% more than last year.
- At zila and thana level 45 meetings were held with legal organization. This is 2% more than last year. But at the initiative of legal organization 13 meetings were held.

2.3.5.2 Issue Based Workshop

2.3.5.2.1 National Level Workshop

A two-day's national workshop was organized on April 4 - 5, 2004 on "Terrorist dominated trade/commerce, democracy and rights of the poor". 125 representatives

participated in the workshop representing grass root poor population as well as the professional groups at zila and national levels

First, a 20-minute documentary movie was shown depicting the prevailing situation of the world today. Next a number of articles were presented. Along with the main article, four sessions were organized where articles on “Commercial shrimp culture, endangered environment, life and livelihood of the poor”, “Reform on land administration and rights of the poor on khas land & water bodies”, “Constitution & democracy vis-à-vis the question of ensuring security to the marginal population in the country”, “Exposition of the challenge of 21st century and participation of the poor in the development activities” were presented. This was followed by narration of experiences by people living at the grass-root level and open discussion amongst the participants. This helped people from the two vastly differing spheres- the intellectuals in charge of formulating solutions and the poor people from the grass roots level- gain a better and a more complete understanding of each other’s situation. The causes of poverty and the possible solutions were thoroughly explored in context of Bangladesh at the workshop. These issues were published in national newspapers and they were discussed by national personalities in various meetings and seminars. It may be mentioned that in the last activity year, despite the completion of all the necessary preparations, no workshops were held due to the added responsibility of organising activities celebrating the national day at the local and national level.

2.3.5.2.2 District Level Workshop

Noakhali information cell helped in organizing a workshop on “Establishing rights of the landless on agricultural *khas* land and coastal environment”. In Dinajpur zila on 23 February, 2005 one workshop was organized with the assistance of ADSC (Alliance Development Support and Cooperation) on “What would the role of youth and civil society for incorporating the deprived men and women in the main streams of development and new generation of poor.” These two workshops were represented both by the professional groups and the representatives of the marginal population by 71 and 68 persons. The participants, by daylong discussion and scrutiny identified various problems and for solution, they emphasized that there ought to be more interaction between the professional groups, youth and marginal population, and there ought to be dissemination of information between them and consolidated effort.

2.3.5.3 For advocacy activities on national and international level constructing materials and advancing publicity:

For a long time the landless organizations have been waging movements/struggle to establish their rights on khas land, rehabilitation of people rendered homeless by river erosion, ill-effects of tobacco cultivation, rules on use of government’s common property and other issues. At times these issues were raised at zila and national level. But most of the research works on these issues are in English and at the same time information on issues like tobacco cultivation, river erosion, rules on use of common property is not sufficient. As a result there is dearth of information on these issues both among the landless groups as well as the professional groups. In this

situation NK, in the activity year, has translated a research report in Bangla and is trying to formulate a concept paper by collecting some information. Bangla publication will ease the dissemination of information among the staff. This will advance the qualitative change of the staff.

- In the activity year with the assistance of Human Development Research Centre (HDRC) two research books on khas land “Political Economy of Khas Land in Bangladesh”, “A Case of Colossal National Waste” are being translated in Bangla. These will be published in the next activity year. With the publication of these two books it will be possible to disseminate information about the present state of khas land, usage and legal complications among people of different starta. This will enable in motivating general masses at local and national level in favour of landless people.
- In the activity year with the support of “Alliance for Development Support and Co-operation” (ADSC) issue based minor research work is being conducted by collecting information from the field. The issues are: Tobacco Cultivation, “Small and Marginal Farmer and Life of the Labourer and it’s Impact on the Environment”, “Overall Life in the River Eroded Areas Specially it’s Impact on Women and Children”, “Identification of Common Property and the Complication Relating to it’s Use”. It may be mentioned that two papers have already been completed. By organizing seminars and workshops at various levels efforts are being made to present these issues before the masses.
- A workshop, “Human Right Based Approach to Development” was organized jointly by UNDP (United Nations Development Programme) and office of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). Nijera Kori was selected to present case study on Right Based Approach in this workshop. NK formulated the case studies by residing in the work areas and presented them to Executive Director, Mr. Colin Gonsalves, “Human Rights Law Network” (CRLND), New Delhi, India.
- In the activity year NK jointly with the “Innovators” are working against the World Bank Indemnity Bill and are conducting IFI Watch activities. Already IFI watch is working to create awareness among the general masses against passing of the World Bank Indemnity Bill in the national assembly. Like publication of two “IFI Watch” titled quarterly bulletin in Bangla, (it’s English version was published in the “Innovator’s web-site) and by distributing these at various zila and thana levels an attempt is being made to present the true picture to general masses. Especially, these are extensively discussed in landless organization’s group meetings. In some activity area the landless groups have organized protest procession, gathering and drama against indemnity bill and have created a situation among the grass root people for resistance. Letters were written to all the members of the national assembly to take stand against the Indemnity Bill. Though, in the discussion, in the national assembly, few members stood against the bill, it did not create much public opinion. But effort is on going to create pressure and queries at policy-making level by discussing with individual personalities and organizations at national level. It may be mentioned that the partner organizations together with

international networks are trying to create awareness at international level and are trying to create pressure on the policy makers. At present the Indemnity Bill is in the agenda for discussion in the national assembly.

- Fian International Organised an opinion sharing meeting on 2 August 2004. NK made all the arrangement for this meeting. In the meeting previous fact finding mission report was discussed and in Bangladesh Fian branch got recognition. In the activity year NK is activity participating in implementing Fian's policy in Bangladesh.
- To protest against fundamental groups' perennials bomb attacks, murder, terrorist activities and women's persecution a national alliance has been formed named "Nari Morcha". NK actively participates in protest, procession, convention, discussion meeting etc arranged by the "Morcha" all over the country, NK took the responsibility to collect mass signature of grass root people when a country wide mass signature campaign was organized to demand over all security of the people. As a result in the activity area at grass root level people are increasing becoming vocal against fundamental power group and mutual unity is flourishing between the grass root people and the alliance at national level.
- In NK's Noongola, Bogra's training center two week long international workshop was organized jointly by "Britta" and NK, Artist from various areas of Bangladesh participated in this workshop using local ingredients in their art week. In the open function on 10 February 2005 about 500 students and teachers of Dhaka and Rajshahi's Art Institutes and from national level professional personalities participated. As a result for the first time the activities of NK was exposed to a vast section of people. Many among them were inspired and pledged that they would support the grass root people's struggle on various issues.
- **Rights and development:** In December 2004 a working seminar was organized in Santiago, Chilli. Inter American Development Bank, the United Nations Economic Commission on Latin America (ECLAC, Division of Human Right), The World Bank and Development jointly organized it for International Development (DFID). The organizing groups selected Nijera Kori as case study. In the seminar Nijera Kori presented case study. In view of all the case studies the participants of various countries identified as high light "Right and Development" for it's controversial argument s and this case special significance.
- In the activity year mutual discussion has been concluded between Nijera Kori and Human Rights Law Network (HRLN) New Delhi, India, to conduct joint activities on issues of human rights. In the next activity year it is hoped that activities will start.
- In the activity year Nijera Kori, jointly with ISANET (Industrial Shrimp Network) EJF (Environmental Justice Foundation) and the Swallows are actively working to intensify the collecting and dissemination of information on commercial shrimp culture have seen published in various international news papers.

- In the activity year more articles on khas land/water bodies, commercial shrimp culture, militancy, dislodgement, persecution of women etc were published than last year. As a result the grass root people have made themselves heard at national level and it is making a positive mark in motivating the general masses.
- National Adivasi Coordination Committee (NACC), Bangladesh Adivasi Forum (BAM) and Hill Tracts NGO Forum (HTNF) jointly organised “National Round Table Conference on Emerging Issues of Indigenous peoples in Bangladesh”. In this conference, The Minority Rights Group International, London (MRG), pledged financial assistance. But the organisers of the conference were legally restricted from accepting the grant and hence sought Nijera Kori’s assistance. Nijera Kori on their behalf accepted the grant. As a result the particular conference was organized on 24-25 March 2005. It may be mentioned that though Nijera Kori is not directly involved on the adivasi issues, Nijera Kori at times undertakes responsibilities to carry out certain activities relating to the adivasi community and their relationship is one of mutual support and understanding.
- Forest People Programme (FPP) UK, Bangladesh, Thailand and 10c and GEF (Global Environment Facility) in Philippines are now preparing two research-oriented case studies. In this programme, Nijera Kori has been selected as permanent partner in Bangladesh. The case studies concentrate on the aspects of life and livelihoods of the coastal people, the coastal environment and its ecology. This work will involve documentary depiction of life of the grass root people and will be shown to international viewers. As a result Nijera Kori will have a stronger relationship with international organizations and personalities.

<p>Landless Organization’s Participation In Gaining International Recognition</p>
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<p>Names of 1,000 women members have been proposed for this year’s (2005), Nobel Peace prize. In January 05 the official nomination paper, signed jointly by Swiss Federal Council Mechellin Camyr and 1000 Peace Women Organization, has been sent to Nobel Peace Prize Committee in Oslo. Selected from a world-wide selection from among thousands of women are the names of 4 landless organization’s women members– they are Nanda Rani, Ebadan, Rahela and Sufia. Their names</p>

are enlisted in Nobel Peace Prize list.

Nanda Rani Das

Nanda Rani Das (45) comes from Gaibandha zila, Shaghata thana in Zharabarsha village. Though the constitution of Bangladesh guarantees equal rights for all its citizens, irrespective of race, religion, sect or gender, in reality it is not so. Nanda Rani was born in a Hindu fisherman family entrenched in stark poverty. In Bangladesh, Hindus community is a minority and is often marginalised. Furthermore, the status of Nanda Rani being that of a lower caste Hindu women meant that she faced systematic persecution without receiving proper justice. As Nanda Rani belonged to a minority community, at one stage, Muslim land grabbers from her own village, Narhsi, forcibly dislodged her whole family. As a result, she and her family came to Zharabarsha village and started living as refugees. Here despite facing extreme financial hardship, Nanda Rani got involved with the landless groups in their fight for establishing the rights of the landless people, in particular for the right of ownership of parental property of the Hindu minority community. Nanda Rani was the first person to organize movement in this area to establish the right to parental property and she received huge support. For this reason the rich Muslim and Hindu vested groups in the area gave her several death threats and filed false cases against her. But she remained indomitable. Instead, the landless organizations and members of the civil society organized countrywide meetings, conventions, discussions, workshops, and processions to raise awareness amongst all people regarding this issue. In Nanda Rani's activity area, the women of the poor landless groups, especially those belonging to the Hindu community, have become more aware about their rights under her leadership. Though Nanda Rani lives in stark poverty, has had numerous cases against her and has had faced threats time and again she stands strong as the vanguard of a just cause.

Ebadan Bibi

Ebadan Bibi (60) of the Rangpur zila, Hossain Naga village is an active participant in the fight for rights of the landless groups. Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain is the torchbearer of the women's liberation movement in the sub-continent. Ebadan Bibi has made a significant contribution in the endeavor to make the observation of the Rokya Dibash a popular event, openly defying the fundamentalist groups in the area. At one time the fundamental groups declared fatwa against Ebadan Bibi for violating the Islamic rule of wearing purdah and for participating in activities outside the house. But she continued in her efforts to organize landless groups to fight for their rights. A large number of landless people have become organized and gained strength under the influence of Ebadan Bibi acting against the interest of the backward vested power group. The fundamental power groups in Bangladesh have come to realize that they will not be able to withstand the united strength of the ordinary people.

Rahela Khatun

Rahela Khatun (40) comes from the Noyai village, under Paikgacha thana, Khulna. Abandoned by her husband, Rahela lives with her mother, brothers and sisters and is the only earning member in the family. She earns her living by catching fish and working as a day labourer. Rahela's village and all the adjoining villages are within shrimp cultivation. Rahela has been organising resistance against shrimp cultivation by motivating the people in the locality and imparting information regarding the ill effects of shrimp cultivation. As a result, the owners of the shrimp ghers started threatening her. In connivance with the local administration the gher owners lodged case against her in the thana. But under the leadership of Rahela Khatun, a massive people's movement developed in the locality against the terrorist activities practiced by the shrimp cultivators, the ill effects on ecology due to shrimp cultivation and other detrimental conditions created by shrimp cultivation. In 2000 government of Bangladesh declared the locality in Rahela's area as a shrimp zone. Rahela organized the landless organization to lodge a case against this declaration in the higher courts. The court gave verdict that the declaration by the government was illegal. It was due to Rahela's staggering effort together with the united endeavour of the common people that the area, 22 No. Polder, is still free from shrimp cultivation. Rahela says, "Now I am one of those people who can speak against injustice, organize people against the process of social degeneration, actively struggle to establish our rights and earn a livelihood."

Sufia Khatun

Sufia Khatun (38), from the Atabarpur village, Chandina thana, Comilla, comes from a very poor family. She was married to a rickshaw puller who also lived in extreme poverty. After her marriage, Sufia faced persecution by her husband's family and struggled to ameliorate her suffering. Sufia organized the landless women in her village and formed a samity. In this samity they pledged to work against all sorts of deprivation, persecution and fundamental invasion. This samity gradually started influencing the adjoining localities and eventually the landless women from adjoining villages started getting organized and finally, under Sufia's leadership an anchalic committee was formed in the area. However, the fundamentalist groups were active and strong in the area and felt uncomfortable and threatened by the organized landless groups, in which both men and women worked side by side. The mullahs started declaring fatwa against women who were working freely. Sufia initiated a resistance by organizing processions, conventions, public performance of thematic songs and dramas. The activities of Sufia and her groups started generating confidence among the people in the locality and the fundamental group began to retreat. At the same time the administration also started recognizing the power of a united struggle. Sufia observed that when she spoke alone against the social injustice, the administration gave a deaf ear, but when a united movement was organized the administration was forced to take heed.

2.3.6 Accountability and Implementation of Activities:

Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Process:

Nijera Kori plans, monitors and makes assessments using three means. Firstly, Nijera Kori organises yearly group meetings amongst the landless groups, representative meetings, workshop committee meetings, experience exchange tours and group conventions. Activities are monitored and achievements are analyzed.

Secondly, weekly staff meeting, monthly divisional and quarterly Nirbahi Parishad meetings, staff-representative meetings, level-wise field tours by staff-representative, experience gathering tours, staff conventions and councils ensure the participation of all persons.

Thirdly, activities are analyzed in the General and Karjakori Parishad meetings. Accountability is ensured and the activities monitored by the tours undertaken by the representatives of partner organizations and representatives at field level, through the partner meetings and above all by the review of the activities carried out by experienced personalities from time to time.

2.3.6.1 Participation of Landless Organizations in Planning, Monitoring and Analyzing:

- The groups through 7,767 yearly meetings analyze the group activities and approve the next activity year's plan. This participation has increased since last year.
- By organizing 254 group conventions at villages, unions, thanas and divisions the activities of particular areas are analyzed and next activity year's plan is formulated in the view of the experiences of the groups.
- In various work areas 1,059 representative meetings, 915 joint meetings and 2,672 various level's committee meetings are held. In these meetings the group representatives and committee members review the present position of the activities, identify their successes and failures, decide on the necessary actions to be taken and by doing so revise the activities regularly and perform their duties.
- By organizing 102 workshops the activities are reviewed and analyzed and a new work plan is formulated in the light of new experience.
- The group members participate in experience sharing activities at the divisional level. For doing so the members move from one area to another area and reside in each for a week. As a result they can compare their own activities with the activities of other areas and can identify the success and failure of the project and gain experience to help formulate the policy.

Experience Sharing Tour: Landless Organizations

Six members of the landless group members visited Dhanbari as a part of the experience sharing activity. Ahmed Ali (28), one of the six members, comes from Sherpur zila, Shribordi thana under the Tatiyahati village. Three years ago he had formed an organization at his own initiative. At present he is undertaking the task of revenue secretary. He organized the food and lodging for the six members group in Dhanbari during their experience sharing tour. A member of the women's organization, Rehana Begum from Dhanbari, provided lodging to Ahmed Ali in her house. Her husband, a day labourer, though not a member of the landless group gives the landless organizations his full support. The arrangement was such that breakfast was provided by Rehana Begum but lunch and dinner was provided in turn by other members of the landless group. During this brief stay the families of Rehana Begum and Ahmed Ali became very close. Ahmed Ali said, "I have come from another area. Here I did not have any relation, but now we feel as if we are related. Rehana is my sister. This has been possible because of the landless organizations. This relationship does not promote self-interest, our dream is for the entire landless organization and all our endeavours are also for this purpose." Dhanbari is one of the oldest work areas. On the other hand, area activities in Shribordi activity started in 2002. Ahmed Ali, being newly acquainted with activities in the new area relates his experiences as such:

- In Shribordi activity area the process of determining the agenda in group meetings, the efficiency of the method of conducting and ensuring every body's participation is weak.
- In Dhanbari's organizational activities the planning process of the members is stronger than that of Shribordi.
- We have not been able to generate mutual respect in our dealings among the members in Shribordi yet.
- We are still weak in determining local issues, organizing movements and dealing with risk factors.
- In Dhanbari area accountability of the leaders, joint ventures and group solidarity are much stronger.
- Relationship of landless organizations with other sections of people is much stronger as well.
- I never realized that cultural activities could play such a vital role in the activities of the landless organizations.
- Fundamentalist groups are very active in Shribordi. But we have not been able to counter these activities as they have done in Dhanbari which also faces similar menace of fundamental activities.

Ahmed Ali's comment:

I come from another area. I have stayed five days in sister Rehana's house. I have not noticed any ill feeling in the locality regarding this. The members in turn supplied the food. This is what landless organizations are all about; a concept which we have not been able to develop as yet in our area. In the past I did not have any opportunity to gather real knowledge from actual experience. The various activities of Dhanbari, including group meetings, committee meetings, forum meetings, staging of drama, rendition of people's songs, participation in processions, organising gherao and movement, have taught me some very important lessons. I will apply this experience in our work area. I feel that organising resistance against fundamental activities and persecution of women in Shribordi should be our first priority.

2.3.6.2 The NK staff in Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Process

- In the yearly group meetings the policies, activities, risk factors and steps to be taken for their reduction are formulated and are reviewed in the sub-centre meetings. On the basis of this, the staff formulates the draft policy. Reviewing the activities makes the complete activity plan, identifying the problems and considering the risk factors in monthly and yearly staff meetings. Besides, by reviewing and analyzing activities in the regular weekly meetings at the sub-centers and in the monthly divisional meetings, new ideas and experiences are added or subtracted to make the plan more realistic.
- It has been possible to hold yearly divisional staff conventions. This has enabled to make divisional plans in the light of real experience by consolidating the activities by the process of reviewing them in totality, identifying the strengths and weaknesses, weighing the risk factors and considering scopes for improvement.
- It has been possible to hold regularly bi-monthly divisional parishad meetings, and quarterly executive parishad meetings. As a result necessary actions were taken in the light of experience gathering tours by the representatives and by reviewing, analyzing and identifying risks and weakness of the activities.
- In the activity year staff council was organized. Nijera Kori's total plan was formulated by reviewing the activities of the four divisions. Besides, the staff discussed exhaustively the policy and strategy of Nijera Kori.
- In the activity year representatives' meetings were held twice. In the meetings plans were made by reviewing all the activities and also by reviewing mid-term activities and exchanging experiences. Besides, in the representative meetings there were discussions on administration, account, report and necessary steps were determined.
- Regular organisational and training cell meetings were held. In the meetings detailed discussions were held on organizational and training activities and the necessary mode of operation was determined to overcome the weaknesses and shortcomings.
- In the activity year experience sharing activities were carried out at the staff level. As a result the staff could analyse their activities themselves and identify their own strength and weakness and formulate a plan for future action.

2.3.6.3 Analysis of activities, participation of experienced personalities in assessing achievement:

Nijera Kori's general and executive parishad meetings were held regularly. The report was approved after being presented and reviewed. For sanctioning the proposed yearly budget, the members discussed the executive parishad's quarterly financial report and proposed quarterly budget before giving approval. By reviewing the activities the members gave suggestions that enabled Nijera Kori to achieve its goal.

- In the activity year mid-term review was held in agreement with all the partner organizations and experienced personalities. By analyzing the progress of the activities the report was duly approved. Some of the proposals of the report were already implemented in Nijera Kori's staff representative meeting & council meeting 2004 other proposals have been implemented and practiced in the activity year at field-level.
- In the activity year a two- day- long partner meeting was held. The representatives of Christian Aid, DFID, EED, ICCO, Swallows and Inter Pares participated in the meeting. It may be mentioned that before the partner's meeting was held, representative of Inter Pares and EED toured at field level to ensure first hand experience. As a result the review and analysis of activities in the partner's meeting was made easier. But it was the mid-term review that was the deciding factor in formulating future action.

Lessons Learnt:

The staffs on the basis of policy of the landless groups adopt plans. But weaknesses are apparent in analyzing issues and risks in the activity areas. Hence, qualitative change of policy is comparatively less. For qualitative implementation of plan it is necessary to organize a workshop for increasing the efficiency of the staff.

2.3.7 Other follow-up activities:

2.3.7.1 Research Work:

The group members and Nijera Kori both felt the need to activate objective research on commercial shrimp cultivation. Despite good intentions activities on research work could not start due to lack of finding right person or persons and organization. In the activity year RAS (Research and Advisory Services) has taken the responsibility on behalf of Nijera Kori to conduct a research named "A Research Based Study of Brackish-Water Shrimp Cultivation in Coastal Bangladesh". The report of this research work will be published in 2006-2007.

Follow-up activities:

2.3.7.2 Role of the Elected Members in Union Parishad (UP).

Landless members have been nominated for the supervision of development work in five Union Parishad (UP) committees formed during last year. A total number of 158 landless members comprising of 116 male and 42 female members have supervised the development activities of 57 Union Parishad (UP)s last year.

Members Contesting In Union Parishad Election

Parishad elections were not held in Charjabbar's No. 19 Charwapda and Comilla zila's Rasulpur union due to the filing of a law-suit regarding the last elections. In the activity year these two union parishad elections were held. In the meeting, the relevant village committee put forward names of nominees to participate in the elections. Later, guided by the anchalic committee leaders a representative meeting was held attended by representatives of every group. After careful evaluation in the meeting, the landless organizations selected 13 members for contesting in the election – 8 in the open seats and five in the reserved seats.

In the election a total of 7 landless members were elected - 5 males in the reserved seats and 2 females in the open seats. Compared to the number of contestants the percentage of elected members is 58%. For conducting the election

Name of Union Parishad	Contested and Elected			
	Contestant		Elected	
	Open Seat	Reserved Seat	Open Seat	Reserved Seat
Charwapda	3	2	2	1
Rasulpur	5	3	3	1
Total	8	5	5	2

every member went from door to door introducing the candidate to the voters and explaining the election agenda. Processions were organized in each area and the campaigning was done mainly through staging street dramas and singing songs. The voters were also warned about the possibility of vote rigging. It may be mentioned that for the purpose of election campaigning microphones, loudspeakers, leaflets, posters promoting the candidates were not used. On average each candidate spent about Tk 2,165 for election campaigning whereas the opposition candidate spent about Tk. 30,000 – 35,000 each. On average against each landless group candidate 4 opposition candidates stood in the election. Many candidates sought the approval of the landless organisation. The landless organisations reviewed the past activities of each candidate and tried to build a strong alliance by establishing good relationships with their allies. As a result in 2 unions the landless groups supported 2 Chairman candidates and 10 member candidates. This proves that landless organizations can play a crucial and influential role in elections. As a result the opposition has found it impossible to get elected despite spending money, perpetrating terrorist activities and attempting to rig the elections.

2.3.7.3 Information Center:

To reinforce advocacy activities two information gathering and dissemination centers are in operation in Khulna and Noakhali. It is reinforcing information on commercial shrimp cultivation, violation of human rights, commercial tobacco cultivation, forcible occupation of khas land and usage etc. As a result local and national newspapers are publishing more news on these issues. But Noakhali information center needs to be made stronger by re-structuring.

2.3.7.4 Development, Democracy, Society and Culture related training:

Nijera Kori's partner organization Swallows – at the proposal of Sweden is conducting all Thanapara Swallows Development Society's training for qualitative improvement of all level of staffs. In the activity year 5 trainings were conducted comprising three types of participants – general and executive parishad members and trainers. The activity year is the last year for training activity signed for a three year contract.

2.3.7.5 Health Watch Committee and Activities:

In 1999 in Nijera Kori's work areas 12 (4 thana, 48 union level) health watch committees were formed that operated within Health and Population Strategy Project (HPSP) sector at the initiative of Health and Women Welfare Ministry. These committees did not get government recognition and at present new committees have been formed in place of HPSP. As a result the new committees comprising representatives from professional groups as well as the members of the landless groups are operating independently as health watch committees. These committees are gathering information on various aspects of health service such as responsibility of the doctors, interaction with the partners, rendering health service for money by the hospitals, the process of distribution of free medicine etc. At the same time these committees are conducting activities to motivate the people to go to hospital for medical and suggestions and to realize the reality that health service is not a grant but it is fundamental right of the people.

2.3.7.6 Construction of Anchal Office:

In the last activity year the construction of Gaibandha office was started and it has been completed this year. Construction committee supervised the activities of the construction.

2.3.7.7 Administration and Budget:

In the activity year 68 staffs have been appointed. Out of this 55 persons have joined in the work areas, 18 persons left after initial training. At present the number of staff in the organizations is 418 (male 289 and female 129). Out of these, 103 male and female staff are involved as service staff. In the activity year various partner organizations have made a grant of Tk. 62,251,188.84 and the total expenditure is Tk. 66,668,144.42 (Detail information is given in annual review report).

Output - 01

Social mobilisation with poor men and women in NK work areas at village, union, thana and regional levels sustained and expanded.

Indicators of progress:

- Number of new groups, village, union & thana committees formed as planned with increased participation of women in the committees.
- Regular elections of NK committees at various levels held (village, union, thana).
- Women members elected to open posts within NK committees at various levels.
- Progression of groups to higher levels of maturity as per NK's strategy noticed.
- Quantitative and qualitative indicators of NK's involvement in collective activities of wider Grassroots People's Organizations at thana and higher levels noticed.

Result

- In the activity year, a total number of 829 groups including 404 male and 429 groups were formed against the planning of 1,197 groups in total with 592 male and 605 female groups. As per plan the rate of achievement is 69%.
- Around 19 committees at village level and one committee at union level was formed last activity year against the planning of 70 committees at village level, 25 committees at union level and 1 committee at anchalic level.
- Nk activities could be extended to 34 villages and 28 villages have come under village coverage during the last activity year.
- In the activity year, there was the plan to hold 196 group conventions, 54 group conventions at union level, 4 at thana and 38 at anchalic level. The achievement was holding of 207 village level conventions, 19 conventions at union level, 3 conventions at thana level and 25 conventions at anchalic level.
- Last year around 201 female members were elected in open posts of various committees by winning the polls contested by both male and female candidates. The number of female members in village committees are 153, union – 32, thana – 4 and anchalic – 12. The rate is 26% higher than last year. This is a clear indicator of women's empowerment and advancement in joint leadership.
- There was the planning that around 259 groups including 138 male groups and 125 female groups would be promoted from primary level to secondary level. But, the stratification could not be achieved fully in the activity year.
- The landless groups held 68,561 group meetings at their own initiative during the activity year. This is 17% more than last year. This advancement trend induced in upholding group responsibility is a definite indicator of self-sufficiency.
- In the activity year, 3 committees were formed at the initiative of landless groups with the participation of professional groups to resist water logging, salinity and illegal grabbing of water bodies. It is to resolve various local problems that a number of initiatives are being taken in 46 activity areas.
- During the prolonged flood on last year, a total of taka 1,71,85,420/ was spent from group saving funds of Rajshahi, Dhaka and Chittagong divisions on emergency relief work for both group members and non-members. Apart from it, a total amount of tk. 1,52,45,146 was spent from group savings for post flood

agricultural activities. As a result, a number of 18,854 families were benefited. This indicates self-sufficiency in combating temporary crisis.

- Moreover, around 1,700 groups could earn Tk. 52,42,789 profit from joint economic activities last year. The profit was distributed equally among all the members. As a result, financial needs of all the members concerned at least for a week were fulfilled.

Output- 02

Poor women and men in the working areas of Nijera Kori became more aware of their civil, political, economic, and social rights, including gender equality.

Indicators of progress:

- Knowledge of the landless on entitlement forms and procedures relating to various government services increased.
- Group members received basic, advanced and higher training.

Result

- Through regular discussions the group members are becoming increasingly aware regarding their constitutional rights and privileges as citizens of the state.
- It was possible to arrange 702 meetings with government officials to hold discussion regarding the problems, needs and irregularities relating to government service sectors like health and education. As a result, it has become easier for the grass-root peoples to avail these government facilities and at the same time it has strengthened the accountability process.
- In the activity year 3 schools were established at the initiative of the groups. At present the member of schools at primary level is 30, 4 at lower secondary level and 1 at night school. It is to be noted that the benefits and facilities permissible under government rules and regulations are being ensured in running these schools.
- The landless groups have spent Tk. 28,198 has been spent from their group savings to conduct their activities. Besides, as they have very transparent idea regarding rule of law, the groups have been able to retrieve the fund misappropriated by the corrupt officials.
- The tendency to avail free treatment from the hospitals by the group members in sickness is increasing. Consequentially, a pro-service taking attitude is developing amongst the members and on the other hand unnecessary expenditure is becoming less.
- In the activity year various trainings have been given to 4,807 members.
- In the activity year training on “Land Law and Management System”, and “Citizen’s rights and Constitutional Guarantees”, have been started newly at both group and staff level.
- Grass-root peoples are being able to gain transparency of ideas regarding social inequality and the causes behind it, state policy, management, law and constitutional rights.

Output - 03

Collective actions planned and taken by poor women and men in specific areas to:

3.1 Protest abuses and protect rights at community levels.

3.2 Increase security and access to resources and entitlements for the poor.

3.3 Improve accountability and operation of government services.

Indicators of progress:

- Successful protests on specific issues like violence against women, dowry etc. organised, village shalishes conducted successfully, number of salishes resolved in favour of the poor.
- Accountability of police in terms of reduced numbers of false arrests, payment of bribes etc. improved.
- Conflicts over access to *Khas* land & water bodies resolved successfully, land grabbing by elites for shrimp farming etc. reduced, wages of daily labourers increased.
- Campaign & watch committees on government food security & employment schemes, health & education services of both public and private sectors established.
- Legal cases supported by NK resolved in favour of the landless and other poor people.

Result

Protests at Local Level against Rights Violation and Rights Preservation

- The landless groups have been successfully formed 692 resistance movements last activity year on issues like repression towards women, aggressive fundamentalism, combating corruption, commercial shrimp culture, demand for salary hike and others. Of them, grass-root peoples have won in 609 issues. It is to be noted that support and participation of the professional groups have been ensured at each of the movements,
- The landless groups succeeded in arranging 1,164 rural arbitrations. Of them, 288 were held in leadership of female members of the landless groups, 588 were held in leadership of both male and female members of the landless groups and 288 were held in concerted initiatives of landless leaders as well as rural influential persons. Of those, the poor gained the decision in 1,112 arbitrations (Detailed Table- Annex 19).
- Around 27,644 members (male: 18,392 and female: 9,252) remain present as observers in rural arbitrations and a total number of 3,109 members (male: 2,280 and female: 829) were present as observers in those arbitrations and a total number of 3,109 members discharged their responsibilities as judges in those arbitrations. Now, the controllers of the money and power elite-shaped arbitration system are being bound to acknowledge the landless leaders as members of the rural arbitration system. As a result, level of corruption in rural justice/arbitration system is getting reduced while examples of righteous justice are influencing peoples from different professional groups in the society. After all, the poor people are being free of different sorts of harassment and too much expenditure.

- The landless group became successful in holding 11 press briefings at various work areas on multiple issues. As a result, popular support could be gained in local and national levels.

Increase of Security and Share in Resources:

- Around six development organizations issued writ petition under the leadership of *Nijera Kori* against the declaration of stating shoal lands of Noakhali as *Shrimp Zone*. Number of the writ petition was 5194/2004. As a result, habitat security and process of getting *khas* land for 40,000 families has been speedier.
- *Nijera Kori* also played role as a co-petitioner on the question of security of the Ahmadia community. Number of the writ petition was 7031/2004.
- The landless group could form 30 movements demanding for security. Besides, leaders of the landless groups could arrange discussion with the police officials on issue of security and ending police harassment. This is why attacks during the harvesting season and aggression of the fundamentalists have been reduced in the respective work areas (for a detailed report see Annex Table 22).
- Wages of the laborers have been increased at certain work areas because of the movement of the landless groups. These movements have resulted in enhanced demands for increased salary at other work areas.
- Around 577 landless families have got registration of 1,314 *khas* land as per government laws.
- A total number of 2,783 landless families could gain their control over 24,632 acres of *khas* land through movements.
- A total number of 60 group members could establish possession of the landless groups over the government *khas* water bodies amounting to 50 decimal by dispossessing the illegal grabbers.
- Around 26.70 acres of land could be regained from the illegal occupation of the grabbers through movements of the landless groups last activity year.
- Four illegal shrimp zones could be evicted through movement of the landless groups resulting in recovery of 420 acres of land of 1,013 families. (Detailed Table 20, 21 annex).

Activities of government service program and accountability have been increased:

- Around three committees could have been formed at joint initiatives of the landless groups and professional sections. A total number of 46 committees are now performing their role as *watch committees* in different work areas resulting in a higher rate of revealing corruption and combating it with success.
- The landless group members have been nominated as president of *Development Activities Supervisory Committees* as formed in five Union Parisads (UP). A total number of 157 members (male 115 and female 42) are performing their duties in 61 Union Parisads (UP). As the members perform their activities in counseling and participation from the group, no scope for irregularities and corruption of the landless group are remaining any longer.

- The elected landless members including 505 members in the School Management Committees, 222 members in the Market Management Committees and five nominated members in the Sugarcane Purchasing Committees are collecting information on a regular basis. In case of any sort of mismanagement or irregularities, the landless members of the committees are raising questions and claiming for accountability. They are also informing the landless organizations for creating concerted pressure. As a result, presence rate and quality of lessons of the teachers are increasing per education rules as well as extraction of illegal toll or influence of the brokers in rural markets is getting reduced. The small farmers are becoming able to sale sugar cane in due time. It is to be noted that the landless groups are being successful to recover their dues in case of corruption through their struggle.
- The stakeholder committee is now running its activities self-independently as *health watch committees*. The committees are being capable to gather information on various aspects of health service programme including duty of the doctors, behaviour of the health personnel with the service takers, free grant of treatment and medicine etc. The committees are also raising questions in the meetings held with the service giver authorities regarding various irregularities on basis of the available information. They are also taking steps collectively. They have also been conducting activities to create awareness on the very theme that getting health service is no grant rather a constitutionally recognized fundamental right.
- A total number of 255 cases were filed in the last activity year. Trial of 62 cases has been completed last year. Of them, decisions of 53 cases have come in favor of the organization. The organization has appealed to the higher court in rest nine cases.
- Apart from movement, the landless groups have also taken strategy of legal battle in the last activity year. The members, being plaintiff on their own parts, have filed 75 lawsuits against the land-grabber shrimp cultivators. Thus, the shrimp cultivators are facing number of questions and their sole hierarchy is also being affected.
- The landless groups spent a total 94,595/ taka from their group savings for conducting movement and helping families of the arrested members.

Output - 04

Poor people gain more influence over local level administrative and political arenas and related decision-making processes.

Indicators of progress:

- Increased number of landless women & men elected to local power structures like union councils, shalish, school, health service and bazaar management committees;
- Gender balanced village committees formed in areas of matured groups;
- Regular meetings with local government officials and politicians on specific issues held.
- Pro-poor politicians (from different parties) supported on case-by-case basis.

Result

- In the activity year, two Union Parisad (UP) elections were held at 19 no. Char Wapda of Char Jabbar region and Rasulpur Union Parisad of Comilla which could not earlier be held for litigations. In the election, a total number of seven landless members including five men in open posts and two women in reserved seats won the election. It is to be noted that each landless members had to contest with four candidates and each landless candidate incurred only 2,165/ taka as election cost while the expenditure borne by other contestants were 30,000-35,000/ taka.
- The landless group supported ten candidates for the post of membership including two candidates for the chairman post. Of them, nine were elected including two candidates being elected to the situation of chairman.
- Five landless members in five Union Parisads (UP were nominated to the *supervisory committees of development work*). A total number of 157 landless members comprising of 115 male and 42 female members are now performing their duties in such committees at present.
- A total number of 201 members (male 158 and female 43) contested in the 75 school management committees. Around 169 members (129 males and 40 females) were elected in the 75 school management committees. A total number of 505 members (male 432 and female 73) are now performing their duties.
- A total number of 41 landless members (male 39 and female 2) contested at 16 market supervisory committees. Of them, 39 were elected (male 38 and female 2). At present, 222 landless members including 214 male and eight women are discharging their duties.
- Five landless members are performing their responsibilities at five Sugar cane Purchasing committees.
- Near about 2303 meetings were held at initiative of the landless group with the concerned administration and various professional groups on issues like *khas* land and water bodies, repression against women, terrorist activities, natural calamities and relief work, law and order situation etc. It was 46% less than last year. On the other hand, around 1643 dialogues were held at initiatives of the administration and professional groups with the landless groups which is 12% more than last year. It indicates the growing power and social recognition of the landless groups.

Output - 05

Improved organisational capacity of Nijera Kori and its members for learning, advocacy and coalition building at national and international levels

Indicators of progress:

- Documentation of cases and lessons learnt, in Bangla & English Improved;
- Media coverage of rights and policy issues raised by NK increased;

- NK's participation in campaigns initiated by other organizations as well as participation of other organizations in campaigns of NK increased.

Result

- It is for the skill development of NK employees, that around 300 NK employees got basic, advanced, higher, cultural, land law and management as well as gender workshop and training. Besides, experience sharing tour at both the group member and employee level could be arranged in the activity year through which the monitoring process is being more effective.
- As the 'Gender Case Study' and 'Mid Term Review Report (MTR)' was drafted in Bangla, it could be well-distributed among all the employees of the Nijera Kori (NK).
- In the activity year, translation of two research books in Bangla styled "Political Economy of Khas Land in Bangladesh" and "Political Economy of Land Laws in Bangladesh" has started. The books would be published in the next year. Publication of these two books would help in disseminating information regarding the present state of *khas* land, usage and legal complications among people belonging to different strata.
- Research and Advisory Services (RAS), on behalf of Nijera Kori (NK), has taken the responsibility to conduct a research styled "A Research Based Study of Brackish-Water Shrimp Cultivation in Coastal Bangladesh." The report of this research work would be published in 2006-07.
- Two issue based research works are being conducted by collecting information from the field in the current activity year with the support of Alliance for Development Support and Co-operation (ADSC). The two research-works are "Tobacco Cultivation: Small and Marginal Farmer and Life of the Laborer and It's Impact on the Environment" and "River Erosion: Overall Life in the River Eroded Areas and It's Impact on Women and Children."
- It is in the initiatives of Forest Peoples Program (FPP) and help of Nijera Kori (NK) that the work of preparing policy based case study in context of the *Sunderban Bio-diversity Conservation Project* has started.
- Two information collection and dissemination centers are in operation now in Khulna and Noakhali districts to reinforce advocacy activities. It is rearranging information on commercial shrimp cultivation, violation of human rights, commercial tobacco cultivation, forcible occupation of *khas* land and usage etc.
- More news and articles on khas land/water bodies, commercial shrimp culture, militancy, dislodgement, persecution of women etc. were published in the national and local print media in the activity year. As a result, the grass-root peoples are making themselves heard at national level and is making a positive mark in motivating the general masses.
- During the last activity year, a documentary on Commercial Shrimp Industry in Bangladesh was showed in Channel 4, a Private TV Channel of UK. The show could create consciousness among international viewers on impact of shrimp culture on environment, life and livelihoods of peoples.

- Last year, NK made also a 20-minutes' documentary movie depicting the actual scenario of shrimp cultivation and its impact in coastal zone over the lives and livelihoods of its peoples and the coastal ecology.
- A two-days' long national workshop was held in 4-5 April, 2004 styled "Terrorism based Commerce, Democracy and Rights of the Poor." Moreover, two district level workshops were also held.
- NK, in concerted efforts with the "Innovators" are working against the World Bank Indemnity Bill and are conducting IFI Watch activities. An attempt is being made to present the true picture of general masses through publication of two IFI Watch quarterly bulletins in Bangla.
- In December 2004, a working seminar was organized in Santiago, Chilli. It was jointly organized by Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the United Nations Economic Commission on Latin America (ECLAC, Division of Human Rights), World Bank (WB) and Development for International Development (DFID). The organizing groups selected Nijera Kori (NK) as a case study. In view of all the case studies the participants of various countries identified and highlighted "Right and Development" for it's controversial arguments.
- One workshop styled "Human Right Based Approach to Development" was organized jointly by UNDP (United Nations Development Program) and Office of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).
- In NK's Noongola, Bogra Training Center a two weeks' long International Art Workshop was organized jointly by *Britta* and NK. At the inaugural session, about 500 students and teachers of Dhaka and Rajshahi Art Institutes and from national level professional personalities participated on 10 February 2005. The NK activities were thus exposed to a vast section of people for the first time.
- This year, Nijera Kori (NK), jointly with ISANET (Industrial Shrimp Network), EJF (Environmental Justice Foundation) and the Swallows are actively working to intensify the collection and dissemination of information regarding commercial shrimp culture. These have been published in various international newspapers.
- NK is also actively working as a member of Bangladesh Peoples' Initiative against River Linking Project (BPIRL). It has been possible to organize workshops and seminars at national level on the river linking issue.
- National Adivasi Coordination Committee (NACC), Bangladesh Adivasi Forum (BAF) and Hill Tracts NGO Forum (HTNF) jointly organized National Round Table Conference on Emerging Issues of Indigenous Peoples in Bangladesh.
- To protest against fundamentalist groups' perennial bomb attacks, murder, terrorist activities and women's persecution, a national alliance was formed styled "Nari Morcha."
- This year four landless women group members from four different remote regions of Bangladesh have been selected for Noble acclaim.

Trend Of Important Changes At Different Levels As Identified By The Group Members And Staff Through Internal Review Processes

1. Impacts on Social Spheres

Concerted activities of the landless groups have induced a positive change of attitude towards the landless peoples in various social institutions from the grass-root to the state level. The landless groups' actions have largely contributed in changing various reactionary factors prevailing in the society. The landless group members are successfully changing themselves from within their families and carrying this change into larger spheres of the society, thus being capable of bringing an affirmative and constructive shift in the attitudinal behavior of the wide masses towards them. The entire process of change of this social environment or sphere can be reviewed under the following categories:

A) At the family level:

One important factor of social mobilization program is to assign the change within the communities as having a pioneer role in eradicating social disparities and bringing positive changes in the society. Because these communities are cores of the society, all the social values and ideologies of the entire society are also existent within them. This is why they need to be aware or conscious of the prejudices that exist within themselves. Otherwise, they can never move towards a positive change. Furthermore, no massive societal shift can be attained without initiating the changing process at core level, i.e., the family level of society. This is why 'Nijera Kori' has adopted 'attitudinal change programs' at family level of the landless members. As a part of this program, the landless groups are more conscious regarding the following factors:

- Backdated outlooks of the landless members on issues such as keeping women uneducated or low educated, keeping the poor illiterate under the influential elite groups of the society and restricting the poor to low paying professions which are considered inferior have been changed over the centuries. The landless members now understand that these backdated outlooks have been set for them by the power elite to control the larger masses by keeping them in darkness and to continue social exploitation.
- Members of landless groups now emphasize on women's empowerment and gender relations. They are now learning to perceive women as human beings. They are fighting from within their homes against the multitude of social hindrances tying women behind. The result of this movement is the growing practice of equal treatment shown to male and female children in the families of landless members. Men and women members of landless families are now being given equal importance on issues like education, health, participation in economic activities and social activities.

STORY 1

Ebadun Bibi and her war: Ebadun Bibi, a woman day laborer from Pairaband, Rangpur was bound to marry only at 11 years of age. But, social taboos could not reduce her courage and spirit for the life. She used to offer shelter and food to the freedom fighters of Bangladesh in the Liberation War 1971.

As she had to work outside the house for an income, local fundamentalists issue religious sanction (*fatwa*) against her and her husband. She joined the landless group about 20 years back. Under her leadership, the landless organization of Pairaband, Rangpur started celebrating

Ebadun Bibi, while asked to comment on fundamentalist attack, answered in her Pairaband office, “ I demanded punishment of the war collaborators of 1971 in gathering of thousands of peoples in the Rokeya Day. I alerted the landless peoples regarding the *fatwa* against me and the fundamentalists’ aggressive role against the landless poor and women. They want to repress and confine women within four walls of the home. They fear women’s progress and this is why they attacked ‘Nijera Kori’ office. They think that ‘Nijera Kori’ is making us aware and i resisted them with help of the other landless members.”

Rokeya Day (an eminent woman thinker, writer and activist of Bangladesh) in 1990 and fundamentalist groups started pressurizing against it. Ebadun faced the whole situation including threat of murder or false cases charged against her fearlessly along with her organization. Local corrupt elite also rounded up her house. Rather she resisted the attack of fundamentalist forces on ‘Nijera Kori’ office with enthusiastic fervor. This poor and old woman is still fighting the evil forces like fundamentalism, poverty, corruption and other anti-woman social vices like early marriage, dowry, divorce etc. When a vested quarter, as backed by the government, tried to eject indigenous peoples from the Mithapukur area of Rangpur, she resisted it with the landless group.

b) **Rural Communities:** Landless groups are making major contributions in changing social structure with the aim being: to establish landless peoples’ rights in rural structure.

- Landless groups have appeared as parallel force in the social power structure of the Nijera Kori work areas. Strengthened position of the landless members in the rural establishments that used to discriminate towards the poor earlier is now causing to get their legal rights established. Besides, the social position of the landless peoples is getting stronger. Participation of the landless peoples in various social arbitrations (*salish*) and other social institutions are contributing largely in changing rural social structure.
- Large participation of landless women in rural social institutions is helping to change society’s outlook towards women. Gradual changes are being achieved in the male perception on issues like discrimination towards women, dowry, *fatwa*, child marriage, polygamy or fundamentalist attitudes. This is why women are now being able to participate in various social activities side by side with men. They are seen to take an important part in the village *shalish* or arbitration.

C) At the level of socially progressive forces: Activities of landless groups have been successful in establishing links with the progressive forces of the society. As a result, the work and endeavours of the landless peoples are getting recognition from the local to state level and their struggle to establish rights is progressing forward. It is because of the network established between the landless groups and progressive forces of the society causing the following positive shifts to take place:

- Recognition is being given to activities of landless groups from the grass-root to the state level and mass awareness is being built on the issue of rights of the landless peoples,
- The landless peoples have been successful in incorporating the progressive forces in their movements to attain rights,
- It is partly because of the network with the progressive forces and partly because of the over-all activities of the landless peoples that greater transparency has been brought in public welfare programs of the landless groups.

2) Economic Level:

The main aim of Nijera Kori' is to establish rights of the landless peoples through strengthening their position at economic level. Of the activities capable to bring key changes for the landless peoples are establishment of their rights in government *khas* land and water-bodies and earn the due share of their labor and landless groups emphasize on such sort of activities. Activities of the landless groups bringing changes in economic level of their life are as follow:

- Landless groups are becoming able to establish their rights over *khas* land and water-bodies and thus creating economic solvency. As a result, members of the landless groups are getting more opportunities of job allocation.
- Landless members are getting more scope to participate in economic activities than other communities. Joint economic ventures are helping in enhancing social solidarity among the landless groups and working as catalyst in transforming the group to attain characteristic of an independent and sovereign institution through economic strength.
- Apart from the landless groups, other marginal communities are also gaining the right to get equitable wage owing to the success of the landless groups in attaining it.
- Women's participation in economic activities are being ensured through establishment of the landless peoples' rights in *khas* land. As 'Nijera Kori' has been mobilizing movement for gender equality on use of land and government has decided in accordance with such claims, women's empowerment has become possible. Vast participation of women in economic activities at sides of men indicates their empowerment.
- Demand for proper due of labor has mobilized the women workers at a higher rate. It has resulted in awareness of women on question of right as well as wide participation of men in wage increase movement for women workers proves the attitudinal change of men towards women. The landless members have been able to understand that wage increase of women laborers means over-all economic sustainability of the landless families. Because, the money earned by women would be spend in the landless families. Thus, women's economic empowerment indicates the integrated economic development of the society at large.
- Women members of landless group are becoming involved in economic activities both within and outside home. As a result, a number of home-oriented and eco-friendly economic activities are creating a healthy environment to the society, which cannot be translated in mere monetary terms.
- Anti-shrimp cultivation movement of the landless groups is creating immense economic value as it has stopped vast ecological destruction caused by shrimp cultivation at some places.
- Because of the illegal usurpation of *khas* water-bodies by the rural elite, a number of landless peoples are getting sufferer of economic deprivations. It is owing to movement of the landless groups that the water-bodies are being freed of illegal usurpation, paving the ways for the landless peoples to continue their economic activities on the water-bodies. As a result, thousands of landless peoples are being able to earn their livelihoods from the water-bodies.
- 'Nijera Kori' has adopted 'joint economic activities' for both of its male and female members. It is because of the 'joint economic activities' programs for male and female members that male and female members, formerly unknown to each other, are coming closer and thus the deep-rooted patriarchal notion of male members are being changed.

STORY 2

Landless people's movement in Dumuria, Khulna: Bhadra, a 12-kilometres' long river, as bending its knee on both sides of her bank and gently touching 21 villages of three unions namely Sahas, Bhandarpara and Sharafpur unions, was the center of livelihoods for 7,000 peoples of the area. During the decades of 1990, some Abdul Jalil of the vicinity took lease of the river from the Ministry of Fishery for 10 years. He got it through his good network with the then government by illegal means. Later on, he embanked the river and started fish cultivation in the river. Use of this ancestral river, however, became forbidden for common people with severe economic and social

Sheikh Abdul Jalil, pioneer leader of this movement said, "Our organization is vast and strong. It is in the continuation of our struggle against various sort of injustices and oppression that we, the landless peoples, decided to evict this illegal *gher*. In order to attain this goal, we started opinion formation and sharing, procession and meetings in the village. Progressive political parties of the area, teachers, journalists and peoples of free thought joined us and conveyed their solidarity to our cause.

impact on them. Because, this river was source of their living as well as their social live-styles and merriments also used to rotate around this brook. The local landless groups, under such circumstances, mobilized peoples at both sides of the waterway and thus conducted their movement. As the government and its administration directly opposed the landless groups, the groups had to suffer various types of attack and oppression. They had to continue on their struggle for a long time amidst lot of torture and intimidation. The

landless group collected several thousands of signatures from all the villages of the vicinity and submitted that mass signature sheet to the Deputy Commissioner (DC) down the lowest strata of administration. This is why, the DC formed several probe committees but each of them opined against the landless peoples in their report as Abdul Jalil bribed them. The landless group, on October 10 1994, held an opinion-sharing meeting with around 1,000 peoples from different sections and occupation of the society on the bank of the Bhadra. Later, they held another assembly of several thousands peoples at the local Baniakhali High School on October 25. Numerous peoples including the then local MP expressed their solidarity with the meeting. Later, the landless peoples organized 40 road meetings in 21 villages and rounded up (*gheraoed*) the TNO office. On November 7, the death anniversary of Karunamoyee Sardar (a rural landless woman who died to fight illegal usurpation of small farmer's land by shrimp businessmen earlier in rural Khulna region), they further declared to evict the fishing *gher* as set up by Abdul Jalil on November 12 next. Accordingly, around 7,000 landless peoples sliced the embankment of the Telkhali village on November 12 and later they further cut guard of the Ganendrapur village. Leaders from local progressive organizations participated in the processions mobilized by the landless groups. Abdul Jalil charged a total number of 42 cases against the landless peoples the very next day and police assault on them had an increase. Several landless leaders were arrested and a number of landless members had to flight from their own habitats as an escape. They had to fight legal battle for next seven years and finally they got bail unconditionally. Although the landless peoples have attained success in establishing their rights over the river Bhadra of their hereditary use, conspiracies of the reactionary forces did not come to an end. Later, two national NGOs, tried to take lease of the river under the auspices of *Fourth Fisheries Program* of the government. It is owing to pressure of the landless peoples that they had to yield

up their illegal claims.

3. Political Level:

Establishing political rights of the landless groups can be considered from the following prisms:

a) Coordinated and comprehensive form of the landless peoples at grass-root level: It is through gradual increase in coordinated movements of landless groups against various local discriminations that their political consciousness is increasing.

b) Participation in Institutional/ Organizational Structure: Today the landless peoples are enough aware that institutional empowerment of landless peoples are pre-requisite for achievement of their demands. As a part of this process, the landless groups elect those peoples as their representatives who are competent enough to be elected in various institutional/organizational structures. Election of the landless candidates at various local polling has enhanced landless peoples' courage and work-speed. This process could attain balance within local power structure and eradicate the obstacles in achieving landless groups' rights.

C) Political Empowerment of Women: Programmes and activities of 'Nijera Kori' (NK) are contributing a lot in achieving political empowerment of women. Women's participation in various political programs has endowed her with a strong institutional footing in the society. Spontaneous partaking of women in various sort of local elections and their growing contestant attitude reminds us of numerous aspects of women's liberation. Besides, peoples are also getting aware that women should not be previewed as a mere neglected and hated section of the society rather need be considered as part of mainstream of the society. It is the pioneering role of women at many instances that rights of landless peoples are getting established. Women are now beating men in open election to different posts at local election proving that social obstacles are their only hindrances. It is thus obvious that women can also discharge essential physical and mental duties. Thus, growing trend of women's attaining political empowerment is changing the very patriarchal setback or notion.

STORY 4

Landless Mahfuzur Rahman and his life-long struggle for rights:

Mahfuzur Rahman, a man from Char Majid, Hatia island of Noakhali, was born in a hardcore poor family. He could not get any education for his poverty and had to start earning livelihood by roving boat from his adolescence. But, the horrendous waves of the mighty river Meghna evacuated their village. He then set up his new habitat in a freshly emerged shoal land (*char*) of Toratek, an upazilla belonging to the central

Mahfuzur Rahman: " When we lost our last penny at my early childhood, it became my sole aim to earn bread for my mother and brother. But, with the advancement of landless peoples' struggle, emphasis on my personal life became reduced. I could even never imagine of attaining my personal freedom through establishing rights of the landless peoples. But, this movement is now my idyllic motto. The movement to establish their rights would be directed in accordance with the ideals and principles of the landless group, outside the arena of prevailing political organization."

Noakhali district. He also opened a small betel leaf shop as giving up his profession as a boatman and started speaking openly against social injustices.

As a result, he fell into conspiracy of the local elite and had to shift elsewhere. This time he

set up his dwelling place at another new shoal land namely Char Majid. It is in Char Majid that he was introduced with the activities of 'Nijera Kori (NK).' He got seriously involved in mobilizing the landless peoples. He extended organization of landless peoples up to Char Majid, East Char Majid, South Char Majid, Middle Char Bata and Aman Ulla. Thus, Mahfuz turned into the symbol of hopes and aspirations of the landless peoples. He could develop his network with peoples from all strata of the society as well as different levels of government administration on the issue of the landless peoples. When the real landless peoples of the shoal land were being deprived from allotment of *khas* land despite inclusion of their names in the *Land Selection List*, Mahfuz launched intense movement along with the marginal peoples. When further attempts to eject the landless peoples for establishment of commercial shrimp industry commenced again, he directed the movement with a new dimension. Around 17 cases have been filed against him till now. He spent a huge time in jail and he is now acting as President of the landless group of Char Jabbar.

d) Political Analysis of landless peoples in national & international issues and

movement: The landless peoples are now gaining enough political maturity to analyse and interpret different national and international issues. Landless peoples of one part of the country are supporting and conveying their solidarity to genuine movement of landless groups in another part of the country indicating their unity and brotherhood. Apart from various national issues, landless groups are also holding procession or demonstration on various international issues. For example, the landless peoples held procession, meetings and gatherings against Iraq invasion at grass-root level.

e) Establishing relation with different sections and professional groups and

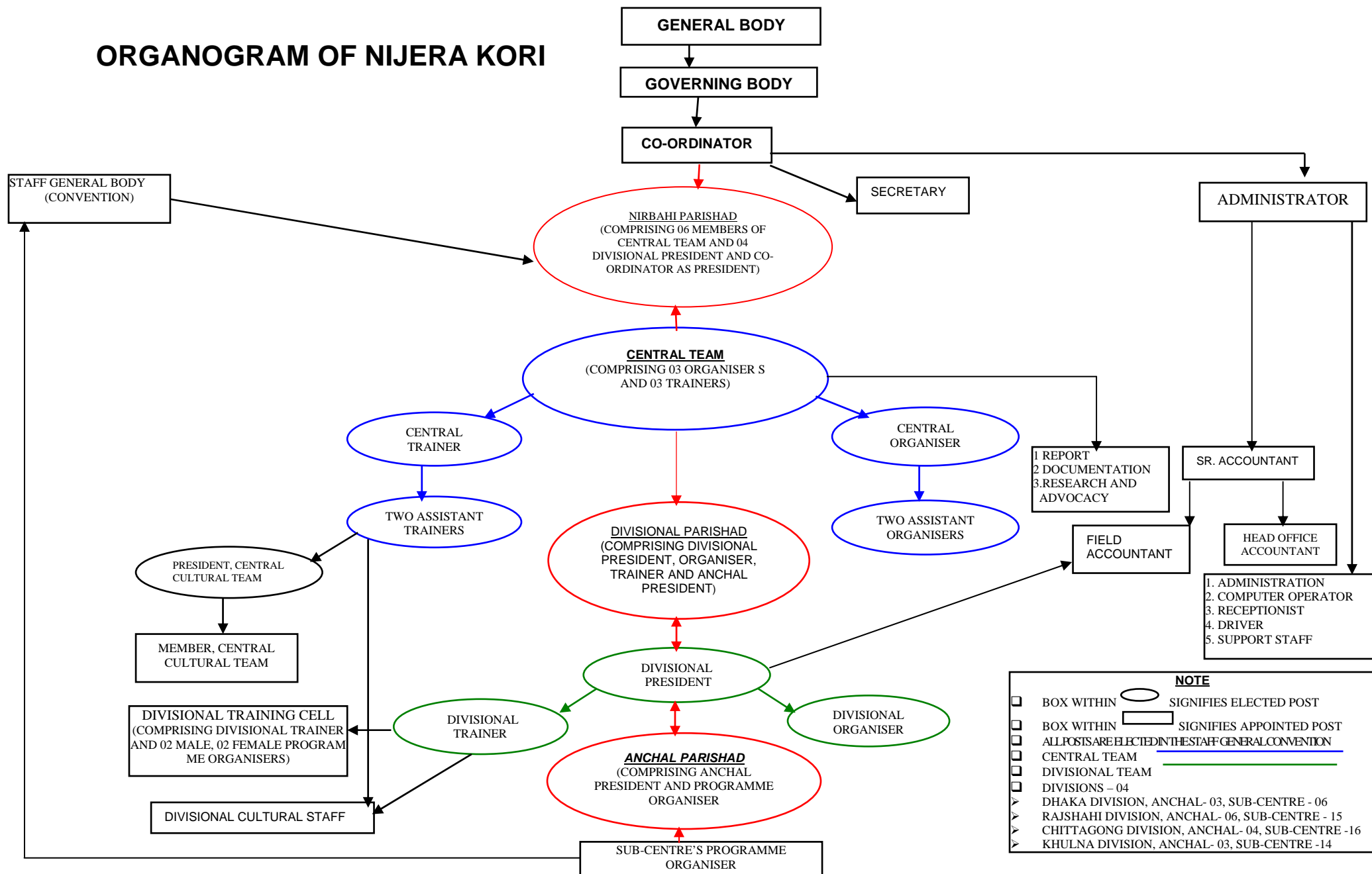
developing network: The aforementioned political analysis is enabling the landless groups to initiate relationship with different sections of peoples and professional groups. As a result, the landless peoples are being able to

represent their cause as people's cause over-all through building a network system.

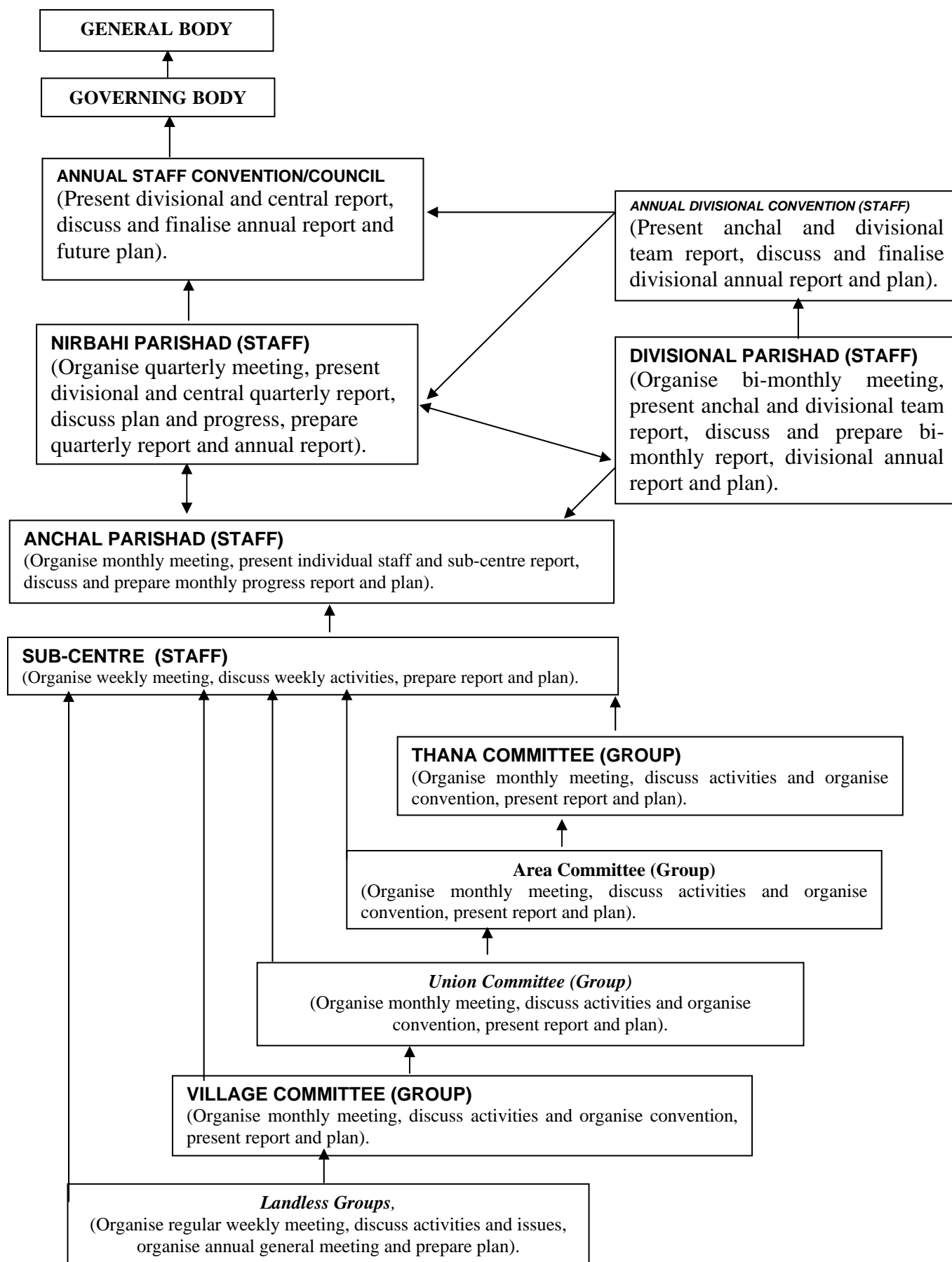
STORY 3

Gala Landless Cultural Group, Tangail: Gala landless cultural troop, Tangail launched their journey at the last phase of 1988. There were around 14 male members at the beginning of the troop formation. The number has increased to 24 including 20 male, one female and three child members. Earlier, this cultural troop had to rely on the *Nijera Kori* (NK) activists to use various forms of cultural activities for fulfilling their rights and demands. However, the Gala cultural troop began conducting different cultural functions across the country with Tangail. They had to do it for connecting cross-section people in landless people's struggle, endowing them with a separate form of recognition. Presence of Gala cultural troop at programs arranged by government administration at various national days has been essential. Major aim of this cultural troop is to analyze various sorts of discrimination in details, represent those before the peoples through drama and songs and form mass opinion/ awareness on issue of landlessness and thus build movement is large scale. The troop had so far presented 18 dramas more than 300 times at different functions. Their dramas act on themes like freedom, spirit of liberation war, tradition, election affairs, flood, dowry etc. Besides, they held more than 1,000 soirees. They showed their dramas for once in the National Mausoleum marking 25th anniversary of the Liberation War and held certain other shows at Osmani Memorial Auditorium and Dhaka Engineering Institute in observance of the Environment Day.

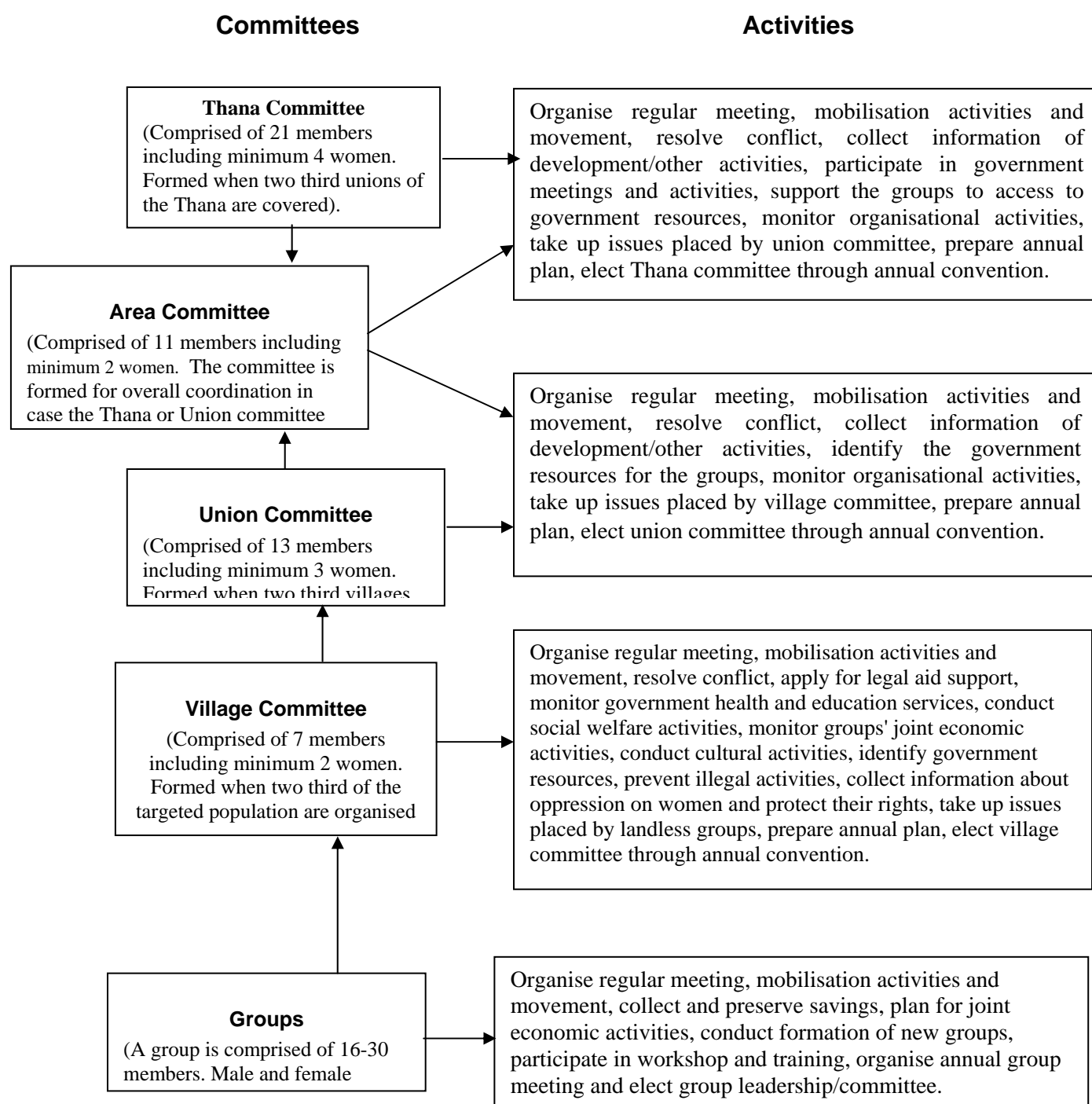
ORGANOGRAM OF NIJERA KORI



PLANNING, MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING SYSTEM



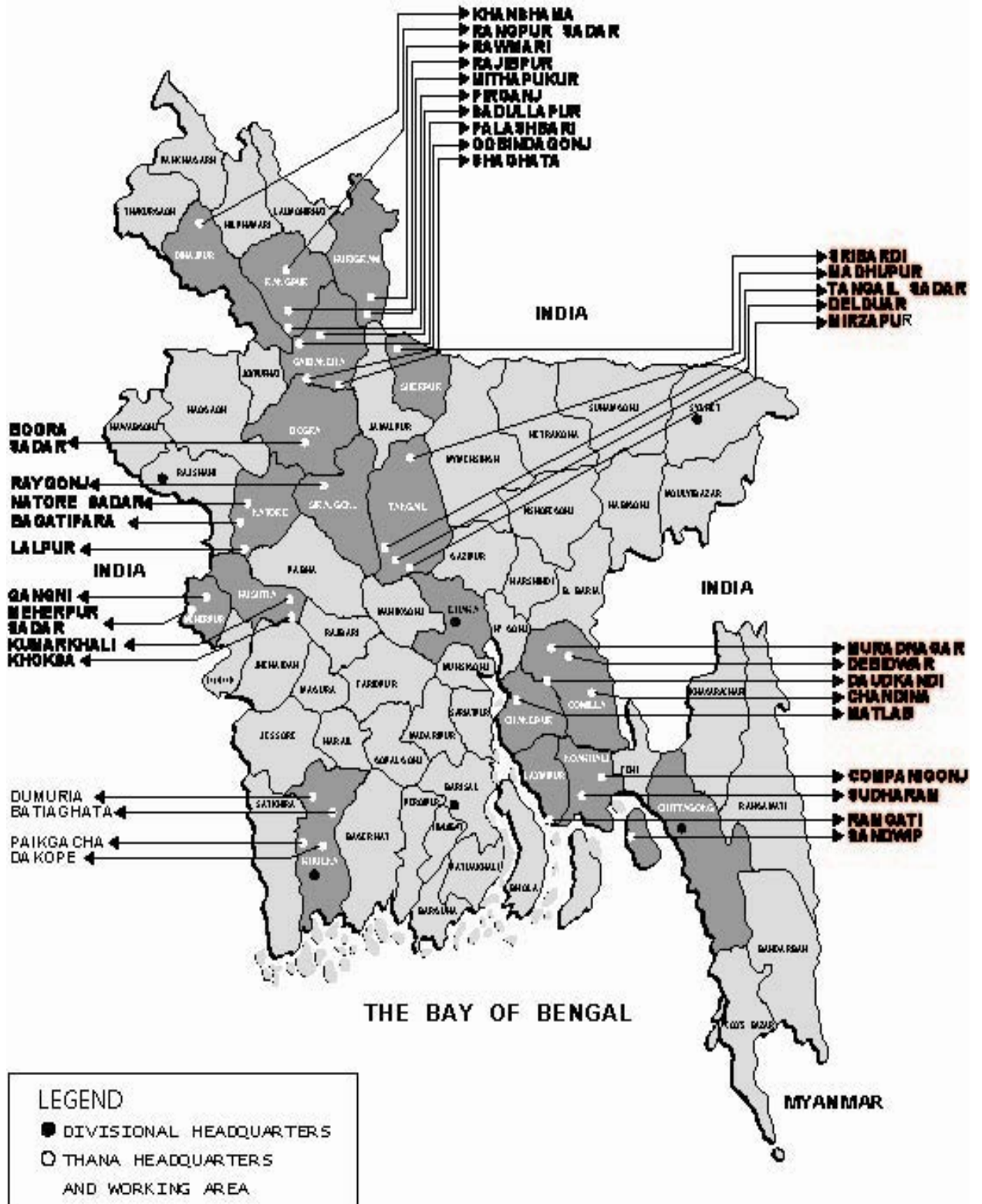
FLOW CHART: LANDLESS ORGANISATION OF NK



**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2005**

<u>RECEIPTS:</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Balance - 01.04.2004		14,024,898.26
 <u>FUND RECEIVED FROM:</u>		
D.F.I.D	40,418,104.91	
Christian Aid	5,769,348.00	
E.E.D	10,210,918.97	
I.C.C.O.	4,949,883.84	
Interpares	245,932.00	
The Swallows	<u>657,001.12</u>	62,251,188.84
Repair and Renovation Fund		314,853.40
Other Receipts		429,100.44
Loan and Advance		145,000.00
		<u>Taka 77,165,040.94</u>
 <u>PAYMENTS:</u>		
Civil Construction		583,036.04
Other Material Inputs		351,710.00
Personnel		31,281,430.00
Training Expenses		7,649,808.00
Seminar, Meeting, and Conference		4,348,039.50
Office Accommodation		2,817,989.00
Office Equipment		118,665.00
Vehicles		238,870.00
Traveling and Daily Allowances		3,718,513.25
Contingency		4,782,088.20
Others		10,777,965.43
Advance Office Rent		361,228.00
Closing Balance - 31.03.2005		10,135,698.52
		<u>Taka 77,165,040.94</u>

**WORKING AREA
NIJERA KORI**



ANNEX –E-B

TABLE – 01: Geographical Location of Programmes of Nijera Kori

Sl. No	Division	District	Thana	Area	Sub-centre	Expansion in 2004-05		Total up to March 2005		Village Coverage		
						Union	Village	Union	Village	March 2004	New Coverage	March 2005
01.	Chittagong	Comilla	Chandina Daudkandi Debidwar Muradnagar Matlab	Comilla	05	--	--	29	136	22	--	22
		Chandpur										
		Noakhali	Sudharam Companigonj	Charjabbar	05	--	02	08	43	02	--	02
		Lakshmipur	Ramgoti	Ramgoti	02	--	--	06	28	02	--	02
		Chittagong	Sandwip	Sandwip	04	--	--	14	34	--	--	--
	01	05	09	04	16	--	02	57	241	26	--	26
02.	Dhaka	Tangail	Mirzapur Delduar Tangail Sadar	Tangail	03	--	--	11	77	17	--	17
			Madhupur	Madhupur	02	--	03	11	113	13	01	14
		Sherpur	Sribardi	Sribardi	01	--	03	02	17	--	--	--
	01	02	05	03	06	--	06	24	210	30	01	31
03.	Khulna	Kushtia	Kumarkhali khoksa	Kumarkhali	02	--	01	07	50	06	02	08
		Meherpur	Meherpur Sadar Gangni	Gangni	03	--	01	07	44	15	--	15
		Khulna	Paikgacha Dumuria Batiaghata Dakope	Paikgacha	09	--	--	17	165	22	03	25
	01	03	08	03	14	--	02	31	259	43	05	48
04.	Rajshahi	Sirajgonj	Raygonj	Noongola	03	--	04	05	80	07	01	08
		Bogra	Bogra Sadar									
		Rangpur	Rangpur Sadar Mithapukur	Rangpur	02	--	04	09	72	09	03	12
		Dinajpur	Khanshama	Dinajpur	01	--	01	04	22	02	--	02
		Kurigram	Rowmari Rajibpur	Rowmari	02	--	05	07	88	10	02	12
		Gaibandha	Palashbari Saghata Sadullapur Gobindagonj Pirgonj	Gaibandha	04	--	01	23	189	11	13	24
		Natore	Bagatipara Lalpur Natore Sadar	Bagatipara	03	--	09	10	155	13	03	16
	01	07	15	06	15	--	24	58	606	52	22	74
T	04	17	37	16	51	--	34	170	1,316	151	28	179

T= Total

ANNEX - F

LIST OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2004-2005

01. Nurul Islam Khan	- Chairman
02. Latifa Akanda	- Vice-Chairman
03. Khushi Kabir	- Secretary
04. Ira Rahman	- Treasurer
05. Dil Monowara Monu	- Asst. Treasurer
06. Syeda Jamil Akhter	- Member
07. Moqbula Manjur	- Member
08. Mohammad Shahid Hossain Talukdar	- Member
09. Sitara Ahsanullah	- Member
10. Sultana Kamal	- Member
11. Abdul Majid Mallik	- Member
12. Rabiul Hossain Kochi	- Member
13. Shahin Islam	- Member

TABLE – 02 (Group Formation)

Division	Up to March 2004			Plan			Implementation			Total up to March 2005		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Rajshahi	1,682	1,935	3,617	164	171	335	177	197	374	1,859	2,132	3,991
Dhaka	584	701	1,285	110	110	220	40	41	81	624	742	1,366
Khulna	719	1,081	1,800	113	117	230	45	69	114	764	1,150	1,914
Chittagong	1,585	1,871	3,456	205	207	412	142	118	260	1,727	1,989	3,716
Total	4,570	5,588	10,158	592	605	1,197	404	425	829	4,974	6,013	10,987

TABLE – 03 (Group Member)

Division	Up to March 2004			Plan			Implementation			Total up to March 2005		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Rajshahi	37,040	38,272	75,312	3,280	3,420	6,700	3,452	3,715	7,167	40,492	41,987	82,479
Dhaka	13,001	13,952	26,953	2,200	2,200	4,400	744	782	1,526	13,745	14,734	28,479
Khulna	17,038	22,884	39,922	2,260	2,340	4,600	965	1,567	2,532	18,003	24,451	42,454
Chittagong	35,080	36,423	71,503	4,100	4,140	8,240	2,863	2,351	5,214	37,943	38,774	76,717
Total	102,159	111,531	213,690	11,840	12,100	23,940	8,024	8,415	16,439	110,183	119,946	230,129

TABLE – 04 (Group Meeting: – Attended by Staff, Only Group and Group Annual General Meeting)

Division	Plan for Group Meeting Attended by Staff			Implementation of Group Meeting attended by Staff			Implementation of Group Meeting Attended by Only Group			Total implementation of Group Meeting (Group and Staff)			Implementation of Annual Group Meeting		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Rajshahi	39,912	47,724	87,636	20,452	28,981	49,433	12,108	11,875	23,983	32,560	40,856	73,416	1,393	1,727	3,120
Dhaka	19,272	31,320	50,592	7,059	10,978	18,037	8,143	8,305	16,448	15,202	19,283	34,485	247	313	560
Khulna	20,532	27,804	48,336	16,860	17,922	34,782	4,049	3,944	7,993	20,909	21,866	42,775	428	696	1,124
Chittagong	39,468	46,092	85,560	20,398	22,112	42,510	6,717	9,420	16,137	27,115	31,532	58,647	1,302	1,661	2,963
Total	119,184	152,940	272,124	64,769	79,993	144,762	31,017	33,544	64,561	95,786	113,537	209,323	3,370	4,397	7,767

TABLE – 05 (Workshop, Representative Meeting and Joint Group Meeting)

Division	Workshop				Representative Meeting		Joint Group Meeting	
	Plan		Implementation		Plan	Implementation	Plan	Implementation
	Number	Participant	Number	Participant				
Rajshahi	43	1,075	27	716	399	320	400	364
Dhaka	24	600	13	314	147	141	100	71
Khulna	36	900	15	363	244	236	300	247
Chittagong	48	1200	47	1,190	439	362	250	233
Total	151	3,775	102	2,583	1,229	1,059	1,050	915

TABLE – 06 (Formation of Structural Committee)

Division	Total up to March 2004				Plan				Implementation				Total up to March 2005			
	Name of the Committee				Name of the Committee				Name of the Committee				Name of the Committee			
	Village	Union	Thana	Area	Village	Union	Thana	Area	Village	Union	Thana	Area	Village	Union	Thana	Area
Rajshahi	75	10	1	5	22	6	0	0	13	1	0	0	88	11	1	5
Dhaka	30	6	1	3	11	5	0	0	1	0	0	0	31	6	1	3
Khulna	34	3	0	5	18	6	0	1	4	0	0	0	38	3	0	5
Chittagong	56	1	1	13	19	8	0	0	1	0	0	0	57	1	1	13
Total	195	20	3	26	70	25	0	1	19	1	0	0	214	21	3	26

TABLE – 07 (Committee Meeting and Group Convention)

Division	Committee Meetings								Group Convention							
	Plan				Implementation				Plan				Implementation			
	Name of the Committee				Name of the Committee				Name of the Committee				Name of the Committee			
Village	Union	Thana	Area	Village	Union	Thana	Area	Village	Union	Thana	Area	Village	Union	Thana	Area	
Rajshahi	974	120	6	36	863	117	7	36	57	19	1	8	88	11	1	3
Dhaka	360	72	12	36	292	51	12	28	31	10	1	4	30	2	1	2
Khulna	447	36	0	132	336	21	0	118	42	11	1	12	35	5	0	7
Chittagong	642	12	6	156	617	12	8	156	66	14	1	14	54	1	1	13
Total	2,423	240	24	360	2,108	201	27	338	196	54	4	38	207	19	3	25

TABLE – 08 (Group Saving)

Division	Total up to March 2004			Plan			Implementation			Distribution			Total up to March 2005		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Rajshahi	4,561,651	5,310,232	9,871,883	822,456	952,912	1,780,368	629,298	665,419	1,294,717	2,231,407	2,352,008	4,583,415	2,959,542	3,623,643	6,583,185
Dhaka	3,288,600	2,323,663	5,612,263	338,472	409,248	747,720	188,309	376,843	565,152	1,868,411	1,092,259	2,960,670	1,608,498	1,608,247	3,216,745
Khulna	3,071,684	6,013,189	9,084,873	382,968	494,088	877,056	262,100	572,247	834,347	1,672,582	2,494,106	4,166,688	1,661,202	4,091,330	5,752,532
Chittagong	6,184,604	8,008,061	14,192,665	790,200	822,792	1,612,992	1,078,129	1,081,874	2,160,003	3,106,200	2,642,061	5,748,261	4,156,533	6,447,874	10,604,407
Total	17,106,539	21,655,145	38,761,684	2,334,096	2,679,040	5,018,136	2,157,836	2,696,383	4,854,219	8,878,600	8,580,434	17,459,034	10,385,775	15,771,094	26,156,869

TABLE – 09 (Bank Account and Position of Group Saving)

Division	Bank Account									Position of Group Saving			
	Total up to March 2004			New Increases in 2004-2005			Total up to March 2005			Total up to March 2005			
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Bank	Cash	Investment	Total
Rajshahi	286	545	831	41	46	87	327	591	918	1,368,031	1,087,755	5481809	7,937,595
Dhaka	183	283	466	33	42	75	216	325	541	571,262	517,561	2302483	3,391,306
Khulna	164	451	615	14	66	80	178	517	695	755,574	604,462	2580594	3,940,630
Chittagong	439	716	1,155	43	57	100	482	773	1,255	1,028,973	1,096,919	8761446	10,887,338
Total	1,072	1,995	3,067	131	211	342	1,203	2,206	3,409	3,723,840	3,306,697	19,126,332	26,156,869

TABLE – 10 (Training)

Subject	Rajshahi			Dhaka			Khulna			Chittagong			Total							
	No	Participant		No	Participant		No	Participant		No	Participant		No	Participant						
		M	F		T	M		F	T		M	F		T	M	F	T			
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT TRAINING																				
Basic																				
Up to March 2004		2,306	2,248	4,554		998	1,212	2,210		1,271	1,226	2,497		2,144	2,297	4,441		6,719	6,983	13,702
Plan	21	250	275	525	17	200	225	425	15	175	200	375	19	225	250	475	72	850	950	1,800
Implementation	21	243	266	509	17	189	215	404	15	163	187	350	19	222	251	473	72	817	919	1,736
Total up to March 2005		2,549	2,514	5,063		1,187	1,427	2,614		1,434	1,413	2,847		2,366	2,548	4,914		7,536	7,902	15,438
Advanced																				
Up to March 2004		741	787	1,528		376	425	801		514	502	1,016		514	696	1,210		2,145	2,410	4,555
Plan	8	120	80	200	3	40	35	75	5	75	50	125	6	85	65	150	22	320	230	550
Implementation	8	102	95	197	3	37	33	70	5	63	53	116	6	74	70	144	22	276	251	527
Total up to March 2005		843	882	1,725		413	458	871		577	555	1,132		588	766	1,354		2,421	2,661	5,082
Higher Selection																				
Up to March 2004		227	195	422		121	112	233		149	122	271		167	173	340		664	602	1,266
Plan	4	50	50	100	2	25	25	50	4	50	50	100	4	50	50	100	14	175	175	350
Implementation	4	46	45	91	2	15	23	38	4	40	37	77	4	40	50	100	14	141	155	296
Total up to March 2005		273	240	513		136	135	271		189	159	348		207	223	440		805	757	1,562
Higher																				
Up to March 2004		21	13	34		12	9	21		19	11	30		19	11	30		71	44	115
Plan																	3	45	30	75
Implementation		7	4	11		3	8	11		10	4	14		6	6	12	2	26	22	48
Total up to March 2005		28	17	45		15	17	32		29	15	44		25	17	42		97	66	163
OTHER TRAINING																				
Production & Management																				
Up to March 2004		51	20	71		33	22	55		51	21	72		44	33	77		179	96	275
Plan	1	10	15	25	1	8	17	25	1	11	14	25	2	22	28	50	5	51	74	125
Implementation	1	16	8	24	1	9	9	18	1	15	10	25	2	27	23	50	5	67	50	117
Total up to March 2005		67	28	95		42	31	73		66	31	97		71	56	127		246	146	392
Leadership Development																				
Up to March 2004		53	18	71		33	25	58		51	20	71		37	39	76		174	102	276
Plan	2	24	26	50	1	12	13	25	1	12	13	25	1	12	13	25	5	60	65	125
Implementation	2	24	23	47	1	16	11	27	1	13	11	24	1	14	10	24	5	67	55	122
Total up to March 2005		77	41	118		49	36	85		64	31	95		51	49	100		241	157	398
Right & Access to Information																				
Up to March 2004		39	23	62		32	33	65		48	23	71		45	29	74		164	108	272
Plan	1	12	13	25	1	12	13	25	1	12	13	25	1	12	13	25	4	48	52	100
Implementation	1	14	11	25	1	10	10	20	1	13	10	23	1	16	9	25	4	53	40	93
Total up to March 2005		53	34	87		42	43	85		61	33	94		61	38	99		217	148	365

M= Male, F= Female, T= Total

TABLE – 10 (Training)

Subject	Rajshahi			Dhaka			Khulna			Chittagong			Total							
	No	Participant		No	Participant		No	Participant		No	Participant		No	Participant						
		M	F		T	M		F	T		M	F		T	M	F	T			
Globalization & Sustainable																				
Up to March 2004		391	170	561		0	0	0		480	505	985		260	122	382		1,131	797	1,928
Plan	6	90	60	150	4	60	40	100	8	120	80	200	12	150	150	300	30	420	330	750
Implementation	6	83	64	147	4	49	46	95	8	103	85	188	12	151	144	295	30	386	339	725
Total up to March 2005		474	234	708		49	46	95		583	590	1,173		411	266	677		1,517	1,136	2,653
Citizen Rights & Constitutional Guarantees																				
Up to March 2004		317	287	604		118	116	234		432	370	802		189	261	450		1,056	1,034	2,090
Plan	6	90	60	150	4	50	50	100	8	120	80	200	12	180	120	300	30	420	330	750
Implementation	7	91	79	170	4	57	46	103	6	94	62	156	12	149	143	292	29	391	330	721
Total up to March 2005		408	366	774		175	162	337		526	432	958		338	404	742		1,447	1,364	2,811
Cultural (Basic)																				
Up to March 2004		65	4	69		86	7	93		96	14	110		58	10	68		305	35	340
Plan	2			40	2			40	1			20	1			20	6	0	0	120
Implementation	2	41		41	2	27	11	38	1	16	4	20	1	12	8	20	6	96	23	119
Total up to March 2005		106	4	110		113	18	131		112	18	130		70	18	88		401	58	459
Cultural (Advance)																				
Up to March 2004		18	3	21		14	2	16		16	3	19		13	4	17		61	12	73
Plan		2	0	2		9	1	10		8	2	10		3	1	4	1			20
Implementation		7	0	7		7	4	11		7	4	11		5	3	8	2	26	11	37
Total up to March 2005		25	3	28		21	6	27		23	7	30		18	7	25		87	23	110
Land laws & Management System																				
Up to March 2004	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Plan	--	--	--	--	1	14	11	25	1	13	12	25	1	13	12	25	3	40	35	75
Implementation	--	--	--	--	1	15	11	26	1	12	12	24	1	13	12	25	3	40	35	75
Total up to March 2005	--	--	--	--	1	15	11	26	1	12	12	24	1	13	12	25	3	40	35	75

M= Male, F= Female, T= Total

TABLE - 11 (Refresher Training and Training Forum)

Division	Refresher Training				Training Forum		Forum Meetings	
	Plan		Implementation		Up to March 2004	Up to March 2005	Plan	Implementation
	Number	Participant	Number	Participant				
Rajshahi	30	750	33	800	16	16	342	189
Dhaka	15	375	11	260	4	4	246	46
Khulna	25	625	18	403	12	12	306	142
Chittagong	33	825	32	778	9	9	384	107
Total	103	2,575	94	2,241	41	41	1,278	484

TABLE – 12 (Cultural Activity)

Division	Cultural Group		Cultural Activity									
			Plan					Implementation				
	Up to March 2004	Up to March 2005	Meeting	Discussion	Drama	Padajatra	People Song	Meeting	Discussion	Drama	Padajatra	People Song
Rajshahi	19	19	234	14	100	2	95	227	12	169	0	82
Dhaka	13	13	174	8	71	1	56	154	8	61	0	44
Khulna	13	13	192	10	87	1	52	156	9	89	2	38
Chittagong	7	8	138	11	60	2	150	95	10	130	2	138
Total	52	53	738	43	318	6	353	632	39	449	4	302

TABLE – 13 (Joint Economic Activity)

Description		Agri-Culture	Fishery	Livestock	Rickshaw/Van	Shallow/Crasher	Small Business	Total
Up to March 2004								
Group	Male	604	112	183	121	6	422	1,448
	Female	451	27	91	14	0	540	1,123
	Total	1,055	139	274	135	6	962	2,571
Member	Male	12,550	1,863	3,910	2,113	171	8,597	29,204
	Female	9,511	588	1,906	252	0	11,843	24,100
	Total	22,061	2,451	5,816	2,365	171	20,440	53,304
Quantity	507.36	153.18	407	281	18	0	0	
Investment in taka	9,404,224	1,495,961	1,353,532	1,113,397	105,500	3,717,468	17,190,082	
Increase in April 2004- March 2005								
Group	Male	116	21	108	27	0	142	414
	Female	140	1	41	1	0	261	444
	Total	256	22	149	28	0	403	858
Member	Male	2,294	442	2,160	530	0	2,939	8,365
	Female	1,509	18	799	20	0	3,330	5,676
	Total	3,803	460	2,959	550	0	6,269	14,041
Quantity	104.71	68.8	214	45	0			
Investment in taka	2,052,996	314,700	1,003,212	149,126	0	937,290	4,457,324	
Decrease in April 2004- March 2005								
Group	Male	66	13	27	8	2	166	282
	Female	103	3	12	0	0	279	397
	Total	169	16	39	8	2	445	679
Member	Male	1,258	256	574	131	40	3,423	5,682
	Female	1,856	54	231	0	0	5,025	7,166
	Total	3,114	310	805	131	40	8,448	12,848
Quantity	41.72	5.38	50	10	2			
Investment in taka	1,054,355	155,684	281,365	31,200	5,000	993,470	2,521,074	
Total up to March 2005								
Group	Male	654	120	264	140	4	398	1,580
	Female	488	25	120	15	0	522	1,170
	Total	1,142	145	384	155	4	920	2,750
Member	Male	13,586	2,049	5,496	2,512	131	8,113	31,887
	Female	9,164	552	2,474	272	0	10,148	22,610
	Total	22,750	2,601	7,970	2,784	131	18,261	54,497
Quantity	570.35	216.6	571	316	16	0	0	
Investment in taka	10,402,865	1,654,977	2,075,379	1,231,323	100,500	3,661,288	19,126,332	
Profit in cash (2004-05)		2,818,995	757,215	298,635	313,230	24,240	1,030,474	5,242,789

TABLE – 14 (Vaccination and Treatment Programme)

Description	Poultry And Livestock Vaccine		Livestock Treatment	
	Plan	Implementation	Plan	Implementation
Rajshahi	55,000	24,110	5,000	4,933
Khulna	18,000	6,564	3,500	0
Chittagong	10,000	7,886	2,500	2,276
Total	83,000	38,560	11,000	7,209

TABLE – 15 (Legal Aid Activity)

Division	Cases up to March 2004	New Cases	Total Cases	Cases Settled	Result		Cases on Appeal	Remaining Total Cases	NK run Cases	Group run cases
					Favour	Against				
Rajshahi	100	1	101	4	4	0	0	97	16	81
Dhaka	91	33	124	9	6	3	0	115	32	83
Khulna	121	172	293	10	10	0	0	283	66	217
Chittagong	219	49	268	39	33	6	9	238	120	118
Total	531	255	786	62	53	9	9	733	234	499

TABLE – 16 (Level of Group Consciousness)

Description	Rajshahi			Dhaka			Khulna			Chittagong			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Secondary Level															
Up to March 2004	168	106	274	32	19	51	145	99	244	211	193	404	556	417	973
Plan	45	29	74	33	22	55	37	32	69	45	30	75	160	113	273
Implementation	57	53	110	9	8	17	35	35	70	33	29	62	134	125	259
Total up to March 2005	214	151	365	41	27	68	159	120	279	233	216	449	647	514	1,161
Final Level															
Up to March 2004	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	--	3	3	0	3
Plan	17	11	28	12	7	19	17	10	27	18	11	29	64	39	103
Implementation	11	8	19	0	0	0	21	14	35	11	6	17	43	28	71
Total up to March 2005	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	--	3	46	28	74

TABLE – 17 (Various Activities undertaken from Group Saving and Voluntary Services provided by Group Members)

Description	PARTICIPATION		CONTRIBUTION			VOLUNTARY LABOUR	BENEFICIARY FAMILIES		
	No of Group	Support Provided To	By Group (Taka)	By Non-Group (Taka)	Total (Taka)	By Group Member	Among Group	Outside of Group	Total
Village Convention	3,415	186	68,364		68,364	585			
Union Convention	1,214	18	25,135		25,135	115			
Thana Convention	1,953	3	11,470		11,470	195			
Regional Convention	5,529	27	51,950		51,950	380			
Social Movement/Struggle	839	45	38,472		38,472	475	Grassroots People		
Cultural Programme	625	4	14,272		14,272		Grassroots People		
Observance of National/International Day	4,857	149	76,302		76,302	590	Grassroots People		
Conducting Case	1,049	105	64,510		64,510	155	189		189
Assistance to Family of arrested Member	533	53	30,075		30,075	30	73		73
Medical Support	1,946	395	145,403	14,778	160,181	200	332	63	395
School Repairing	170	2	500		500	25	110	20	130
Educational Support	744	99	23,294	4,900	28,194		72	27	99
Marriage without Dowry	2,011	125	43,470	12,318	55,788	230	100	25	125
Bridge Repairing/Construction	144	15	4,610		4,610	585	358	185	543
Road Repairing/Reconstruction	247	21	4,455		4,455	720	360	125	485
Dredging of Canal	52	16	500		500	190	135	95	230
Repairing of house	413	31	12,955	1,595	14,550	120	26	5	31
Tree Plantation	403	152	2,143		2,143	150	270	65	335
Burial	383	56	8,972	790	9,762	425	52	4	56
Total	26,527	1,502	626,852	34,381	661,233	5,170	2,077	614	2,691

TABLE – 18 (Participation of Group Member in different Committee)

Description	Rajshahi				Dhaka				Khulna				Chittagong				Total				
	No	M	F	T	No	M	F	T	No	M	F	T	No	M	F	T	No	M	F	T	
Union Parishad Election																					
Up To March 2004	31	30	18	48	12	10	11	21	18	22	18	40	19	17	16	33	80	79	63	142	
Contested Candidate in Union Parishad 2004-05	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	8	5	13	2	8	5	13	
Elected Candidate in Union Parishad 2004-05	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	2	7	2	5	2	7	
Contested Women Candidate open post in Union Parishad 04-05	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4	0	
Elected Women Candidate open post in Union Parishad 2004-05	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	
Up To March 2005	31	30	18	48	12	10	11	21	18	22	18	40	21	22	18	40	82	84	65	149	
School Management Committee till March 2004	51	75	3	78	9	16	2	18	39	68	24	92	73	271	41	312	172	430	70	500	
Left out after Expiry of Term	7	7	2	9	0	0	0	0	36	55	15	70	15	65	20	85	58	127	37	164	
Contested in School Committee during 2004-2005	12	13	3	16	0	0	0	0	48	65	20	85	15	80	20	100	75	158	43	201	
Elected in School Committee during 2004-2005	12	11	3	14	0	0	0	0	48	53	17	70	15	65	20	85	75	129	40	169	
School Management Committee till March 2005	56	79	4	83	9	16	2	18	51	66	26	92	73	271	41	312	189	432	73	505	
Market Committee till March 2004	44	65	1	66	3	7	0	7	15	20	2	22	41	118	5	123	103	210	8	218	
Left out after Expiry of Term	8	12	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	22	1	23	16	34	1	35	
Contested in Market Committee in 2004-2005	8	14	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	25	2	27	16	39	2	41	
Elected in Market Committee during 2004-2005	8	12	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	26	1	27	16	38	1	39	
Market Committee till March 2005	44	65	1	66	3	7	0	7	15	20	2	22	41	122	5	127	103	214	8	222	
Sugarcane Purchase Committee till March 2004	5	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	0	5	
Left out after Expiry of Term	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Nominated till March 2005	5	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	0	5	
Project Management Committee (U.P) till March 2004	14	18	5	23	8	7	2	9	7	8	6	14	32	84	28	112	61	117	41	158	
Left out after Expiry of Project	6	7	3	10	0	0	0	0	6	4	4	8	31	66	10	76	43	77	17	94	
Nominated till March 2005	8	11	2	13	8	7	2	9	9	8	6	14	32	90	32	122	57	116	42	158	
Social Movement Committee till March 2004	17	26	30	56	7	61	5	66	4	48	28	76	31	264	86	350	59	399	149	548	
Social Movement Committee till March 2005	17	26	30	56	7	61	5	66	3	30	21	51	31	267	109	376	58	384	165	549	
Health Watch Committee till March 2004																					
Thana Level (Member from Landless Group)	1	3	3	6	1	1	3	4	1	2	3	5	1	1	2	3	4	7	11	18	
Union level (Member from Landless Group)	2	6	5	11	2	5	5	10	2	6	5	11	2	6	6	12	8	23	21	44	

TABLE – 19 (Participation in Local Shalish)

Description	Total Shalish of Last Year.	Total Shalish of Current Year.	Member attended the Shalish		Nature of Participation in Shalish			Landless Leader as Judge/Mediator			Result		No of Court Cases on Unsettled Shalish
			Male	Female	Shalish at Self-initiative of Land Less Leader (NK)		Shalish under Joint Leadership of Landless and Village Authority	Male	Female	Total	No of settled Shalish	No of unsettled Shalish	
					By Female Leader	Jointly by Female & Male Leader							
Women Against: (dowry, divorce, polygamy, rape, kidnapping, physical assault, fundamentalism & religious indictment)	469	243	5,962	3,285	23	149	71	376	201	577	231	12	7
Illegal Possession of Property from the Landless	248	106	2,338	1,031	3	76	27	225	71	296	89	17	4
Fundamentalism	32	23	785	430	2	12	9	59	6	65	23	0	0
Family Feud	705	400	3,536	1,897	186	151	63	454	203	657	389	11	5
Issue of Injustice & Oppression	219	136	2,106	1,092	20	70	46	412	133	545	132	4	2
Theft, Burglary and Hijacking	64	99	803	271	20	55	24	343	104	447	95	4	1
Local Corruption	108	41	1,408	637	2	24	15	100	25	125	40	1	1
Social Conflict	270	116	1,454	609	32	51	33	311	86	397	113	3	5
Total	2,115	1,164	18,392	9,252	288	588	288	2,280	829	3,109	1,112	52	25

TABLE – 20 (Registration, Lease & Possession of Khas Land and Water Body)

Subject	Khas Land (Acre)						Water Body (Acre)				
	No of Group Member	Land Registered	No of Group Member	Land Leased	No of Group Member	Land Owned	No of Group Member	Water Body Leased	No of Group Members	Water Body Owned	
Up to March 2004	7,986.00	8,825.96	345.00	108.30	3,631.00	2,562.67	519.00	106.20	1,369.00	337.23	
Increase in April 2003 - March 2004	577.00	1,314.40	--	--	2,783.00	246.32	--	--	60.00	0.50	
Total March 2005	8,563.00	10,140.36	345.00	108.30	6,414.00	2,808.99	519.00	106.20	1,429.00	337.73	

TABLE – 21 (Regaining of Properties of the Landless and Marginal Farmers from Illegal Possessors)

Description	No of Movement for Reclaiming Illegally Occupied Land	Won in the Movement for Own Land and Quantity of Regained Land		No of Movement against Commercial Shrimp	Won in the Movement against Commercial Shrimp and Quantity of Regained Land		No of Present Movement	Beneficiary Family
		No.	Amount of Land (Acre)		No.	Amount of Land (Acre)		
Last Year	44	31	87.77	64	54	400	66	899
Current Year	130	108	26.70	58	58	420	22	1,013

TABLE – 22 (Activity relating to Social Movement/Struggle)

Issue of Social Movement /Struggle	No of Movement Last Year	Issue raised by Organisation of Women / Men	Division wise Movement/Struggle in 2002-2003					Total No of Movement in Current Year	No of Movement Won	On going Movement till date	Group's Participation in Movement of others
			Rajshahi	Dhaka	Khulna	Chittagong	Total				
Violence against women: dowry, divorce, polygamy, rape, physical assault, kidnapping, fundamentalism and religious indictment	271	Women	26	12	20	34	92	175	73	19	15
		Men	25	7	16	35	83		68	15	
Fundamentalism	38	Women	7	0	0	5	12	29	11	1	05
		Men	2	3	1	11	17		14	3	
Resistance against corruption in Local Govt. (U.P), partial justice in exchange of money, decisions contrary to the interest of land less masses, misappropriation of wheat from food for work and food for education programme, illegal transaction of money and false cases.	121	Women	28	6	4	16	54	118	53	1	11
		Men	27	4	5	28	64		53	11	
Establishment of rights on local resources: establishment of rights on khas land, water bodies, regaining possession of disposed land	260	Women	6	11	1	25	43	130	36	7	3
		Men	15	19	1	52	87		72	15	
Environmental Issues: resisting commercial shrimp aquaculture, creating public support against excessive use of chemical fertiliser and pesticides.	64	Women	2	0	8	17	27	58	27	0	40
		Men	0	0	6	25	31		31	0	
Resistance to action and oppression of reactionary groups: resisting eviction of lands less from land, looting of ripe paddy, burning the houses, physical assault.	91	Women	2	0	0	10	12	30	12	0	18
		Men	3	0	0	15	18		17	1	
Resisting illegalities and irregularities of micro credit	78	Women	11	3	5	12	31	49	25	6	7
		Men	3	3	6	6	18		18	0	
Movement for due wage	55	Women	2	0	0	2	4	10	4	0	4
		Men	2	2	0	2	6		6	0	
Movement against others	203	Women	3	0	0	31	34	93	33	1	30
		Men	11	1	1	46	59		56	3	
Grand Total	1,181	Women	87	32	38	152	309	692	274	35	133
		Men	88	39	36	220	383		335	48	
		Total	175	71	74	372	692		609	83	

TABLE - 23 (Opinion Sharing, Dialogue between Landless Group and Government Authority on following Issues)

Description	Initiative by Government /Landless Group	Govt Resource	Commercial Shrimp Aquaculture	Education, Food for Education and Work	Local Development Activity	Local Govt Corruption	Health	Environment and Water logging	Oppression on Women	Paddy Plantation and Harvesting	False Cases & Harasment	Fundamentalism	Natural Calamity & Relief	National/ International Day	Law & Order situation
Deputy Commissioner	By govt:	16	2	8	6	3	0	2	5	3	2	2	2	7	8
	By group	52	11	11	7	5	0	2	0	12	8	3	6	14	15
Land Administration	By govt:	35	2	0	5	0	0	0	0	13	2	0	0	0	0
	By group	115	9	0	3	2	0	1	0	19	9	0	5	0	17
Upazilla Administration	By govt:	51	3	28	8	8	17	9	17	5	14	4	24	25	8
	By group	103	16	69	35	15	33	7	21	33	19	3	16	50	48
Police Administration	By govt:	7	18	2	40	4	2	0	21	40	55	1	2	10	141
	By group	27	31	0	1	52	0	0	36	37	58	4	0	4	112
Parliament Member	By member	0	0	7	11	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	By group	5	0	0	11	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	3	0
Political Party	By Party	0	0	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	By group	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0
Union (parishad) Council	By council	38	18	98	70	31	42	12	49	34	38	11	96	28	101
	By group	89	33	157	88	45	48	22	36	45	16	5	42	20	112
Health Administration	By govt:	0	0	1	0	0	59	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	By group	2	0	0	0	0	44	0	2	0	55	0	0	5	0
Press Club	By club:	7	9	0	28	0	6	0	10	4	16	9	10	26	15
	By group	29	12	7	9	7	4	5	8	13	10	10	7	20	24
Bar Council	By council	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	10
	By group	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	1	0	0	8
Women Organisation	By org:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	By group	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	0
Education Administration	By govt:	0	0	65	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	By group	0	0	46	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	2	26	2
GRAND TOTAL	By govt:/ others	154	52	216	169	110	67	23	102	99	128	29	134	96	285
	By group	428	115	290	156	126	129	37	129	159	196	30	79	145	338
	TOTAL	582	167	506	325	236	196	60	231	258	324	59	213	241	623